

How Can I Understand the Bible?

An example of How to Study the Bible and Find Truth

John, Chapter 20

Most Christians have never really studied the Bible on their own. If they study the Bible at all, they depend on their pastor or their Bible study teacher to help them find the truth. Most read the Bible with little understanding, without “mining” the depths of the riches in each verse.

The only reason we are all here on this earth is to learn to TRUST the Lord with everything in our life. But what does that require?

We are told that we must “Search” the Scriptures – that we will only find Jesus when we “search for Him with ALL our heart.” (Jeremiah 29:13)

This Study is an example of the vast amount of information that can be obtained from studying a **single** Chapter in the Bible. In the Second Chapter of the gospel of John - in just 31 verses - we will find valuable information on the following issues that are critical for our salvation:

1. Faith: Believing is Seeing. Faith means that one believes – without seeing.
2. What is necessary in order to understand God’s Word.
3. Is the Trinity doctrine true or false?
4. Why Jesus referred to Himself as the “Son” of God.
5. When John entered the empty tomb after Jesus’ resurrection, he said he “believed.” Just what did John “believe”?
6. Thomas and the Christians of today.
7. What is *eonian* life? And why has it been mistranslated as *Eternal* life?
8. Universal Restoration – God will save ALL mankind!
9. If we have “Free Will” – then God is dethroned.
10. Jesus was resurrected on the Seventh-day Sabbath – Saturday – NOT on Sunday – the first day of the week.
11. Jesus resurrected Himself.
12. The memorial of Jesus’ death and resurrection is Baptism – NOT the keeping of Sunday as a day of worship.
13. No one goes to heaven (or hell) after death.
14. God will make us perfect - on this earth! – through reaping what we have

sown

15. How Jesus treated women
16. Only God can forgive sins.

And this is only the beginning. Every verse and chapter in the Bible is full of information for those who are willing to spend the time in Bible study and prayer to unearth these treasures.

Some believe that if they are “John 3:16” Christians, that is the only text that they need to know. But God gave us the entire Bible and tells us to

“Study to show thyself approved unto God; a workman that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15)

The only reason we are all on this earth is to learn to KNOW God and to learn to TRUST Him with everything in our life.

Occasionally, people ask, “Is this information necessary for my salvation?” How narrow-minded that is – and an insult to Jesus Christ.

When you fall in love with someone, you want to know everything about that person. If a Christian has truly fallen in love with Jesus, he or she will want to know everything there is to know about Him, His life, and His character.

And that is the only way we can become like Him.

By beholding (Jesus) we become changed (into His image).

“But we all, with open face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image, from glory to glory, even as by the spirit (breath) of the Lord.” 2 Corinthians 3:18

John, Chapter 20

The Sanctity of the Seventh-day (Saturday) Sabbath – the day Jesus was resurrected (NOT Sunday).

1 Now on one of the Sabbaths, Miriam Magdalene is coming to the tomb in the morning, there being still darkness, and is observing the stone taken away from the door of the tomb.

This passage is incorrectly translated in ALL the versions of the Bible in the following way:

“The *first day of the week* cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulcher, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulcher.

“One of the Sabbaths” is the true rendering of this verse. The usual “first day of the week” is absolutely devoid of scriptural evidence. There were **seven** Sabbaths between Passover and Pentecost (Penta = 50 days). The phrase *one of the Sabbaths*, refers to one of those **seven** Sabbaths

The Greek word *sabbaton* appears 68 times in the New Testament. Fifty-nine times it is translated “Sabbath.” The other 9 times (including this one) it is arbitrarily – and incorrectly – translated *first day of the week*. The translators have deliberately changed the words according to their preconceived theological beliefs – to support Sunday-keeping as a memorial of Christ’s death and resurrection.

But this is clearly unbiblical.

The Seventh-day (Saturday) IS the Lord’s day.

Jesus said, “The Son of man is Lord of the Sabbath.” (Mark 2:28)

Jesus kept the Sabbath when He was on earth – on the Seventh day of the week - Saturday. And Jesus was NOT a Jew. Jesus was God - and God is NOT Jewish.

