

## How to Interpret Scripture

### Lesson - 3 — Jesus and the Apostles' View of the Bible

#### Memory Verse

**Matthew 4:4** (NKJV) *But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'* "

#### It Is Written

**Matthew 4:3–11** (NKJV) Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "

5 Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you,' and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.' "

7 Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.' "

8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.' " Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.

**1 John 2:15–17** (NKJV) Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. <sup>17</sup> And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

**2 Peter 1:4** by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

#### Jesus and the Law

**John 5:46–47** (NKJV) *For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. <sup>47</sup> But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?* "

**Matthew 5:17–20** (NKJV) "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. <sup>19</sup> Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

**Matthew 5:21** (NKJV) "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.'

**Matthew 5:27** (NKJV) "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.'

**Matthew 5:31** (NKJV) "Furthermore it has been said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'

**Matthew 5:33** "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.'

**Isaiah 42:21** (NKJV) The LORD is well pleased for His righteousness' sake; He will exalt the law and make it honorable.

**Matthew 22:29–32** (NKJV) Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God. <sup>30</sup> For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven. <sup>31</sup> But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, <sup>32</sup> 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."

**Matthew 22:37–40** (NKJV) Jesus said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup> This is the first and great commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup> On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

**Luke 16:31** (NKJV) But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.' "

"He [Christ] pointed to the Scriptures as of unquestionable authority, and we should do the same. The Bible is to be presented as the word of the infinite God, as the end of all controversy and the foundation of all faith."— Christ's Object Lessons, pp. 39, 40.

## Jesus and All Scripture

**Luke 24:25–27** (NKJV) *Then He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?” <sup>27</sup> And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.*

**Luke 24:32** (NKJV) *And they said to one another, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?”*

**Luke 24:44–45** (NKJV) *Then He said to them, “**These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.**” <sup>45</sup> And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.*

## Jesus and the Origin and History of the Bible

**Matthew 19:4–5** (NKJV) *And He answered and said to them, “**Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’** <sup>5</sup> and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?*

**Matthew 12:3–7** (NKJV) *But He said to them, “**Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: 4 how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? 5 Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath, and are blameless? 6 Yet I say to you that in this place there is One greater than the temple. 7 But if you had known what this means, ‘I desire mercy and not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the guiltless.***

**Luke 4:24–27** (NKJV) *Then He said, “Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. <sup>25</sup> But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; <sup>26</sup> but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. <sup>27</sup> And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.”*

**Matthew 24:38–39** (NKJV) *For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*

## The Apostles and the Bible

One scholar has compiled a list of 2,688 specific references, to the Old Testament found in the New Testament. 400 from Isaiah, 370 from the Psalms, 220 from Exodus, and so on.

**Acts 4:24–26** *So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: “Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them, <sup>25</sup> who by the mouth of Your servant David have said: ‘Why did the nations rage, And the people plot vain things? <sup>26</sup> The kings of the earth took their stand, And the rulers were gathered together Against the Lord and against His Christ.’*

**Acts 17:1–3** (NKJV) *Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, <sup>3</sup> explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ.”*

**Acts 18:27–28** (NKJV) *And when he desired to cross to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace; <sup>28</sup> for he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.*

**Acts 13:33–37** (NKJV) *God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: ‘You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.’ And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken thus: ‘I will give you the sure mercies of David.’ Therefore He also says in another Psalm: You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.’ <sup>36</sup> “For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption; <sup>37</sup> but He whom God raised up saw no corruption.*