

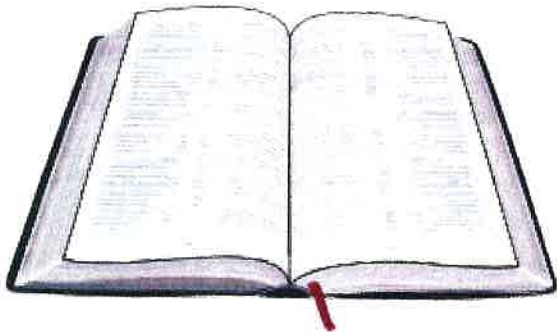
**A 3-D Approach to What We Believe:
 Doctrine, Discernment, & Discipline
 The Bible Is God's Word To Us:
 A Firm Foundation & A Faithful Fortress!**

—from 2 Timothy 3:16–17

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

—from the Evangelical Free Church Statement of Faith

All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the person dedicated to God may be properly equipped for every good work. —2 Timothy 3:16–17



Make every effort to present yourself before God as a proven worker who does not need to be ashamed, teaching the message of truth accurately. But avoid profane and aimless discussion because it will lead further and further into godliness, —2 Timothy 2:15–16

—Analyzing Today's FOCUS:

We _____ believe that the Bible is God's _____ to us, _____ us _____! Therefore, we _____ that it _____ and we _____!

—An Additional Emphasis in Today's Study:

Since the BIBLE is the _____ Word of God, we should _____ its _____ to _____ of our lives!

—In recent years, it's become increasingly acceptable in certain scholarly circles, as well as in popular society to criticize and question the authority of the Bible. In doing this, it seems as if the majority of our contemporary culture has placed themselves above the Bible in an effort to change and correct it. Since the Bible is the Word of God, the Creator of heaven and earth, nothing could be more arrogant. Based on what we find in the Bible, there will come a day when everyone will recognize that it's God Who corrects us; it's never our role or right to correct Him. We do not stand over God but under Him.

—“We need to encourage new believers to feed on God's Word—it is nourishment for the soul.” —Billy Graham

—The grass withers, the flower fades,
 But the word of our God will stand forever. —Isaiah 40:8

—When we saturate our minds with God's Word, we're allowing less space for our thoughts to be filled with ideas that lead to sin.

—3— The Bible is **PROFITABLE** ... and _____ for:

—4— The Bible is **PROFITABLE, PRACTICAL, & ESSENTIAL** to make us

FOR EFFECTIVE SERVICE!

—**ENABLES** us to _____

—**EQUIPS** us for _____

—**EXHORTS** us to _____

—**EMPOWERS** us to _____

—**Introducing Our Study By Observing the Context:**

—**Noting Paul’s PROPHETIC WARNING ...**

—_____ times will come in “the last days” marked by:

—**DISOBEDIENCE**

—**DECADENCE**

—**DIVISIVENESS**

—**DENYING** God’s authority

—**DEPRAVITY**

—**DECEIVING & BEING DECEIVED**

—Never able to _____ what’s true & what’s false

—**Identifying the Content:**

{1 Timothy 3:16–17}

—1— All Scripture is _____ !

—Literally this says: _____

—It originates from God and it’s given “life” by Him

—Genesis 1:7 “**The Lord God** formed the man from the dust of the ground and **breathed into his nostrils the breath of life**, and the man became a living being.

—“**All Scripture**” = refers to sacred writings by men who were **led & supervised** in a personal manner by God’s Spirit

—Therefore, the Bible is _____

—2— All Scripture is _____ !

—Literally this says: _____

—This leads to the conclusion that the Bible is _____ !

—The Bible is the primary tool given by God for _____ !