The words *first day of the week* NEVER appear in the Bible. Those words have been **incorrectly written in** by the translators in these NINE places – including the SIX times that refer to the day of Jesus’ resurrection.

Jesus was resurrected on the Seventh-day (Saturday) Sabbath – NOT on Sunday.

The Memorial of Jesus’ Death and Resurrection is - - Baptism (NOT Sunday-keeping)

The Bible tells us that the memorial of Jesus’ death and resurrection is – Baptism by immersion. Jesus was baptized by John, the Baptist, **by immersion** in the Jordan River. The Greek word *baptismo* means **immersion**. It does not mean to be “sprinkled.”

“Know ye not, that as many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death?

“Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death; that just as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life (*zoe*).” Romans 6:3,4

Conclusion: The translators **changed** the words of the Bible to suit their own theological beliefs – the FALSE doctrine of Sunday-keeping in the “Christian” Church.

The Seventh-day (Saturday) Sabbath IS the Lord’s day and the day that Jesus kept when He was on earth. Jesus’ death and resurrection is to be memorialized by the rite of Baptism by Immersion – NOT by Sunday-keeping. There is NOWHERE in the Bible that we are told to worship on Sunday – the pagan day of Sun-worship!

For more complete information on this subject, see “Was Jesus Really Resurrected on Sunday?” at my website www.goodnewsaboutgod.com! There is also an explanation as to why the passage reads, “On ONE of the Sabbaths. . .”

Why did John believe that Jesus had been resurrected (rather than that His body had been stolen)?

- 2 Then she (Mary Magdalene) runneth and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved (speaking of John, the author of the gospel of John), and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulcher, and we don’t know where they have laid Him.
- 3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple (John) and went to the sepulcher (tomb)
- 4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple (John) did outrun Peter; and came first to the sepulcher.
- 5 And stooping down, and looking in, he saw the swathings (linen clothes) lying *there*; But he did not enter.
- 6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulcher; and seeth the linen clothes (swathings) lie.

“There is a blessed contrast between the resurrection of Lazarus and the vivification of our Lord. Lazarus saw corruption. Christ saw none. Lazarus was raised bound foot and hand with grave clothes and his face was covered with a handkerchief. These are the signs of mortality and corruption. These are the

symbols of weakness. Our Lord was raised in power. His feet were free, His hands untrammelled, His face uncovered. He had the power to take up His life again. He had the power to remove the grave clothes and roll aside the stone. He is not merely the Resurrection, but He IS the Life!" Concordant Commentary, pg 173

- 7 And the handkerchief (face cloth) that was on His head, not lying with the linen clothes (swathings), but was folded up in a place by itself.
- 8 Then went in also that other disciple (John) which came first to the sepulcher, **and he saw and believed**.

The question is: What did John believe?

Mary Magdalene, Peter, and John all **believed** that Jesus' body was not in the tomb. Mary Magdalene **believed** that Jesus' body had been removed from the tomb and taken somewhere else.

John is telling us in this passage that he **believed** that Jesus had been resurrected from the dead – not that the dead body of Jesus' had been removed from the tomb.

What was it that caused John to **believe** that Jesus had been resurrected?

On the previous evening, Friday before sundown, after Jesus had died on the cross, Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus the Pharisee, came for the body of Jesus, to bury Him.

“And after this Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus.

“And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight (approximately 75 lbs in present-day measure).

“Then they took the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen strips with the spices as the manner of the Judeans (believers in God) is to bury.”
John 19:38-40

The body of Jesus was wound about with linen strips soaked with the 75 lbs of myrrh and aloes. Myrrh is an antiseptic and a deodorant. Aloe, a sticky clear substance, was used for embalming. And when the sticky aloe dried, it created a mummy-like case around the body.

John saw that the mummy case was intact, and Jesus was gone. The only opening was for the area of the face, which had just been covered by a handkerchief. The body of Jesus could not have been stolen out of the mummy case unless it had been cut, which apparently it was not.

Therefore, John realized the dead body of Jesus had NOT been stolen. Instead John **believed** that Jesus had to have been miraculously resurrected, and his glorified body had come right through the mummy case without it having been opened, just as He later was able to come through walls and closed doors.

“John saw – and believed. . .”

