



Faith in Action

Three Ways of Understanding

Centrality of God's Word

- ^{NAS} **James 1:21** Therefore putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.
- ^{NAS} **James 1:25** But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does.
- ^{NAS} **James 2:8** If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law, according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well.

The New Covenant Fulfilled

- ^{NAS} **James 1:21** Therefore putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.
- ^{NAS} **James 4:5** Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"?

New Covenant Promised

- ^{NAS} **Jeremiah 31:31** "Behold, days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah ... ³³ ..."I will put My law within them, and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ³⁴ "And they shall not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

➤ *the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.*

New Covenant Promised

- ^{NAS} **Ezekiel 36:26** "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ "And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.
- ^{NAS} **Isaiah 59:21** "And as for Me, this is My covenant with them," says the LORD: "My Spirit which is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your offspring, nor from the mouth of your offspring's offspring," says the LORD, "from now and forever."
 - *the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.*
 - *the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us*

The Word Implanted

- *receive the word implanted*
 - *I will put My law within them, and on their heart I will write it*
 - *I will cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.*
 - *My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart*
- How is it implanted?
- a) Independent from our action, directly by the Lord
 - b) Through our action as empowered by the Lord

Implanting the Word: Our Action

- ^{NAS} **2 Timothy 3:10** But you followed my teaching ...¹⁴ You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them; ¹⁵ and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.
- ^{NAS} **1 Timothy 4:16** Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things; for as you do this you will insure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.
- ^{NAS} **2 Timothy 2:15** Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, handling accurately the word of truth.

Implanting the Word: God's Empowerment

- ^{NAS} **1 Thessalonians 1:5** for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction ...
 - ^{NAS} **1 Corinthians 2:4** And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
 - ^{NAS} **Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes ...
- *The Lord doesn't implant his word into us independent from our action (Bible reading) but through it.*
- ^{NAS} **Hebrews 4:12** For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Wise for Salvation

- ^{NAS} **2 Timothy 3:15** ... the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable ...
- ^{NAS} **Proverbs 9:10** The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Three Ways of Understanding

1. Intellectual
2. Spiritual
3. Experiential

1. Intellectual Understanding

- ^{NAS} **Deuteronomy 6:1** "Now this is the commandment, the statutes and the judgments which the LORD your God has commanded me to teach you ...⁴ "Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! ⁵ "And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶ "And these words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart; ⁷ and you shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. ⁸ "And you shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. ⁹ "And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

A Guide for Life

- ^{NAS} **Deuteronomy 6:20** "When your son asks you in time to come, saying, 'What do the testimonies and the statutes and the judgments mean which the LORD our God commanded you?' ²¹ then you shall say to your son, 'We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt; and the LORD brought us from Egypt with a mighty hand. ²² 'Moreover, the LORD showed great and distressing signs and wonders before our eyes against Egypt, Pharaoh and all his household; ²³ and He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land which He had sworn to our fathers.' ²⁴ "So the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God for our good always and for our survival, as it is today. ²⁵ "And it will be righteousness for us if we are careful to observe all this commandment before the LORD our God, just as He commanded us

- ^{NAS} **2 Timothy 3:14** You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of,... ¹⁵ and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷ that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.
- ^{NAS} **Psalm 119:105** Thy word is a lamp to my feet, And a light to my path.
- ^{NIV} **Psalm 119:130** The unfolding of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.
- ^{NAS} **Acts 17:11** Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily, to see whether these things were so.

- ^{NAS} **James 1:22** But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. ²⁵ But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the *law of liberty*, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does.

- ^{NAS} **Joshua 1:7** "Only be strong and very courageous; be careful to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, so that you may have success wherever you go. ⁸ "This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success. ⁹ "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

2. Spiritual Understanding

- ^{NAS} **1 Corinthians 2:4** And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power ...¹⁰ For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man, which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things freely given to us by God, ¹³ which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. ¹⁴ But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised...¹⁶ ...But we have the mind of Christ.

3. Experiential Understanding

- ^{NAS} **Exodus 6:6** "Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage. I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.' ⁷ 'Then I will take you for My people, and I will be your God; and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians
- ^{NAS} **Isaiah 43:10** "You are My witnesses," declares the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, In order that you may know and believe Me, And understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, And there will be none after Me. ¹¹ "I, even I, am the LORD; And there is no savior besides Me. ¹² "It is I who have declared and saved and proclaimed, And there was no strange god among you; So you are My witnesses," declares the LORD, "And I am God.

- ^{NAS} **Philippians 3:8** More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord... ¹⁰ that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;
- ^{NAS} **2 Corinthians 1:3** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort; ⁴ who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. ⁵ For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ. ⁶ But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; or if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which is effective in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer; ⁷ and our hope for you is firmly grounded, knowing that as you are sharers of our sufferings, so also you are sharers of our comfort.

Conclusion

The Word Understood

- ^{NAS} **2 Timothy 3:16** All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; ¹⁷ that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.
- ^{NAS} **Psalms 119:105** Thy word is a lamp to my feet, And a light to my path.
- ^{NAS} **Romans 12:1** I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.