

SCRIPTURES – GRAPHE
Biblical Words
Banska Bystrica, 27th January 2019

<p>2 Timothy 3:15 καὶ ὅτι ἀπὸ βρέφους [τὰ] ἱερὰ γράμματα οἶδας, τὰ δυνάμενά σε σοφίσει εἰς σωτηρίαν διὰ πίστεως τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ. ¹⁶ πᾶσα γραφή θεόπνευστος καὶ ὠφέλιμος πρὸς διδασκαλίαν, πρὸς ἐλεγμὸν, πρὸς ἐπανόρθωσιν, πρὸς παιδείαν τὴν ἐν δικαιοσύνῃ,</p>	<p>2Tim 3:15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the <u>sacred writings</u>, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All <u>Scripture</u> is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">לְתוֹרָה וְלַתְעוּבָה אִם-לֹא יֵאמְרוּ כַּדָּבָר הַזֶּה אֲשֶׁר אֵין-לוֹ אִיֶּזְרָח</p>	<p>Isa 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, <i>it is</i> because <i>there is</i> no light in them</p>
<p>Rom 15:4 ὅσα γὰρ προεγράφη, εἰς τὴν ἡμετέραν διδασκαλίαν ἐγράφη, ἵνα διὰ τῆς ὑπομονῆς καὶ διὰ τῆς παρακλήσεως τῶν γραφῶν τὴν ἐλπίδα ἔχωμεν</p>	<p>Rom 15:4 For whatever was written in former days was written for our <u>instruction</u>, that through <u>endurance</u> and through the <u>encouragement</u> of the Scriptures we might have hope</p>

OUTLINE

0. INTRODUCTION

- 0.1. WHAT IS “THE SCRIPTURE”?
- 0.2. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

1. ABUSING SCRIPTURES

- 1.1. IGNORANCE
- 1.2. TWISTING
- 1.3. GOING BEYOND THE SCRIPTURES

2. KNOWING SCRIPTURES

- 2.1. READING
- 2.2. INTERPRETING
- 2.3. IN THE CENTRE → CHRIST
- 2.4. THE GIFT OF GOD

3. USING SCRIPTURES

- 3.1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH
- 3.2. SPIRITUAL WARFARE

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

0. INTRODUCTION

- the “Biblical words” series → logical thinking begins with the right understanding of the terms (Aristotle)
- against anthropocentrism → back to the Bible
- practical → Sunday School meetings too far apart from each other → separate lessons

0.1. WHAT IS “THE SCRIPTURE”?

- The “Bible” → *biblia* (“little books” in Greek)
- The Canon → the list not given in the Bible → “autopistos” (Calvin)

- *sola scriptura* → all other books and texts in the light of the authority of the Bible
- [LS] **γραφή**, ἡ, (γράφω) *representation by means of lines: I. drawing or delineation*, Hdt.; of *painting*, Id., Plat. **2. a drawing, painting, picture**, ὅσον γραφή ... **II. writing, the art of writing**, Plat. **2. a writing**, Soph.: *a letter*, Thuc.; so in pl., like **γράμματα**, Eur.: *ψευδεῖς γρ. false statements*, Id. **III. (γράφομαι) as Att. law-term, an indictment in a public prosecution, a criminal prosecution undertaken by the state, opp. to δίκη (a private action)**, Plat., etc.

γράμμα, ατος, τό, nom. sg. neut. n. [§4.D.c]
 pr. *that which is written or drawn; a letter, character of the alphabet*, Luke 23:38; *a writing, book*, John 5:47; *an acknowledgment of debt, an account, a bill, note*, Luke 16:6, 7; *an epistle, letter*, Acts 28:21; Gal. 6:11; *ἱερὰ γράμματα, Holy writ, the sacred books of the Old Testament, the Jewish Scriptures*, 2 Tim. 3:15; spc. *the letter of the law of Moses, the bare literal sense*, Rom. 2:27, 29; 2 Cor. 3:6, 7; pl. *letters, learning*, John 7:15; Acts 26:24 {2 Cor. 3:6}

γραφή, ἡς, ἡ (γράφω), *a picture, a writing*; in N. T. **ἡ γραφή** and **αἱ γραφαί** *Scripture, the Scriptures, i. e. of the Jews, the Old Test., Acts 8. 32, al.; γραφαὶ ἁγίαί Rom. 1. 2: by synecdoche put for the contents of Scripture, i. e. Scripture-declaration, promise, &c. Matt. 22. 29, al.; Scripture-prophecy, 26. 54.*

- In 2Pt 3:16 Paul's Epistles are reckoned a part of the Scriptures
- "In Greek, ambiguity can arise in discussing the old canon. For example, if one wished to refer to the Ketuvim, meaning "Writings," there were two Greek words that interchangeably meant "Writings" or our English synonym, "Scripture" -- the words *graphe* and *grammata*. At the same time, if one wished to refer to the entire OT canon, including the Ketuvim, one could still refer to it in Greek as "writings," either *graphe* or *grammata*."¹

0.2. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- revelation → "the Word of God"
- authority → the law (**Rom 10:8** The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim))
- eternity → **John 10:35** Scripture cannot be broken (οὐ δύναται λυθῆναι ἡ γραφή)
- power → the experience of God's presence; holiness... (Ps 138:2 "your promises surpass even your fame") (**John 17:17** Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.)
- success → **Jos 1:8** This Book of the Law (סֵפֶר הַתּוֹרָה הַזֶּה) shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on (וּבְיָמֵינוּ) it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written (בְּכָל דְּבַר הַסֵּפֶר) in it. For then you will make your way prosperous (וְיִשְׁתַּלְשַׁל דְּרֹכְךָ), and then you will have good success (וְיִשְׁפֹּר לְךָ).