John **believed** in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

9 “For as yet they did not understand the scripture, that He must rise again from the dead.

10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.”

11 But Mary stood outside the sepulcher weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulcher.

12 And she saw two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

“Mary Magdalene, probably from the town of Magdala, had been possessed with seven demons. The Lord healed her and she became part of that elect, devoted, company of women who dispensed to Him of their possessions. (Luke 8:2,3). She seems to have been among the last to leave the tomb, after witnessing where Joseph of Arimathea had laid Him. Along with some of the other women she seems to have been at the tomb very early, in order to complete the preparation of His body for burial.

“Peter and John seemed to have left her. She does not take a look and leave. She lingers, and her faith is regarded by the unspeakable boon of being first to behold the risen Christ. Peter and John, when they looked, saw the grave clothes. Mary Magdalene saw the angels, but is not satisfied with anyone but her Lord.” Ibid.

Peter and John had also been in the tomb, but neither one of them saw the angels. Mary Magdalene was such a devoted follower of Jesus, she could not leave the tomb as the disciples had done. She was the only one who seemed to have prior understanding that Jesus was going to die, which she demonstrated

by pouring the expensive oil on his feet several days before, at Simon the Leper's house, "preparing Him" for His burial.

13 And they say unto her, Woman, why are you weeping? She said unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I don't know where they have laid Him.

14 And when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but did not know it was Jesus.

15 Jesus said unto her, Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek? She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said unto Him, Sir, if you have taken Him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take Him away.

16 Jesus said unto her, "Mary." She turned herself, and said unto Him, Rabboni, which is to say, Master (Teacher).

What a world of pathos lies within the range of the human voice! There was no need to tell her Who He was, once He had caressed her name as He only could intone it. "Mary!" ("Miriam!") And immediately she recognizes the voice of her beloved Lord and Teacher." Ibid.

She recognized the voice of Jesus because she had learned to know Him so well, and because He had delivered her from the bondage of seven demons. She had been totally lost – and Jesus had saved her!

In order to recognize God's voice when He speaks to us, we must know Him as Mary Magdalene knew Jesus.

She is the one to whom Jesus showed Himself first, after His resurrection, a woman! A woman who had been possessed by devils! He did not show Himself first to His disciples, because they had not yet understood Christ with the Spiritual intimacy that Mary understood.

For the disciples, that would come later – after Pentecost.

17 Jesus said unto her, Do not detain Me; for I am not yet ascended to My Father; but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto My Father, and **your** Father: and to My God, and **Your** God.

No one goes to heaven (or hell) after they die. They rest in the tomb – dead – knowing nothing.

Jesus was resurrected – in His body – (the tomb was empty) but He had NOT yet ascended to His Father.

This is an important doctrinal point. Jesus did NOT go to heaven immediately when He died. When He was resurrected, He was “wearing” His body – now a glorified body – and He had NOT yet ascended to heaven.

This shows us that when a person dies, he does NOT go to heaven – or hell. The Bible is very clear that “the dead know NOTHING” (Ecclesiastes 9:5). Jesus, Himself, said that death is a sleep – “Lazarus is sleeping. Lazarus is dead.” (John 11:11,14).

In fact, there are at least 25 texts that prove that NO ONE goes to heaven or hell when he or she dies. Everyone who dies is asleep in the grave until the resurrection. Please see, “What Happens When We Die?” at www.goodnewsaboutgod.com

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things unto her.

Jesus tells Mary, a woman previously possessed by seven devils, to go tell His disciples – all men – that Jesus has risen from the dead, and she has seen Him.

Why Jesus called Himself the “Son of God.”

Jesus was – and is - God in human form. God is Invisible. Jesus is the Visible form of God – the form in which humanity can actually SEE Him. Jesus referred to Himself as the “Son” of God because, as seen in verse 17, He came to earth as a human being, to walk OUR walk, to show us who He is, to show us who God is. Jesus came in OUR human form, as a “Son” of God – because WE are sons and daughters of God – to show us that if WE remain in constant communication with God, we can also lead a pure Christian life as Jesus did.

God will make us Perfect – on this earth!

We eventually will be Perfect, because when Jesus lives in us, and He is making ALL the decisions in our life – we WILL be perfect.

