

2. What was the apostles' attitude toward the Scriptures?

a. How did Paul say the Scriptures could affect the believer's life? (II Tim. 3:15-17; Rom. 15:4; I Cor. 10:11)

b. What did Peter say was the source of the Scriptures? (II Pet. 1:21; I Peter 1:10-12)

c. How does the way the New Testament writers quote Scripture show that they believed the Scriptures were from God? (Heb. 1:5-13; 3:7; 4:3; 10:5-7, 15-17 cf. Acts 4:25; 28:25-27).

d. Read the following passages and explain how they show that the apostles considered the gospel and the New Testament to be "Scriptures" along with the Old Testament (I Cor. 2:12-13; II Peter 3:15-16; I Tim. 5:18 cf. Luke 10:7).

3. Psalm 19:7-14 is both a concise and monumental statement on the Scripture's effect and importance. Read through the passage carefully and make two lists—one on the characteristics of the Scripture, the other on the benefits of the Scripture (see also Psalm 119, a more lengthy praise psalm extolling the Scripture as the law of the Lord containing everything man needs to know for right living).

PSALM 19:7-14	
Characteristics of Scripture	Benefits of Scripture

4. In the Old Testament, God's people frequently departed from the Scriptures and had to be renewed in their faithfulness to God's law. Two such incidents were in the days of Josiah and in the days of Nehemiah. Read their accounts in II Kings 22:8-23:25 and Nehemiah 8. What effect did recovery of the Word of God have on the spiritual, social, and moral life of the people?

5. Learning the Scriptures and studying the Bible are not ends in themselves. Rather, they are to produce results. In Matthew 13:1-23, the parable of the sower, Jesus described four different ways of hearing the Word of God. Read the parable and Jesus' explanation, then list the four kinds of hearers of the Word.

6. The following are key Scriptures on the power of the Word of God: James 1:19-25; I Peter 1:22-2:3; Colossians 3:16-17; Luke 11:28; John 17:17; Hebrews 4:12. From these passages, why would having the Scriptures easily accessible to all Christians be important? (Be specific here!)