

Transcript – Bible Study_How To Study The Bible

Alrighty, Shabbat Shalom. And Shabbat Shalom to everybody who's with us tonight. Wow, another week. How fast they're going by. It's kind of hard to imagine, seems like every day is the Sabbath. And pretty soon when the Kingdom comes, every day will be the Sabbath.

[Prayer]

Alrighty, so tonight we are going to do a Bible study *on Bible study*. It's amazing that as I travel around and I know in the world like they say, the Bible is the most, number Book sold in the world, number one Book that people have. And it is also the less read. So people have a Bible on their mantle or on their refrigerator or maybe on their bookshelf. But people just don't read it. But as believers, and like **Matthew 4:4** says, *Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word out of the mouth of Yahweh*. Not only is it **vital to our life**, the same way that when you're fasting you could only go so many days without food and water. We're made to have to have it. It's the same way with spiritual-wise. Your spirit can only last so long without spiritual food, your prayer and your Bible study, and fasting of course at times.

But I'm shocked sometimes when I find out that brethren aren't studying every day. I mean the first thing I do, maybe not 100% of the times, but 99% of the times ... unless we're getting up at 2 or 3 in the morning we go to the airport ... I'm up every day and the first thing I'm out is with my Bible. Wake your eyes, pray to Yahweh, thank Him for the day and then get into study. And it's just a habit and I love it. It just starts your day so good. And I'm really, really shocked to find out how many brethren are not studying. Or, you just start the day for 10/15 minutes with a Bible and then that's it. There's just no other part of the day that is Yahweh or His Word. And it's got to really be our life. **It needs to be our life.**

So today, it's just a short study, but really just to share with people **how to study the Bible**. Because I think one of the things I find out is, I think one of the reasons people are not studying the Bible the way they should is not because they don't have an interest. They really don't know how to. They don't have a *purpose* to it. And in a world like we're living in today where I mean unfortunately the internet is a part of most people's lives, unless you're Amish or something like that. And yet, I mean every single thing you see in the news is tainted to one degree or another. **It is so important for our spiritual life, for us to be able to keep a spirit of truth, to be reading the Bible every day.**

And it's amazing. It's exciting what Yahweh's Spirit can reveal to us in our lives. And the triumphs and struggles it helps us with that we go through every day. And I remember one of things when I was just coming to truth, I guess I was only 16/17 years old when I first started to learn about the truth; which really, really excited me, was growing up not in the truth. Yahweh is a ritual, right? You know Him as g-o-d, whatever religion you're in it doesn't matter. They're all rituals. They're just rituals. There's nothing really to it. It's just all man-made rituals. And to find out that Yahweh was real. To find out that you could actually talk to Him and He talks back to you. To read Isaiah and Jeremiah and Ezekiel and find all these scriptures about Israel and that thousands and thousands of years ago that Yahweh prophesied that Israel would be a nation again. Everything we're seeing today and here we are. And Habakkuk 1 in verse 5 says:

Habakkuk 1:5 *Look among the nations and behold, and be amazed ... He says ... For a work is working in your days which you would not believe, though it be told to you.*

And **that's our work**. That's the work we're doing now. That is the work of bringing the Good News, the original Good News that the apostles had from Jerusalem to the nations. And that's where the Good News started and that's where the Good News is coming back from after 2000 years. So to have that, to be part of that, for us to be ... they always talk about the 1%, right? In the global world there's 1% of these rich people and 99% basically of just us paupers that are pawns of those people. But in this case when it comes to Yahweh, we're the 1%. **We are the 1% of people out there in**

the world with His Spirit, that have vision, that have guidance, that are waiting in 100% full assurance for His Kingdom to come, to be first-fruits and spirit-beings in His Kingdom and rule with Him. So we should be the most *excited* people in the world to read the Bible. And I can understand if you don't understand it. Like I said, for the people in the world that don't have Yahweh's Spirit and they could read the Prophets and it's like they're reading Chinese. They can't understand it. Their minds aren't open to it. They don't know. But for us it's different.

So Yahweh willing, I hope tonight, like I said it won't be a very, very long study but that I could just share with you some things that could help you to have your study *more structured*. And to be able to be more excited about it. So there's many different ways to do Bible study in your life. It's not just a matter of getting up and just reading a couple of chapters in the Bible and saying, "Yup, that's it. I did my *duty* for today." **You have to have a goal with your study.** You have to have a goal. You have to have purpose. Like anything else in life, whatever you focus on becomes most real to you. So you should never wake up in the morning and not know what your study is going to be. Just like, "Oh, what will I do today?" And just kind of aimlessly open up to some chapter in Psalms or whatever, read for 5 or 10 minutes then put it down and go to the rest of the day. **You have to have a goal. You have to have a purpose.**

So I'm going to go over with you now several different ways that you could do Bible Study:

The first way is just reading though. Reading is a great way to do Bible study, to understand about the Bible. **You could read on a variety of topics** like: **the history of Israel, or the history of the kings of Israel.** Or you could read **the Good News' messages;** Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. I mean you could read them. Like I said I read them a hundred times, probably more. And every time I read it, it's like reading it for the first time. There's something new I get out of it.

