
Methods and Principles of Bible Research

VIDEO TRAINING COURSE
WITH
KEVIN J. CONNER

“The Key of Knowledge Seminar” (Part 1)
“Methods and Principles of Bible Research”

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Web: kevinconner.org

Email: kevin.conner321@gmail.com

Books: www.amazon.com/author/kevinjconner

Podcast: <https://kevinconner.podbean.com>

Chapter One

IMPORTANCE OF THE WORD OF GOD

A. WHAT GOD THINKS AND SAYS ABOUT HIS WORD

1. It is the only book that God inspired to be written and what He Himself is interested in. The Biblos. Revelation 1:12; 22:1-19; Revelation 4-5; 2 Timothy 3:16.
2. He has exalted His Word even above all His Name. First priority. Psalm 138:1-2.
3. The Word of God is creative. "God said . . ." Hebrews 4:12; Genesis 1. Alive and active.
4. The Word of God is eternal. Matthew 24:35. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but the Word of God abides for ever.
5. The Word is for ever settled in heaven. Psalm 119:89. Stationed, fixed, established. It needs to be such in our lives.
6. The Word is God Himself. John 1:1-3, 14-18.
 - (a) The Logos, The WORD personified in Christ. God Himself. Word made flesh.
 - (b) The Logos, The written Word. The Bible.
 - (c) The rhema, The quickened Word. By the Spirit.

God and His Word are one. To attack the Word is to attack God. To honour the Word is to honour God.
7. The Word is one harmonious Bible, the Divine Library of 66 books, yet one.
8. The Word is God's "bridge" over the "communication gap" brought about through sin. Deity and humanity. Gap by sin. Scriptures = The communication bridge.
9. The Word is our final Judge "in that day" — John 12:44-50.

B. HOW THE WORD MEETS THE NEEDS OF MANKIND

1. Man needs a *communication* from God. Sin brought about this communication gap between God and man. The means that God chose to bridge this communication gap was THE WORD. Occultism abounds because man is seeking to bridge the gap between himself and the spirit world. God has done this in Christ.
2. Man needs a *revelation*. Man can only know God by the Word. The Lord reveals Himself by His Word (1 Samuel 3:21). It is the only infallible revelation given to man from God. It is the mind of God. Man can only know God in His inner nature, character and being by revelation. Creation reveals God's power. The Scriptures reveal God's person and character.

3. Man needs *Divine adjustment*.

2 Timothy 3:16. The fourfold use of the words of Scripture:

- (a) Doctrine — problem/solution Book. Teaching, instruction.
- (b) Reproof.
- (c) Correction.
- (d) Instruction.

The purpose is that man may be thoroughly perfected, or adjusted, unto Divine righteousness. Psalm 19:7-9. The end of all Bible study is that man may be conformed to the image and likeness of God in Christ.

4. Man needs to *believe* the Word to have it work in him. 1 Thessalonians 2:13. The Word effectually works in you that believe and receive it, NOT as the word of man, but as it is in truth, the Word of God. It will not work in a person's life in unbelief. All believers will continue in eternity where they finish off in time.

C. WHAT MAN IS LIKENED UNTO WITHOUT THE WORD

Without the Word of God in a person's life, man is likened unto:

- 1. A man in the darkness without a lighted lamp. Psalm 119:105.
- 2. A car without a steering wheel — cannot be driven.
- 3. A ship without a rudder — just drifting.
- 4. A boat without a sail — driven by any and every wind.
- 5. A ship without a helm — directionless.
- 6. A person without a compass — lost, not knowing his whereabouts.
- 7. A house without a foundation — unstable and unable to stand storms.
- 8. A child without any education — absolute ignorance.
- 9. A planet without a sun — lifeless.
- 10. A man without a map — no sense of his whereabouts.

Each of these things are a means to an end, not the end in themselves. All are to bring us to the desired destination, to bring us to HIM, John 5:39, 40. Need a sense of value. The Bible has the answers to man's origin, entrance of sin, the purpose of our existence, what life is about and eternal destinies. It cannot be compared with the totality of the books of men.

The Bible is heaven's education and wisdom (1 Corinthians chapters 1-2). It is more valuable than all earth's educational courses. It fits you for earth and heaven, for time and eternity.

The Bible is a means to an end, not the end in itself. Otherwise all becomes Bibliolatry — the worship of a book and we miss the PERSON the book points to.

D. IMPORTANCE OF PROPER ATTITUDES IN STUDY

A person's attitudes towards the Scriptures determines what he receives from such. All need the following kind of attitudes.

1. Attitude of hunger for the Word — Proverbs 2:1-11; Psalm 119:20; Job 23:12; Psalm 19:7-10; Ezekiel 3:1-3; Matthew 4:4; Revelation 10:1-10. A passion for the Word needed.
2. Attitude of love for the Word.
Psalm 119:47, 97, 113, 119, 127. Book can be dull until we know the Author.
3. Attitude of enjoyment of the Word. 1 Peter 2:2; Ephesians 5:26.
Jeremiah 15:16; Psalm 119:16. One learns most what he enjoys the most. Psalm 21:2; 37:4.
4. Attitude of respect for the Word.
Psalm 119:6, 15. Respect unto all Thy commandments.
5. Attitude of teachableness.
Psalm 119:33-40; Matthew 6:33; Mark 7:7.
6. Attitude of meekness of spirit.
James 1:21. Humility of mind. Philippians 2:3; Acts 20:19; 1 Peter 5:5.
Pride and arrogance bring spiritual blindness. "A know-it-all" never discovers anything. cf. Acts 13:27; Isaiah 66:1-5; 1 Corinthians 1:25-29; Jeremiah 4:22.
7. Attitude of meditation in the Word.
Psalm 1:2; Joshua 1:8; Psalm 119:48, 78, 148. The eunuch read the Word and the Lord had the right ministry at the right time to instruct him. Acts 8.
8. Attitude of a worshipful spirit.
Revelation 4-5 chapters. The Bible is a "sealed book" until the spirit of worship arises to allow the Lamb to break the seals of the Book.
9. Attitude of personal and practical application.
The whole end of Word study and reading should be personal and practical application of the truths to one's daily lifestyle. How can I apply it? Not just information but formation of character. Inform the mind, but form the character is one's personal desire.