“You SHALL be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is Perfect.”
(Matthew 5:48 – literal translation.)

Of course, it’s not a mystery why the disciples did not believe this woman whom they had, just a week before, criticized for “wasting” her money on the expensive

ointment with which she anointed Jesus, the woman who Simon the leper viewed as beneath them all.

“It was Mary Magdalene and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

“And their words seemed to them (the disciples) as idle tales, and they did NOT believe them.” (Luke 24:10,11)

How Jesus treated women

But look how Jesus treated her, this woman considered by society as the lowliest of all. After His resurrection from the dead, after accomplishing the greatest feat in the history of the Universe – the redemption of ALL mankind (1 Timothy 4:10) - **He revealed Himself to her first!**

Just look how Jesus treated women! With the greatest love, kindness, and respect.

19 Then the same day at evening, being **one of the Sabbaths** (again, incorrectly – and deliberately - mistranslated “being the first day of the week”), when the doors were locked where the disciples were assembled for **fear of the Jews**, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and said unto them, Peace be unto you.

Notice again, the deliberate mistranslation of the word “Sabbath” which has been changed to “first day of the week” to support the worship of God on Sunday – the pagan day of Sun worship.

The “Organized Church” was persecuting the true believers in Jesus Christ

Also notice that the disciples were assembled in the upper room and had locked the doors, because they were afraid of the leaders (and the followers) of the Organized Church of the day – the Pharisees who ran the synagogue system – identified by Jesus as the Synagogue of Satan. ALL the followers of Christ had left the Organized Church of the day. And it was the leaders of the Organized Church – the Pharisees and their followers in the synagogues – who had murdered Christ, and wanted to murder His followers too.

Jesus, in His glorified body, was able to come through the locked door. Before His death, Jesus referred to Himself as “flesh and blood.” After His resurrection, He used the words “flesh and bone.” Clearly, His resurrected body worked on a different principle than ours does.

We will recognize each other in heaven

But Jesus was recognized by all who had known Him BEFORE His death and resurrection, except when He purposely did not allow either the disciples on the Road to Emmaus or Mary Magdalene, to recognize Him – at first.

This should be ample proof to those who incorrectly believe that people in heaven and the new earth will not recognize each other. Everyone will be recognizable.

20 And when He had so said, He showed unto them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad, when they saw the Lord.

21 Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as My Father has sent Me, even so send I you.

22 And when He had said this, He breathed (actual word = **exhales**) on them, and said unto them, Receive ye the **Breath of Holiness** (deliberately mistranslated as “Holy Spirit”).

The “Trinity” is a FALSE Doctrine. The “Holy Spirit” is NOT a *being*.

The “Holy Spirit” is NOT a “being.” Therefore there is no such thing as the Trinity.

There is ONE God. God is Invisible. Col 1:15

Jesus is the Visible form (image) of the Invisible God. Col. 1:15

“Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is ONE Lord.” Deuteronomy 6:4

“Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.” Isaiah 45:22

God breathed Physical breath into Adam, and “Adam became a living soul.” Adam’s body needed physical breath to become alive.

God breathes physical breath into us so we can have Physical Life (*psuche* – in the Greek). That breath must circulate to every cell in our body for us to stay alive physically.

When we no longer have physical breath – we are dead physically.

God breathes spiritual breath (*pneuma* - as in *pneumonia* – mistranslated “spirit”) into us so we can have Spiritual Life (*zoe* – in the Greek). That Spiritual breath must also circulate throughout our spiritual life for us to say alive spiritually.

When we no longer have God’s breath of Holiness, we are dead Spiritually.

This text says, “God **breathed** on them, and said “Receive the **Breath** (of holiness).” He did NOT say, “Receive the Spirit.” The word “spirit” is a deliberate mistranslation to suggest that each person has a ghost-like “spirit” in himself that wafts off to heaven when he dies.

This is not true. When a person dies, he is in the grave, asleep, not knowing anything until either the First resurrection - when Jesus comes, or the Second resurrection - after the millennium.

The doctrine of the “Holy Spirit” and the “Trinity” are both false.