So you could **read the Torah.** I periodically will read the Torah. I just got finished now with Deuteronomy and I'm going into Joshua. I started with Joshua this morning. But I just read the Torah over again. And it's amazing how fast. It took me probably no more than two weeks. And that's with doing other study beside that. That was just part of one study of going through the Torah again.

But like I said, you have to have a goal. You have to have purpose in your study. **The epistles of Paul,** you could say I'm going to go over the epistles of Paul. You could periodically read **Psalms and Proverbs,** trying to memorize them. Ones that are important mark it with a highlighter and try to memorize them. Even like with what I did with Proverbs when I was younger, I took the whole book of Proverbs with cards, flash cards and on one side Proverbs 1:1, on the other side it and trying to memorize all of them. And it's an awesome book because like I said, as you're memorizing something, if you hear something, it's like a song, if you hear a song over and over and over, you're going throughout the day and then all of a sudden you're thinking of that song. So it's the same with the Bible if you're reading a scripture over and over and over then you're thinking of those scriptures.

You could do **person studies.** Maybe Abraham or Queen Esther, or King David and you could look all the scriptures up about that person and read all about them. And then analyze it. What are you trying to find out about them? What they did right, what they did wrong. There's a study I'm starting to put together now on **examples in the Bible from bad people.** I mean because there's a reason why there's things in the Bible that you wonder, wow, why would Yahweh even put that in there? But there's all kinds of examples. And a lot of times, we look at the good examples of certain people in Scripture, but there's bad examples that we could look at too. So I'm putting that together on examples we could learn from people that didn't do things maybe exactly like they should have.

So you can even make a schedule to **read the whole Bible in a year.** They have them on line, how many verses you have to do a day. But the point of it is, every day you wake up you should be working on something. You shouldn't just *aimlessly ... "oh what should I read. Ugh, I already the New Testament. Ugh, Daniel? Nah ... nah! Oh, Joel? No."* And then

you just aimlessly go ... no! You should be excited. It should be, *Wow, today ... for the next three weeks I'm going to be going over the Minor Prophets.* And now you want to put them together; which ones are from the Assyrian captivity, which ones are from the Babylonian captivity, which ones are end time, which are historical? What are the lessons we have to learn from it? So like I said, there's a hundred different ways that you could put your readings into the Bible that you can go.

Number two: for Bible study you can **go over the 25 [27 now] lessons** like we're doing. For the next couple of weeks, I'm going to be having this week and probably next week a different Bible study. And then we'll go back to the lessons. But we've been doing it almost for a year now. And we're up to lesson 18, so we don't have that much more. Within the next few months we'll finish the 25 lessons and then we'll see. Maybe we'll start a book of the Bible. I'll pray about it and see if we'll go into a prophecy book or whatever we'll do. But that's a study we've been doing, right? We've been doing it for a year now, going over the 25 lessons. So you can also do this as part of your Bible study throughout the year. Get lesson 1 and get your Bible open and go over the scriptures with it.

You could do a **topic study**. Like such as the fruits of the Spirit; or the topic of grace. You could do a study on a person in Scripture such David or Abraham. And actually in the back of our Bible next to ... or right before the maps ... we actually have a topical index, topical concordance there: bearing fruit, blasphemy, birth right, changing of the priesthood, deacons, elders, covetous spirit, congregational government, everlasting judgement, faith in Yahshua. So there is ... I believe I counted 52 different topics that we have in there ... 56 ... 56 topics that you can go over. So that could be part of your Bible study. And that way really for learning doctrine too of going over all those different things.

You can **use a concordance**. And I know that I am only on audio today so you can't see it but I do have one in front of me. It's the *Strongest Strong's*, it's called; the *Strongest Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*. So for maybe people hearing this for the first time, they saying, "What on earth is that? What do you mean concordance?" Well, it's a concordance and a lexicon. So a concordance is like a dictionary. Or the lexicon is like the dictionary. And actually a concordance is all the words in the Bible in alphabetical order. So I'll give an example here. Let's take something like the word rock, the word rock. So like I said, I'm in alphabetical order. So they even have all the numbers here on the side in red. So we're going to go to R to find the word rock because it's interesting. The Bible talks different things about rocks and Yahshua being our Rock, the Rock of our salvation. So what does it mean?

Well, what happens is as you go here it'll show you. The first time rock is used is Exodus 17 in verse 6. It's used twice in that verse. Then Exodus 33:21, Exodus 33:22. So it goes through the whole Bible there every time rock is used. And on the right you see numbers. So we see number here 6697 is a big number. And then sometimes we see number 5553. And there's even one over here 2496, we see another number.

So this is interesting because remember in English we're getting something that is translated in English but in the original language the words can be totally different. It's the same way like ... say in English I'm explaining something. Like right now you could hear me but you can't see me. So let's say I'm explaining my living room. And I'm trying to explain what my living room is like. And I can say, "Well, there's a chair that's there." Right? But okay, there's all different kinds of chairs. And there's a couch. Well, hmmm okay couch! Now I could say sofa. I could say couch. I could say pull-out couch. There's all different words that could be used that can help you *understand* more what it sounds like. A kitchen chair compared to a Lazy Boy chair that pops out. So that's my point. It's the same way in Hebrew, even more.

