

# Trusting the Bible— A Self-Test for Christians

To what extent do you trust the Bible? As Christians it is easy for us to say that we believe and trust the Bible. But what do we really mean when we say that we trust the Bible? “Trusting the Bible—A Self-Test for Christians” has two purposes. The first is to help us to better understand to what extent we are really trusting and relying on the Word of God in our everyday living. The second is to encourage us to discover and trust what the Bible says regarding thirty important questions that are vitally important to every human being. This “Self-Test” can be used effectively on an individual basis, or within a small group Bible study setting.

**Before answering the “Thirty Important Questions” that follow, consider what God says about trusting the Bible:**

1. The God of the Bible calls people to believe that the Bible is in fact the Word of God.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. *2 Timothy 3:16-17 KJ2000*

2. The Bible teaches that although the Bible was penned by men it was authored by the Holy Spirit.

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of one's own interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. *2 Peter 1:20-21 KJ2000*

3. God tells us that His Word is at work within everyone who believes that the Bible is the Word of God.

For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when you received the word of God which you heard of us, you received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually works also in you that believe. *1 Thessalonians 2:13 KJ2000*

4. God calls us to trust in Him above our own understanding and to be obedient to Him.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths. *Proverbs 3:5-6 KJ2000*

5. The Lord Jesus Christ warns us that not knowing what the Bible says or not appreciating how powerful God is leads to error—wrong thinking.

Jesus answered and said unto them, You do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. *Matthew 22:29 KJ2000*

6. The Lord Jesus Christ calls us to hear and obey the Word of God.

But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it. *Luke 11:28 KJ2000*

7. God tells us that His Word is truth. If we really believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, the Messiah, and the “King of Kings and Lord of Lords”, then we must trust Him when He declares that God’s Word is truth.

These words spoke Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son, that your Son also may glorify you: . . . Sanctify them through your truth: your word is truth. *John 17:1, 17 KJ2000*

As Christians we are continually faced with choosing between following the wisdom of this world or trusting what the Bible says. The wisdom of this world refers to man’s ideas, reasonings, and speculations that conflict with God’s principles, ways, and wisdom. God calls us to trust the Bible—the Word of God. This means that when the Word of God is in conflict with what the world says or with what we think, we are to trust and obey God’s Word.

Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you seems to be wise in this world, let him become a fool, that he may be wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. *1 Corinthians 3:18-19a KJ2000*

It is my hope that this “Self-Test” will help you to grow in your confidence that the Bible is fully trustworthy and is far wiser than the wisdom of this world. Ask God to help you to discover, trust, and rightly apply what the Bible says regarding each of the following “Thirty Important Questions”:

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## Thirty Important Questions

**Perspective 1**—*To what extent do you trust and rely on the Bible for answering each of the following thirty questions?*

**Perspective 2**—*What does the Bible say regarding each of the following thirty questions?*

1. What should I believe about the Bible?
2. Who is God, and what are His attributes?
3. God calls us to love Him. What does this mean? What should this look like in my life?
4. God calls us to love other people. What does this mean? What should this look like in my life?
5. Who is Jesus Christ, and what are His attributes?
6. What does Jesus Christ want of me?
7. What does it mean to love Jesus Christ?
8. What does it mean to follow Jesus Christ?
9. What is truth and how important is it to God?
10. How should I decide whether something is right or wrong, good or evil, moral or immoral?
11. What should I do when I become aware that God considers something in my life to be sinful?
12. How should I prepare my heart and mind each day so that when I am faced with temptations, troubles, and decisions I will choose obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ?
13. How should I use my time, talents, and resources?
14. What should I do when I am faced with troubles, disappointments, frustrations, suffering, or fears?

# Thirty Important Questions

15. What criteria should I use in deciding what my life priorities and goals should be?
16. How should I evaluate what appear to be new opportunities?
17. If I have children, how should I view and relate to them?
18. If I have children, how and what should I teach them?
19. If I am married, how should I view and relate to my spouse?
20. If my parents are alive, how should I view and relate to them?
21. How should I view and relate to all other people?
22. What is the ultimate source of a human being's value?
23. To what extent is my value as a person determined by another's opinion?
24. How should I view myself when my life is in turmoil, stress-filled, or doesn't measure up to my expectations or the expectations of others?
25. How should I view myself when I feel in control, when things are going my way, and when others praise me for being successful?
26. How should I make sense of the world around me considering all of its wonders, beauty, and blessings, as well as its dangers, disappointments, tragedies, suffering, and death?
27. What should I believe regarding the origin of the universe and the earth?
28. What should I believe regarding the origin of life and human beings?
29. What do human beings really consist of? Are we really just highly "evolved" physical matter and energy that somehow interact to produce consciousness, reasoning, love, and creativity as most of our culture would have us believe? Or, did God create us as beings consisting of body, soul, and spirit who, through Christ, are able to enter into a relationship with Him for eternity?
30. What will happen to me when my physical body dies?

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