(For more information on the “Holy Spirit” see www.goodnewsaboutgod.com)

23 If you should be forgiving anyone’s sins, they **have been** forgiven them. If anyone’s you should be holding, they are “held.” (Concordant literal translation)

In virtually ALL the versions of the Bible, this text is mistranslated in the following way:

“Whose soever sins you forgive, they are forgiven unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.”

Human beings (“man”) CANNOT forgive sins

This mistranslation is used by the Catholic church, the Lutheran church, and possibly other denominations, to support the idea of Confession to a priest, pastor, or other human being, rather than Confession to God. This mistranslation implies that MAN can forgive sins – and God will go along with whatever “man” does.

This **false** doctrine makes “man” into God - because God does whatever “man” tells Him to do.

But instead, the text means that when we are one with God we will have “the mind of God” and will pray that **God’s will** be done – NOT our own will. We will understand that God forgives the sins of the truly penitent sinner. We can assure the repenting sinner that God has already forgiven him.

Jesus was crucified by the Jews because He claimed to be able to forgive sins. The Jews knew that “man” could not forgive sins. But because the Jews did NOT accept Jesus as the Messiah, they accused Him of blasphemy – Jesus claiming to be God on earth.

At least the Jews knew that “man” cannot forgive sins, something that many of the “Christian” denominations (such as the Catholics and Lutherans) seem to have forgotten.

Thomas had NO faith – just like the majority of today’s Christians

24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

Thomas had no faith. Having Faith means that one Believes without having seen.

“Faith is the assumption of things expected; the conviction of things not seen.” Hebrews 11:1

Having Faith means that one **Believes** that Jesus WILL do ALL that He has **promised**.

If you do not **believe** the following, **then you do NOT believe in God!**

Do you believe that God WILL:

Save EVERYONE? Acts 3:21; 1 Tim 4:10; 1 Tim 2:1-6; Rev 21:4,5; John 3:35 and John 6:37-39; Phil 2:10,11, 1 John 3:8; Romans 8:19-23

Make EVERYONE perfect? Matthew 5:48 (literal translation)

Heal EVERYONE who believes? Acts 16:31 (Check on the meaning of the Greek word “sozo.” It means to heal PHYSICALLY and to heal SPIRITUALLY.)

Heal ALL our diseases? Ps 103:3; Jeremiah 30:17; Exodus 23:25; Exodus 15:26

Keep us FREE from EVERY disease? Deut 7:11-15

Sustain us financially? Phil 4:19; Luke 12:24; Ps 84:11; Matthew 6:32; Luke 12:28-30; Deut 29:9; 2 Chron 26:5

Provide our food and water? Luke 12:24; Phil 4:19; Luke 12:20

Save our children? Isaiah 49:25

Teach us DIRECTLY? 1 John 2:26,27; Isa 54:13; John 6:45;

Lead us into ALL truth? John 16:13

Never forsake us or ANYONE else? Heb 13:5

Direct EVERY moment of our lives and tell us exactly what HE wants us to do? Phil 2:13; Jer 10:23; Prov 3:6; Isa 45:13

Answer ALL our prayers? Ps 34:17; Jer 33:3; Psalm 55:17; Isa 65:24; Psalm 91:15; 2 Chron 7:14; Matthew 21:22; Luke 11:10; 1 John 5:14

Give us peace so we can “be anxious for NOTHING”? Phil 4:7; John 14:27; Prov 3:24;

Give us understanding of His end-time prophecies? 1 Thess 5:1-9; Rev 1:3; John 13:19

Sustain us through terrible torture and possible death? Hebrews 11:32-40; Heb 13:5

Sustain us through terrible torture and possible death of our children? Heb 11:32-40; Heb 13:5

Be able to save the most wicked, wretched individual who has ever lived on this earth? Hebrews 7:25; Romans 5:20; Psalm 103:3

Without FAITH - - - - -

“Without faith (**belief**) it is IMPOSSIBLE to please God; for he that comes to God MUST BELIEVE that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.” Hebrews 11:6

“Anything is possible if you have faith (**belief**).” Mark 9:23

“Now the just (righteous) shall live by faith (**belief**). And if ANY man draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in Him.” Hebrews 10:38

“Faith (**belief**) comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.” Romans 10:17

26 And after eight days again His disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being locked, and stood in the midst and said, Peace be unto you.