So when we see the word rock. I mean English everyone knows what a rock is ... oh a rock, okay. But it's different because now let me just show you this because where the first word 6697. In Hebrew it's *tsoor ... tsoor*. And you would ... I guess you would spell it in English like *tzor*. And in the Hebrew it means, rock or stone mass. Like Exodus 17 in verse 6, let me go there. Exodus 17 in verse 6, let's read it, He says:

Exodus 17:6a *Behold, I will stand before you there on the **rock** in Horeb.*

So this is Mount Horeb it's next to Mount Sinai. There are two mountains there where the Ten Commandments are given right? And he's going to stand on the rock. The rock in Horeb. Remember that rock, it was a 75 foot rock that Moses struck and split down the middle and the water came out of, a massive rock. And they found it today. They found that rock in Saudi Arabia. Yahweh willing, we're going to get there. COVID has held us back, but we're hoping this year to get to that rock. And it says, He says:

Exodus 17:6 *Behold, I will stand before you there on the **rock** in Horeb. And you shall smite the rock, and water will come out of it; and the people will drink. And Moses did so before the eyes of the elders of Israel.*

So but now also if we go to Psalm 18 in verse 46 the same word is used, right?

Psalm 18:46 *YAHWEH lives! And blessed be my **Rock!** ... my tzor 6697 again ... And let the Elohim of Y'shua be exalted!*

So he's saying now, *blessed be my Rock*. So here the meaning of this is **a title of Elohim with focus on stability**. So Yahweh is my Rock. He's the focus of my stability. And now yet, like I said, if we go to another scripture; let's go to Song of Solomon 2:14, Song of Solomon 2:14. It says:

Song of Solomon 2:14 *O, My dove, in the clefts of the **rock**, in the secrecy of the steep place, let Me see your form. Let Me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your form is beautiful.*

So now we know, we did a whole study remember on Song of Solomon if anyone is new and they haven't heard it. Go on line, it's an awesome study. And it's a very poetic book about the bride of Messiah, right? And what is He saying? He's saying: *O, My dove, in the clefts of the **rock**, in the secrecy of the steep place*. Now the key is this word is not tzor because if it was tzor it would just mean that Yahweh is focus of his stability. But yet here the word is not tzor. The word is *Sela*. So literally it's Yahweh ... *O, My dove, in the clefts of **Sela**, in the secrecy of the steep place, ...* and it's a very steep place. We've been there ... *let Me see your form. Let Me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your form is beautiful*. So now we see something totally different, right?

By looking up the words and using a concordance and lexicon, we can see that this isn't just meaning Yahweh is stability, but this a physical place. Sela is a gigantic rock in Jordan and it's a place that Yahweh says He's going to protect His people in the end time, right? So we would never know that if we didn't look up these words to find out, *O, My dove, in the clefts of **Sela**, in the secrecy of the steep place*. So now, let's go to Psalm 18 in verse 2. Psalm 18 in verse 2, he says:

Psalm 18:2 *YAHWEH is my **rock** and my fortress my deliverer; He is my El, my **Rock**; ...* So here again, it's Sela ... YAHWEH is my Sela. I seek refuge in Him; He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my high tower.

So since he's talking about seeking *refuge*, he uses Sela. He doesn't use tzor because Sela is refuge. It's a refuge that Yahweh uses to hide His people.

So that's why I say, like a concordance and a lexicon, they're awesome. I mean there's so many different studies that you could use using these. And they're great because many times the English translation doesn't tell the whole story and especially when you're dealing with Hebrew names. Every Hebrew name has meaning, right? Like we see ... which is very misunderstood ... if we go in the book of Genesis. Let's go to ... Genesis, when you're looking at Genesis 1 and Genesis 2, when Yahweh is creating mankind, He uses the word *adawm*. And *adawm* literally means *mankind*. But when He uses the 'hey' before it, the *Ha' Adawm*, that in Hebrew means like the perfect article 'the'. So when it's like that in the Hebrew it means *a specific* one. So when you see in the Hebrew if you're looking in the concordance, or you're looking in

... we'll get into in a minute the Interlinear Bible ... and you see Ha' Adawm, it's talking about the *specific* man. One specific man who was named Adawm, Adam. But when it's just adawm, it's talking about **all of mankind**.

So and what does it mean? You look it up in the concordance. It's number 120 and it literally means *from the earth, ruddy*. Ruddy meaning what? Meaning redness to it; redness from the blood because that's what happens when Yahweh breathes the breath of life, the man became a living soul. Like we were going over last time with the lesson on the immortal soul or actually there's not an immortal soul. But that's what we see. So Adam, when we see Adam we that ruddy from the blood of the skin and that's the name of the first human being. But it's also the name of mankind. So that's how you could tell the difference if you see the perfect article there. Genesis 4 in 1 and 2 ... Genesis 4:1 and 2 says:

Genesis 4:1-2 *And the man knew his wife Havah, Eve. And she conceived and bore Cain, and said, I have gotten a **man**, YAHWEH.*

Comments: What does that mean *I've gotten a man Yahweh* when she has a baby there? Well, because we know in Genesis 3 with the fall of man and Yahweh said in the day that you eat that fruit, you will die. So when Adam and Eve sinned, they were thinking they were going to die and they did. Their DNA changed from that day. They started ... their cells started dying from that day. The atmosphere changed from that day. Everything changed when they start to sin. They literally **started** to die from that time. And they did die in the first millennium. A day is as a thousand years, a thousand years is as a day. Adam died in 930 years. He died in the first day, the first millennium, so to speak.

