

History of the New Testament church (The book of Acts), and Sermonic materials (Jesus' great sermon on the mount, Matthew chapters 5,6,7, and Peter's great sermon on Pentecost (Acts chapter 2), **PARABLES** (By means of parables the teacher places something which is understood beside something unknown to enable the hearer to understand the truth that the teacher is presenting. By means of a parable Nathan taught King David that he was guilty of adultery [II Samuel 12:1-15]. Through a parable Jesus taught the Jewish lawyer who his neighbor was (Luke 10:25-37), and **APOCALYPTIC** (The books of Ezekiel and Revelation presents truths in the presentation of symbols).

### BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

When considering a translation of the Bible one should be aware that many modern day speech and private translations are nothing more than an individual's commentary (what he believes the Bible says) instead of a translation of the original text. One example of making the Bible read what man desires is seen in the *New World Translation of the Holy Scriptures* of the Jehovah's Witnesses. Published by the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc., they include words in their translation which are **not** in the Greek text. This is found in Colossians 1:16, 17 when the word "other" is inserted. There is no manuscript evidence, for this.

### THE BIBLE IS A BOOK TO BE STUDIED

God's word is truth (John 17:17) and can make man free (John 8:32). It should be studied (II Timothy 2:15), and followed in order to be pleasing to Jehovah God (Matthew 7:21).

### THE BIBLE

“This book contains - the mind 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, good 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, the Christian's character.

Here Paradise is restored, heaven opened and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good its design and the glory of God its end. It should rule the heart, fill the memory and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgement and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the highest (greatest) labor, and condemns all who trifle with its holy contents.” — *Author Unknown*

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# INTRODUCTION To THE BIBLE



**By Thomas F. Eaves, Sr.**