

## “I Can’t Understand ...”

*Continued from Page 3 prophets.” Amos 3:7) He revealed His Word only to certain people. Today, not all have understanding in all things. Many times, only those have understanding of certain truths from the Word of God if they have need of it. A suffering Christian has more understanding of comforting verses than one who has not yet experienced such severe heartaches. A dying Christian certainly has more understanding of the scriptures regarding grace in difficult times than one whose health is not in question.*

All born-again (John 3:3) children of God can understand the Word of God, or God would not have gone through such great efforts to preserve it for us today, just as it was penned to the men of God of the past. It is not necessary to lay out all the different versions and translations to understand the Bible.

There is one God and one Word. Do not rely on some translator to make it clearer. With over 250 modern translations available, it is believed that fewer people read God’s Word today and even fewer understand it. What many English-speaking people do not fully understand is

that it does not take a translator, or even knowing Greek and Hebrew to understand God’s Word. It only takes the translating Spirit of God to help one understand His Word. All can understand the Bible.

<sup>1</sup> G. A. Riplinger, *New Age Bible Versions*, AV Publications Corp., 1995, Pg. 196

## Synopsis of the Bible

*Found on the fly-leaf of*

*D. L. Moody’s Bible*

This Book contains the Word of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers.

Its doctrines are holy. Its precepts are binding; its histories are true, and its decisions immutable.

Read it to be wise. Believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler’s map, the pilgrim’s staff, the pilot’s compass, the soldier’s sword, and the Christian’s charter.

Christ is the grand object, our good its design, and the glory of God its end.


It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully.

It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgments, and be remembered forever.

It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its sacred contents.

# The Bible View



A free publication from: [www.OpenThouMineEyes.com](http://www.OpenThouMineEyes.com) Vol.: 241

## “I Can’t Understand the Bible!”

*Bill Brinkworth*

Too many claim “the Bible is too hard to understand” as their main reason for not reading the Bible. Actually, the King James Bible, according to Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level Indicator that measures reading difficulty, is rated at a 5.8 grade level average<sup>1</sup>. Many of the newer “bibles” are even much more difficult to read. The New International Version has been ranked at a grade level of 8.4, and the New King James, which is really not a revised King James at all, is ranked at 6.9. The *USA Today Newspaper* is ranked at grade nine, and *People Magazine* is ranked at eighth grade. Grade level wise, the King James Bible should not be difficult to understand for most. However, there are other factors that do make it appear as if it were “too difficult”.

📖 The Bible’s truths have to be shown to a person by God! Psalms 25:14 tells of one reason many have a hard time

grasping the truths from the preserved Word of God as found in the King James Bible: *“The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.”* Many do not understand God’s Word because it is secret and can only be shown to a person by God. Also: *Proverbs 3:32*

*Continued on Page 2*

## God’s Word

*Author Unknown*

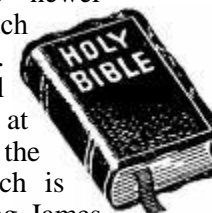
*For feelings come and feelings go,  
And feelings are deceiving.  
My warrant is the Word of God,*

*Naught else is worth believing.  
Though all my heart should feel condemned*

*For want of some good token,  
There is One greater than my heart*

*Whose Word cannot be broken.  
I’ll trust in God’s unchanging Word*

*‘Till soul and body sever,  
For though all things shall pass away  
His Word shall stand forever.*



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*Continued from Page 1*

Over the years, I have met many learned men. They have Th. D.’s, D. D.’s, and even Dr.’s after their names. By the world’s standards, they should know what the scriptures say and mean; as it was their field of study. After listening to them, I soon realized that I have many young children in my junior church that know more of what the Bible means than they. They have many facts stored away in their brain; but they do not really have a clue as to what it all means, because they have never been “shown” by God. They just tried to figure it out with their own intelligence, interpretations, and opinions, like so many others have tried. That is why there are so many churches today that appear to be “of God”, but teach what they feel is right, or what they feel the scriptures say. Understanding the meaning of the Bible takes more than just having a superior intellect. It, again, takes God to show anyone what it means. It is God that has to open the spiritual eyes of the beholder; so that they can see the won-

drous truths of God (Psalms 119:18).

📖 Only a child of God can understand His Father’s Words! The only ones that truly can understand His Word are His own: *“He that is of God heareth God’s words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.”* John 8:47. This is why it is absurd when an unsaved person tries to explain to a Christian what God’s Word means. Many try to, even from the pulpit! They hear with their physical ears, but not with their “spiritual” ears. *“But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.”* John 10:26 Also: *1 Cor. 2:14, John 8:43, & Mat. 7:6*

📖 More would understand what the Bible means if they would obey what God has already shown them *“If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.”* John 7:17

📖 It is the Word of God and not a fourth grade novel. It is not Huckleberry Finn or Tom Sawyer. It is the Word of God; so it will not be easy to understand. Do not expect to

read it once and understand it all.

📖 Do not try to read some of it and expect to understand all of it! All words and verses in the Bible are important. Having knowledge of all scriptures, not just a few verses, will help one understand more. A good example is found in the first four books of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Reading just the book of Matthew will not give you a complete understanding of Jesus’ life, although some of His life will be understood. Reading all four books with each giving a different perspective will make Jesus’ life much more understandable. Reading the prophecies about Jesus the Messiah in the Old Testament will even make it clearer Who He really is, and why He is so important. All scriptures fitted together make the “puzzle” more complete.

*“For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little.”* Isaiah 28:10 Also: *Isa. 28:13*

📖 Some have no interest in wanting to understand God’s Word. I have heard many explain what the scriptures meant, and then it was found out that they had never read it for themselves. They were just reciting what someone

had told them they thought the scriptures meant and taught. There was a preset mind of what they thought God would say or think. One cannot understand the mind or thinking of God without reading His Word! These people do not understand the Bible because they do not seek or want to understand it as it was intended.

📖 There are truth’s in the Bible that you may not need right now. That is why many that read the Bible regularly say, “I’ve read that verse 50 times, and never got out of it what I just got;” or “I never saw that before”, when they have read the same passage many times. What may have happened in those instances is they did not need the truth before that time; and when God wanted them to know, He gave them the understanding of the scripture.

📖 At certain times, God may purposely hide the scripture’s meaning. He considered hiding His will from Abraham one time: *“And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;”* Gen. 18:17

There was a time, before we had the whole counsel of God in the 66 books we have today, that His truth was only known to the prophets to whom it was revealed. (*“Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the*

*Continued on Page 4*

**“If everybody could understand everything the Bible said it wouldn't be God's book. If Christians and theologians had studied it for forty, fifty, or sixty years, and then only began to understand it, how could a man expect to understand it by one reading?” — D. L. Moody**