But it was prophesied in verse 15 of Genesis 3 that there would be a *seed* that would be born from Adam and Eve and He would be the Redeemer. He would be the Messiah, right? So now when Cain is born here when the man knew his wife. She even conceived and bores a son. Why do they call him Cain? Because you look up the word Cain and what does it mean? It means *to redeem, to purchase ... to redeem or to purchase*. So they're thinking that **he** is the messiah. He's the redeemer, right? And then look in the next verse ... verse 2:

Genesis 4:2 *And she continues to bear ... they're twins ... his brother, (Haval) Abel (Haval). And Abel became a shepherd of flocks. And Cain became a tiller of the field.*

Now normally when we see the story, Cain's the bad guy. He kills his brother. But when we're looking here just when they're born *And she continues to bear his brother Haval*. What is haval mean? Haval means *vanity, nothingness* because they only prophesied **one**. He says there'll be seed, **one will be born** and he's going to be the redeemer. So when Cain comes, they call him Cain, the redeemed one. All of a sudden another one pops out and they don't where ... "where'd he come from? We're only supposed to get one". So they call him Haval, call him nothingness.

So that's why I say, by looking up in the Hebrew, the words ... it's amazing because, and a matter of fact, in Jewish mindset with a lot of the Jewish Rabbi's, some of them actually think these stories are made up. Because all the names fit the characters so perfectly that they think it has to be made up. Or, just at least the names are made up. "These aren't the real names – you know the names have been changed to protect the innocent". But we know that's not true because we know in legal genealogies' like with Abraham and whatnot, they have to be their real names or it wouldn't be a legal genealogy. So it's just Yahweh knowing the end from the beginning. He inspired their names to be exactly what they were, which is really, really interesting.

Let's go to Scripture now and I'll show you another good example here in the story 1st Samuel 25. And this is when David, King David is running from Saul and let's look what happens. 1st Samuel 25 says:

1st Samuel 25:1-3 *And Samuel died, and all Israel was gathered, and mourned for him. And they buried him in his house, in Ramah. And David rose up and went down to the wilderness of Paran. And a certain man was in Maon, ... and we've been there before. It's just south of Jerusalem there. At the feast, we've taken groups there ... and his work was in Carmel. ... not Mount Carmel in the north, but in the south there – Maon ... And the man was very great, and there were three thousand sheep and a thousand goats to him. And he was shearing his flock in Carmel. And the man's name was **Nabal**, and his wife's name, **Abigail**. And the woman was good of understanding, and beautiful of form. And the man was cruel and evil in his dealings. And He was a Calebite.*

1st Samuel 25:4-9 *And David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep. And David sent ten young men, and David said to the young men, Go up to Carmel, and you shall come to Nabal and ask him of his welfare in my name. And say this, Long life and peace to you! And peace to your house, and peace to all that you have. And now, I have heard that you have shearers. And your shepherds have been with us; we have not shamed them, nor was anything missing to them all the days they were in Carmel. Ask your young men, and they will tell you. And may the young men find favor in your eyes, for we have come at a good day. Please give that which your hand finds to your servants, and to your son, to David. And the young men of David came and spoke to Nabal according to all these words, in the name of David, and rested.*

1st Samuel 25:10-12 *And Nabal answered David's servants and said, Who is David, and who is the son of Jesse? The servants have multiplied today who have broken away from his master. And shall I take **my bread, and my water, and my meat** which I have killed for my shearers, and give to men whom I have not known, from where they are? ... And yet, this is actually in the land of Judah. He knew exactly who David was ... And the young men of David turned on their way, and returned and came and told him according to all these words.*

Comment: So here it was, David and his men never asked for anything up front. They **protected** these men while they did all these things. And he wasn't even asking for anything specific. He was just asking for a gift of some food, or whatever because of their travel. And this guy, this worthless guy, says what he says.

1st Samuel 25:13 *And David says to his men, Each man gird on his sword. And David also girded on his sword. And about four hundred men went up after David and two hundred stayed at the bags.*

And they go tell Abigail what's going on. And then look at verse 25, it says:

1st Samuel 25:25 *Please, do not let my master set his heart toward this man of **worthlessness**, on Nabal. For **as his name is, so is he**. Nabal is his name, and **foolishness** is with him. And I, your handmaid, did not see the young men of my master whom you sent.*

So you see the story, you see the kind of guy Nabal is and what does Nabal mean? It means *foolish, prideful, to be insolent toward Elohim* (in the verb sense), *to treat with contempt*. So his name is exactly what his character was. So you see that in life today sometimes. You see somebody and their name fits exactly the way they are. But in the Bible you see the same thing. In the Bible we see this. And that's why it's important to look these things up because that's the only way you're going to understand. And it helps you to understand the story better when you understand the person and the mean of it.