27 Then said He to Thomas, Reach your finger here and behold my hands; and reach your hand here, and thrust it into My side, and be not faithless (unbelieving), but believe.

28 And Thomas answered and said unto Him, My Lord and My God.

29 Jesus said unto him, Thomas, because you have SEEN Me, you have believed; Blessed are they that have NOT seen, and yet have believed.

Thomas did NOT have faith. He believed ONLY after He had seen. Faith means one believes WITHOUT having seen.

Jesus, realizing that Thomas did not accept Jesus' resurrection by faith, gave him the opportunity to see for himself – so Thomas could accept Jesus “by sight.”

Both Thomas and Paul accepted Jesus by sight – not faith. Thomas had to put his finger in the nail prints in Jesus' hand and the scar in His side, before he would believe.

Paul did not accept Jesus by Faith. Paul SAW Jesus on the Road to Damascus, when the glorified, risen Jesus stood right in front of Paul, then blinded Paul and spoke to him.

Paul and Thomas represent those who will accept Christ only **after they have seen Him**, after the Second resurrection, at the Great White Throne Judgment after the millennium.

Those who will be resurrected in the First resurrection at the time of Jesus' Second Coming, will have accepted Him by Faith – without having seen Jesus in person.

“. . . God is the Saviour of ALL mankind, especially of those who believe (especially of those who **have faith – who believe without having seen**).” 1 Timothy 4:10

Universal Restoration: God will save ALL mankind

God will save ALL mankind, everyone who has ever lived on this earth, but only after each person has reaped what he has sown.

“God will not be mocked. Whatsoever a man sows, that shall he also reap.” (Galatians 6:7)

God will save those who **believe** (those who have faith – who believe now, without seeing) and also those who at the present time do NOT believe, (**those who will accept Jesus only after they have seen Him** – at the Great White Throne Judgment after the Second Resurrection).

30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book.

31 But these are written that you should be believing that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that, believing, you may have **life (zoe)** in His name.

There are two Greek words translated life: *psuche* and *zoe*. The Greek word *psuche* (# 5590 in Strong's Concordance) refers to the physical life we live on this earth. The Greek word *zoe* (# 2222 in Strong's Concordance) does NOT refer to a physical life that is permanent – what Christian theology refers to as eternal life.

What is Eonian Life

The Greek word **zoe** refers to **Spiritual life** – the life of Christ in us – *eonian* life. This is the **life** that Paul writes about in many passages, including the following:

“I am crucified with Christ, nevertheless I live. Yet not I, but **Christ lives in Me.**” Galatians 2:20

The Greek word for **life** used in John 20:31 is **zoe** (#2222 in Strong's Concordance) means *eonian* life, but it is constantly mistranslated as eternal life,

meaning a physical life that lasts forever. That is an incorrect translation and interpretation of that word.

The Greek word for **lives** in Galatians 2:20 is *zao* (#2198 in Strong's Concordance – meaning *to live*) a word derived from #2222 (*zoe*).

The words *eternal*, *forever*, and *eternity* are NEVER found in the Bible. The Greek word is *eonian*, which is the Greek word used with the Greek word *zoe*.

(For more information on this subject, please see “Does “Forever” Mean Forever” at www.goodnewsaboutgod.com)

Conclusion:

As can be seen by this Study, Christians *read* the Bible. Very few *study* the Bible – an exercise that is absolutely necessary in order to *understand* the great truths of God's Word.

Study to show thyself approved unto God; a workman that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15)

You will seek Me and you will find Me (but ONLY) when you search for Me with ALL your heart. (Jeremiah 29:13)

He that cometh to God must believe that HE IS (that He exists) and that He is a REWARDER of them that diligently seek Him. (Heb 11:6)

Call to Me and I WILL answer you and show you great and mighty things that you do not know. Jeremiah 33:3

To KNOW God (and everything that is possible to know about Him) is Life Eternal (*Eonian* – meaning that we become LIKE Him. We will exhibit the character of God.) John 17:3

We are only **safe to save** when we exhibit the character of God. And the ONLY way we can exhibit the character of God is to get to KNOW Him by daily fervent prayer and the diligent study of His Word.