1. ABUSING SCRIPTURES

1.1. IGNORANCE

- **Mt 22:29** You are wrong/deceived, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. (πλανᾶσθε μὴ εἰδότες τὰς γραφὰς μηδὲ τὴν δύναμιν τοῦ θεοῦ)

1.2. TWISTING

- **2Pt 3:15-16** as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, ¹⁶ as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. (ὁ ἀγαπητὸς ἡμῶν ἀδελφὸς Παῦλος κατὰ τὴν δοθεισαν αὐτῷ σοφίαν ἔγραψεν ὑμῖν, ¹⁶ ὡς καὶ ἐν πάσαις ἐπιστολαῖς λαλῶν ἐν αὐταῖς περὶ τούτων, ἐν αἷς ἐστὶν δυσνόητά τινα, ἃ οἱ ἀμαθεῖς καὶ ἀστήρικτοι στρεβλοῦσιν ὡς καὶ τὰς λοιπὰς γραφὰς πρὸς τὴν ἰδίαν αὐτῶν ἀπώλειαν)

¹ <https://www.jesuswordsonly.com/books/335-writings-section-of-original-testament-of-bible-knol.html>

1.3. GOING BEYOND THE SCRIPTURES

- **1Cor 4:6** ...learn by us not to go beyond what is written (μάθητε τὸ μὴ ὑπὲρ ἃ γέγραπται,...)
- **Rev 22:18** I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them (ἐάν τις ἐπιθῆ ἑπ' αὐτά,) , God will add to him the plagues described in this book
- **Dt 12:32** "Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it (אֵלֶּיךָ לֹא תִשְׁבַּח וְלֹא תִקַּח מִמֶּנּוּ).

2. KNOWING SCRIPTURES

2.1. READING

- **Lk 10:25-26** And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the Law ? How do you read it (τί γέγραπται; πῶς ἀναγινώσκεις;)"

2.2. INTERPRETING

- **2Pt 1:19-20** And we have something more sure (βεβαιότερον), the prophetic word (τὸν προφητικὸν λόγον), to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰ knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation (τοῦτο πρῶτον γινώσκοντες ὅτι πᾶσα προφητεία γραφῆς ἰδίας ἐπιλύσεως οὐ γίνεται).
- **2Cor 3:6** For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life (τὸ γὰρ γράμμα ἀποκτείνει, τὸ δὲ πνεῦμα ζωοποιεῖ)

2.3. IN THE CENTRE → CHRIST

- **John 5:39** You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me (ἐραυνᾶτε τὰς γραφάς, ὅτι ὑμεῖς δοκεῖτε ἐν αὐταῖς ζωὴν αἰώνιον ἔχειν· καὶ ἐκεῖναί εἰσιν αἱ μαρτυροῦσαι περὶ ἐμοῦ)

2.4. THE GIFT OF GOD

- **Luke 24:45** Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, (τότε διήνοιξεν αὐτῶν τὸν νοῦν τοῦ συνιέναι τὰς γραφάς·)

3. USING SCRIPTURES

3.1. SPIRITUAL GROWTH

- **2Tim 3:16** (1) teaching [διδασκαλία], (2) reproof [ἐλεγμός], (3) correction [ἐπανόρθωσις], (4) training [παιδεία]
- **Rom 15:4** For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction (διδασκαλίαν ἐγράφη), that through endurance (ὑπομονή) and through the encouragement (παρακλήσις) of the Scriptures (γραφαί) we might have hope (ἐλπίς)

3.2. SPIRITUAL WARFARE

- **Mt 4:3-11** And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written (γέγραπται), Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written (γέγραπται γάρ), He will command his angels concerning you,' and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. ⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written (πάλιν γέγραπται), 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written (γέγραπται γάρ), "' You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" ¹¹ Then the devil left

him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

- **Eph 6:17** take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God (τὴν περικεφαλαίαν τοῦ σωτηρίου δέξασθε καὶ τὴν μάχαιραν τοῦ πνεύματος, ὃ ἐστὶν ῥῆμα θεοῦ)

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- (1) a personal reading plan, (2) a personal method of study, (3) set times for meditation
- Benyon & Sach *Dig Deeper* (“Pod’me hlbsie“)
- Gordon Fee & Douglas Stuart *How to Read the Bible for All It’s Worth* (*Jak číst bibli s porozuměním*)
- D. L. Moody *Pleasure and Profit in Bible Study* (*Požitek a prospěch pro zkoumatele Bible*)
- R. C. Sproul *Knowing Scripture*
- David Pawson *Unlocking the Bible*

Moody: Pleasure and Profit...:

A QUICKENING that will last must come through the Word of God. A man stood up in one of our meetings and said he hoped for enough out of the series of meetings to last him all his life. I told him he might as well try to eat enough breakfast at one time to last him his lifetime. That is a mistake that people are making; they are running to religious meetings and they think the meetings are going to do the work. But if these don’t bring you into closer contact with the Word of God, the whole impression will be gone in three months. The more you love the Scriptures, the firmer will be your faith. There is little backsliding when people love the Scriptures.