The other thing is, the fact that **most people think the New Testament was written Greek when it was really written in Aramaic**. It's even *more* important to look up because the Aramaic is like ... it's like a whole pot of gold there that hardly anybody has because they haven't really ... just in the last ten years, fifteen years that they really, really started looking into the Aramaic. So there's a lot of things there from the Aramaic that we haven't seen before. So let's look at a couple

things. I'll show you. Let's go to the New Testament and some of these things it could be like mysteries of certain writings that make so much more sense once we understand from the Aramaic. So we'll go to the book of Galatians. I'm going to start here. Galatians book 1, chapter 1:

Galatians 1:1 *Paul, an apostle, not from men nor through men, but through Yahshua Messiah and Elohe the Father, the One raising Him from the dead, and all the brothers with me, to the **assemblies of Galatia** ... the assemblies of Galatia.*

And then if you look at chapter 3 in verse 1:

Galatians 3:1a *O you lacking exile **Galatians**, who bewitched you not to obey the truth,*

The interesting part is here. Who are these Galatians, these exiled Galatians? Well, the interesting part is, that in Aramaic the word for Galatians, or the word for exile is *Galut*. So if you read our study note there in chapter 1, it says: *The Aramaic word for exiles is Galut. And this letter could be written to the dispersed tribes of Israel.* So now I'm sure there's some Gentiles that are there with them because the area they're living in. But there's a very good chance that these Galut's were actually exiles. That these were people who were actually Israelite exiles. So you wouldn't get that unless you looked up the word from it.

If you go to Hebrews, the third chapter ... I guess in English sometimes we use that in another way, *Ah you big galut! What are you doing here?* But again, words mean different things in different languages. And that's why, like I said, word studies are really important. But let's go back to the book of Hebrews because this one is a really interesting one. Hebrews and chapter 3, he says:

Hebrews 3:1a *For this reason, ...*

Comment: And we know the book of Hebrews it's written by the Apostle Paul. Amazing book because it's written to the Hebrews. And it's all about the changing of the priesthood. And I think, not that I would want any book taken out of the New Testament but there's a couple of books that if they were missing would really leave a gaping hole. Now praise Yahweh we have Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. We have the four Good News messages. Matthew, Mark and Luke, a synoptic, meaning they correspond with each other. John is somewhat different because it was written later.

And although I wouldn't miss any, if one was missing most of the stories in one or the other two. But when we're looking at books in the New Testament, the two books I really would hate to have missing would be the book of Romans, and the book of Hebrews. Because Romans' is almost like a mini Bible in itself and talks all about the tribes in Romans 9,10,11. And the book of Hebrews, the changing of the priesthood – Melchizedek. All these things that we'd never know about if it wasn't for this. So look at chapter 3 here, he says:

Hebrews 3:1 *For this reason, holy brothers, called by a call from heaven, consider the **Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Messiah Yahshua,***

Comment: Now this is nice the way it is in English. He's telling us about our calling from Heaven and consider calling Yahshua an Apostle and a High Priest. But what's interesting is when we look in the Aramaic, let's read our notes here:

The Aramaic word for *called by call* is: **qârâ'**. That's the word in Aramaic, but it comes from **Vayikra**; which is the book of Leviticus (Vayikra). So it's a play on words that the Apostle Paul does a lot. He does a lot in Galatians. He does a lot in Hebrews. He does this play on words and he's actually doing that play on words to show us the switching of the priesthood from Aaron to Levites over to Melchizedek. The other thing that's interesting is where he says, *consider the Apostle and High Priest*. There in the Aramaic he doesn't use the word *Kohen* for priest. He uses the word *Kumria* (SP?).

So and why does he do that? Because he's *showing* that He's not a Kohen. A Kohen is a Levitical priest, but the kumria is priest from the Melchizedek.

So like I said, by looking these words up there's so many things. I mean there's just so many things that you could find out and understand and understand better. So it's just a wealth of study information having with you a concordance, a lexicon. And I'm also going to add in here a commentary. You should have more than one commentary. I have one here tonight. I know you can't see it, but take my word it's in my hand. And it's the **Zondervan NIV Bible Commentary**. Now normally the NIV Bible, we like to say the nearly inspired version, because the NIV is not the greatest version. But to honest with you the commentary actually is pretty good. Because the commentary is not so much on the translation, but it's on what's behind it.

And I'll just give you a little, one example here. We'll go to the book of Isaiah. So in the book of Isaiah you have an introduction. And it's going to tell you the year the book was made; the sources of the information where they came from, the life of Isaiah; where did he come from? What did he do? The reigns of King Uzzah and Jotham that were the kings when he was there. The international scene, what was happening internationally while he's giving this prophecy; the Syro-Ephramite war, the fall of Samaria, Hezekiah and Sennacherub, Babylon, authority, unity and date. So historical criticism of it and what's the proper date, then theology and eschatology and all those things I don't need it so much for because they might not be so much on there. But, like I said, as you're getting into everything on here, the background that they give and the historical background, I think overall is pretty good. Okay? Especially considering it's the *nearly* inspired version.

But the New Testament, not as good, the NIV commentary but volume 1, the Old Testament I like. I've used for many, many ... I probably used that for the last, at least 25 years I've been using it. I have other commentaries. It's good to have an Aramaic commentary. So commentaries just ... again, only for background purposes. You don't need them. You have to be careful because some of the commentaries will give you their *theological* viewpoint. That's what we don't want, but as far as understanding the background and all the different things, that's one of the reasons why I put together the study Bible. So that you could have all these things also that you could understand the background of a lot of these things. So again, it's really good to have and you just have to figure out what's best for you.

The other thing I have in front of me is an **Interlinear Bible**. Before our Bible came out in 2009, basically the Interlinear Bible was the only Bible I really read from. Now I look at it eleven/twelve years later, my eyes are getting worse and I can barely see it, but I still like it. I like it a lot and I do have a large print Interlinear Bible. But what is interlinear? What do I mean by Interlinear Bible? An Interlinear Bible is a word for word translation. And again you can't see me, take my word that I have it in front of me. But on the left, they'll have chapter 1 and I'm in Genesis 1:1 –

Genesis 1:1 *In the beginning Elohim created the heavens and the earth. And the earth being without form and empty and darkness on the face of the deep.*

Now that's where they have it in English translation. And like I said, it's kind of small. So if your eyes aren't good, look out. But then in the middle they actually have it where they have the Hebrew there, the original Hebrew in which means you have to go from right to left. But they have the English translation right underneath it. *In the beginning created Elohim (Aleph/Tav) the heavens and the earth.*

And above every Hebrew word is the Strong's Concordance number 7225, 1254. So sometimes what I like to do is just to kind of practice Hebrew some, I could try to read in Hebrew: *Bereshit bara Elohim et ... Aleph/Tav*, it's not translatable the Aleph/Tav but its there. In Hebrew it means it's showing toward the subject of the sentence. But it's there and it helps us to see where it's there. Because sometimes it's there when it shouldn't be there grammatically ... *hashamayim*

ve'et ha'arets ... In the beginning Elohim created the heavens and the earth Veha'arets and then it was without form and that's the words. Remember tohu ... they bohu and empty without form and empty and darkness on the face of the deep.

So with an Interlinear Bible it can help you even if you don't know Hebrew all the words are right there underneath. So if you even want to learn a little bit of Hebrew, you could learn it. But what's great is that it's word for word. So if you see a word because sometimes the word that's underneath the Hebrew isn't the same word that's in their translation. Sometimes that's different. So I like to read it there and I'll go, *hmmm! That word is interesting!* And since the word, the number is right above it and I have my concordance right there, I could look up the word real quick. And like its, *wow, that's interesting that they used that word there! I never realized that they used that word there.*

So again, Interlinear Bible is great to have. They're really good. The only thing is the New Testament is in Greek. It's not in Aramaic but hey, also the Greek there's things to learn from that. And there are Interlinear Aramaic's which I do have. So that's why I say, even with our translation, although I think our translation as far as I've seen is the best I've seen up to date because we've correct thousands of mistakes that are in other Bibles that have been there. Some of them like King James for hundreds of years.

But by far, I like to study from all different kinds of Bibles. I have different types of Bibles. I actually have a Samaritan Tanach. I love that because ... and I didn't even find out about that until after I did our translation. But you can't believe how many things that Yahweh inspired by the Holy Spirit for me to translate in our Bible, that are the same in the Samaritan Tanach. One of them is, and I've gotten from people when it talked about Moses throwing down his staff and it turning into ... most Bibles say ... snake. And yet, in the original the word is not snake. The word is crocodile. And actually in the Samaritan Bible they have crocodile. And the Samaritan is the oldest. They're the oldest Bible.

A matter of fact, they have a copy of the Bible and the friend there Hosni, the Priest there, is a good friend of mine, Hosni; who he claims that that Bible goes all the way back to Moses that they have an original copy. Unless you did forensic analysis on it, it's locked away and whatnot. But they claim that. But one thing is for certain, they are the only people that never went into captivity. They are Israelites. They're not pagans. They're not ... I don't even know why they call themselves Samaritans. I guess because Samaritans joined with them. But they're basically Levite priests. He's done DNA and he is a Levite. And also, from Ephraim, the tribe of Ephraim. So it's really interesting. We've been there many, many, many times with the Samaritans.

But again, this is why looking at the different things it helps to broaden our study. And being in Israel for many, many, many years has just been a wealth of information whether it be in archeology from Hebrew University, from Hebrew teachers that we've had at the Bible school. But so many different things that we've been able to learn from there. But all these things help with our Bible study.

So like I said, the Interlinear Bible is a great source, right? I always like to say as I'm reading, all of a sudden words will start to glow almost like the Umim and the Thummin. And it's like I see these words glow and then it's like I'm locking my door and I'm looking this up and there's amazing things that Yahweh has shown me. And it's just a great privilege in my life up to this point.

You can also do **prophecy studies** on the nation of Israel, the Kingdom of Yahweh, the book of Revelation; now the mark of the beast, these things that are coming, global government, all kinds of things. You can do end-time studies on sanctification, on overcoming, enduring until the end. There's all kinds of different things that literally, we need to do and need to change to get into the Kingdom of Yahweh. So these things are very important and pertinent to our life right now.

You can sometimes **listen to a sermon** as part of your study. And then study along with the sermon. But I always like to say you need to be in your Bible some way or another, reading your Bible. So I mean sometimes or on Sabbath for that but I wouldn't use a sermon as your Bible study every day. You could listen to a sermon every day of the week, but you want to be doing Bible study beside that.

Make it interesting. Have a plan. Have a goal on what you want to do. So the main reason people don't study, I believe, is that they don't have the proper purpose or goal to study. They simply don't know how to do it and they simply don't do it. So let's go to 2nd Timothy 2 in verse 4 ... 2nd Timothy 4 in verse 2 rather. 2nd Timothy 2 in verse 4 [2nd Timothy 4:2] says:

2nd Timothy 4:2 *Preach the Word! Stand by it in season and out of season. Convict, warn, encourage with all patience and teaching ... Preach the Word! ... 2nd Timothy 4:2 ... Preach the Word! Stand by it in season and out of season. Convict, warn, encourage with all patience and teaching.*

Comment: So, **study topics in seasons** such as the **Holy days**. Every time when Passover is coming, when Shavuot is coming, when Sukkot is coming, you'll notice I'm always giving messages and Bible studies around the Holy days because that's what you have to do. You have to preach in season. The **Shemita**, when the Shemita's here. I've given sometimes just half the years, just sermons dealing with the Shemita. And so many things that Yahweh showed us the last time. Now we're under two years. It's getting close and look what happened in the world. Wow! What a Shemita this is going to be, huh? Wow! Can hardly wait! After the last one, it was so amazing. I would have never thought we'd be where we are now, with COVID and all this other stuff. **New Moons**, right? Same thing. I've been wanting to put together a reading schedule throughout the year for the New Moon and it's something on my "to do" list. And Yahweh willing, I'll get that done this year. **Sabbaths**, certain things to study or read for the Sabbath.

And then verse 3 and verse 4. Because why is it so important to do this now? It says:

2nd Timothy 4:3-4 *For a time will be when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own lusts, they will add to themselves extra teachers according to their own desires; and they will turn away their ears from the truth and will be turned aside to fables.*

Wow! Fake news, fake Bible news. That's where we're at. And unfortunately that's the world we're living in today. We're living in these days because **people don't study** and you *need* to cross-chain reference your Bible. **You need to cross-chain reference your Bible**. What am I talking about? Many people will tell me, whether like I said, on doctrine – you have to know your doctrine. You have to be able to share with people: why you need to be baptized, about repentance, about the family of Yahweh, about the Sabbath day, about the Holy days, about there's no eternal hellfire forever, the reward of the saved – all these different things. And people say, "Uh, my memory it's not that good and I can't remember." Okay, that might be true. So what you have to do, you have to *chain reference* your Bible. What do I mean by chain reference?

Well let's take one topic and we'll talk about it because it's an important one. The topic that Yahshua and Yahweh are totally separate Beings, right? They're two totally separate Beings. And when you tell people that and you say, "Well look, Yahshua's on the earth and He's praying to the Father in Heaven. And when He's dying He's saying *Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani*. He's crying. And then they'll say, "Well that's the *earthly* Yahshua. And this is the ..." and they have all these things. So I say okay, let's get down to it right now in *real time*.

We're in real time, right? We're doing the Bible study in real time, first Friday in December 2020. You're all with us in our living room here. We're cozying up doing the Bible study. So *right now* is there a throne in Heaven where the Father is

sitting and to His right a second throne where the Son is sitting? Two thrones! Two individuals! Two different people! Yes of course. So this is important and this is ... what do I mean by when I say cross reference? We'll start in Hebrews 8:1. Hebrews 8 in verse 1 says:

Hebrews 8:1 *Now the sum of the whole thing is this: We have a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven: ... It comes from **Psalm 110**, right? Sit at My right hand until I make your enemies a footstool to Your feet ... We have a High Priest, who is **seated on the right hand** of the throne of the Majesty in heaven:*

So now, from Hebrews 8:1 all you have to do is put in a little marker or pen or pencil, whatever you want to do. But mark Acts 2 in verse 33. Because what happens when we go to Acts 2:33? It says:

Acts 2:33 *Then being exalted to the right of YAHWEH, and receiving the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father, He poured out this which you now and see ... being exalted **to the right of YAHWEH**.*

He's sitting to the right of the Father. Now, put in next to there, Acts 7 verse 55 and 56:

Acts 7:55-56 *But being full of the Holy Spirit, looking intently into the heaven, he ... talking about Stephen ... saw the glory of YAHWEH, and Yahshua standing at the right of YAHWEH. And he said, Behold, I see the heavens having been opened, and the **Son of man standing at the right of YAHWEH!***

He's there standing at the right of Yahweh. Now, put next to there, next to that scripture – Romans 8:34

Romans 8:34 *Who is he condemning? It is Messiah who has died, but rather also is raised, who also is at **the right hand of YAHWEH**, and also makes intercession on our behalf.*

So you see all you have to do is chain reference and one more will chain. Now next to Romans 8:34, put in 1st Peter 3:22:

1st Peter 3:22 *who going into Heaven is **at the right hand of YAHWEH**; cherubs, and authorities, and powers being made subject to Him.*

So there's actually 14 references all together. And all you have to do is memorize one. So if you just remember one of those 14, and you get to that one, there'll be a reference to another one which will be a reference to another one. And even in the back of your Bible, we have those studies. I told you there's 56 of the topical concordance. You could mark things there. You could mark things in the back of your Bible that way so that you remember these things. But it's important to do that. And that way as long as you have your Bible in your hand, even if you don't remember all the scriptures, your Bible will be set there.

Some people color code it. They **color code certain things**. Things pertaining to Law or Torah, they color code certain things. Things pertaining to the gifts of the Spirit, they color code certain things. I don't like to see my Bible all filled with all different colors. I mean it's a little bit confusing to me but if it works for somebody, that's fine. I do like to make notes in a way. I do like to put scriptures in a way and sometimes highlight certain things that I could there. But whatever works for each person you have to do. Acts 17 ... Acts 17 in verse 10 because this is the way we have to be like:

Acts 17:10-11 *But the brothers at once sent both Paul and Silas to Berea during the night; who having arrived went into the synagogue of the Jews. And these were more noble than those in Thessalonica, for **they received the Word with all readiness, daily examining the Scriptures if these things are so.***

Right? So we want to be like the Bereans. We want to be like the Bereans. We want to be **examining these things. We want to be looking in our Bibles. We want to be proving it** like it says: *Prove all things! Hold onto that which is good.*

Knowledge is power and it keeps you from being deceived. Today, like I said, people get into all kinds of conspiracy theories. It's sad but people do it because they're not knowledgeable because they're not seeking the truth. And you have to make sure, you don't want to be deceived. We want to be like the Bereans. **We want to love the truth.** And we don't want to believe anything that's a lie because whatever is of a lie is of the devil. John 8 in verse 31 and 32 says:

John 8:31-32 *Then Yahshua said to the Jews who had believed in Him, If you continue in My Word, you are truly My disciples. And **you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free** ... the truth will set you free.*

So we have to *love* the truth and then we're going to love to study Scripture because that's the only pure truth. And that should be, it should be every day we wake up because its Yahweh's living, His Word is there. And we should want to just wake up and read that word and have it talk to us because there's messages in there in our life. There's messages, all kinds of things that we're seeking. Every answer is there in Scripture. So last scripture that we have there for tonight, Hebrews 4 in verse 12 ... Hebrews 4 in verse 12 says:

Hebrews 4:12 *For the Word of YAHWEH is **living**, ... it's not just words on a page, but it's living. It's ... **powerfully working, and sharper than every two-edged sword**, and piercing as far as the division of both soul and spirit, and both joints and marrow and bones, and able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

So we should be so excited. And like I said, there's people through history, our fore-fathers and matriarchs and patriarchs that literally died for this Word that would have given their right arm! Like I said, even today brethren that are in countries where the Bible is not legal, that they risk their life to take one Psalm or one Proverb and hide it in their shoe to take in there. And yet, for most of us we can freely have a Bible. We can freely read it. We have no restriction. We're not in a place like a prison without a Bible, where we're not allowed to have it. Because even most prisoners are allowed to at least have a Bible in prison.

So we should be cherishing this Word because who knows in the times we're living in, the time may come very soon where we can't openly read the Bible every day. And we might not have ... I remember Richard Wurmbrand saying it got to the point after so many years in confinement and all that, that he couldn't even remember a scripture. He'd say like the Our Father. He remembered to say Our Father, but he couldn't remember anything after that. So the Holy Spirit does remember though, the Ruach H'Chodesh. So we want to make sure we're putting that into our memory bank so that it can at least pull up the things that we need to know.

This is the Word of Life, the Scriptures, the Word of Life. And we have to let it speak to us daily. The Proverbs is the art of skillful living. There's one for almost every situation in our life; the same with Psalms when we look at it. And the Bible like I said is layered like archeology. So **as you grow in the Ruach, you will understand in a greater way.** That's why you always keep reading it. And I'm amazed because like I said, I'm reading the Bible for just about 40 years and I've read it about 100 times all together and like I said, every time I read it it's like reading it for the first time. I look at books and I'm like why I don't even remember that. Maybe I'm just getting senile? Maybe I'm getting older and I don't remember as much?

But it's exciting to me because I'm reading it and I'm seeing it in a different way. And Yahweh's Spirit is talking to me. And that's the way it's got to be. Like I said, it's like archeology. And as we grow in the Spirit we're going to understand it in a greater way. And this is why like I said, **you could read the Bible a 100 times and every time it's new to us, cutting to our heart, convicting us on where we need to change.** Bible study and prayer needs to be the *foundation* of our daily lives. When you pray, you're speaking to Yahweh and when you study, He's speaking back to you. We need to hear His voice daily. We need to grow in the Ruach and become more like Him. And it's a lifelong process.

The Bible is the instruction manual for Life. And it's the instruction manual on how to get eternal life. So I pray that this helps you a little bit more with maybe being a little focused with your Bible study and getting a little more excitement with it. So until next week, have a blessed week everybody. And we will see you next time. Shabbat Shalom!