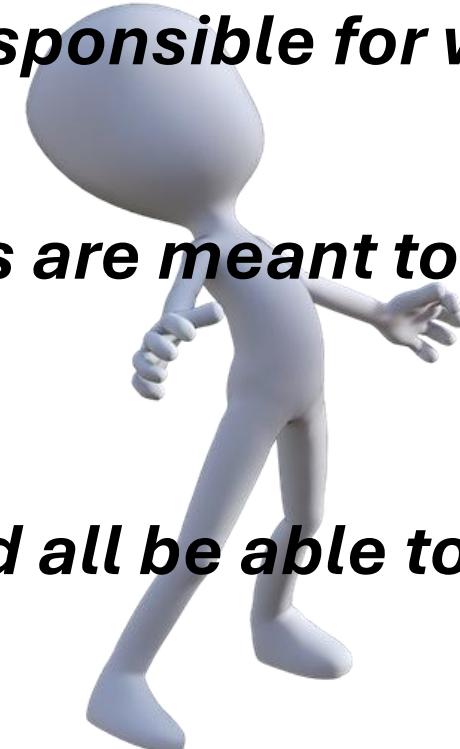


How to study the Bible?

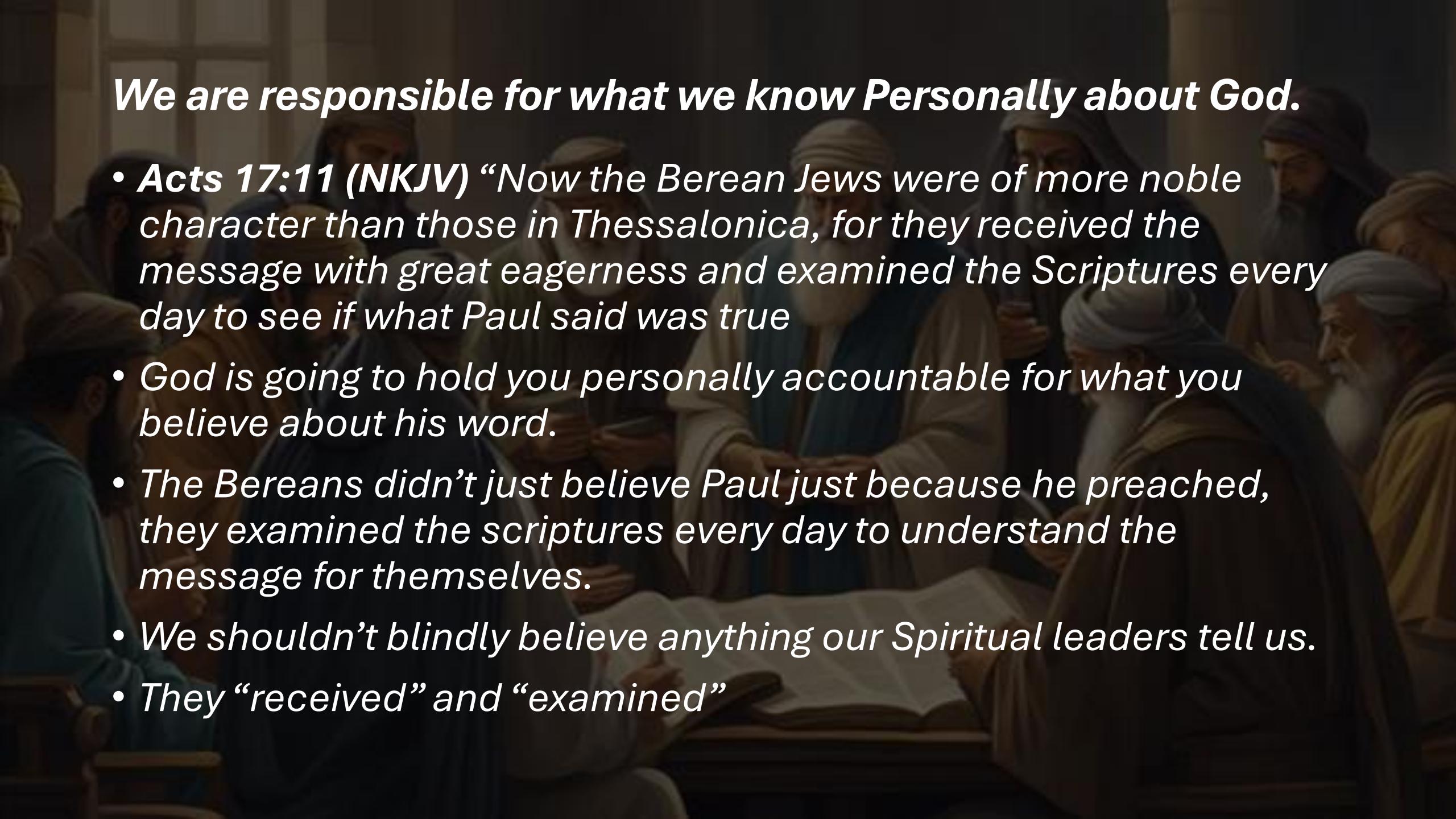
Module 13, Week 1

Why Study the Bible?

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1. *Scripture reveals to us Gods Character.*
 2. *We are responsible for what we know Personally about God.*
 3. *Our minds are meant to be thoughtful about God and who he is.*
 4. *We should all be able to explain God's word to some capacity.*

Scripture reveals to us God Character

- **2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)** “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”
- **Theo (means God), Ology (means Study) Theology – the study of God.**
- **Studying scripture is one of the most spiritual things you can do.**
- **All scripture is inspired by the Holy Spirit, and we must be able to correctly explain it to all who are inquire.**
- **Loving God involves taking time to study who he is and what he has done.**



We are responsible for what we know Personally about God.

- **Acts 17:11 (NKJV)** “Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true
- God is going to hold you personally accountable for what you believe about his word.
- The Bereans didn't just believe Paul just because he preached, they examined the scriptures every day to understand the message for themselves.
- We shouldn't blindly believe anything our Spiritual leaders tell us.
- They “received” and “examined”

Our minds are meant to be thoughtful about God and who he is.

- **Matthew 22:37(NKJV)** ³⁷ And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.
- We study what we are passionate about.
- Our intellect should be used to further our Knowledge about God.
- Studying Scripture is worship to God.

We all are called to teach Gods word.

- **2 Timothy 2:15 (NKJV)** *Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*
- **Be diligent** – Study, To make Hasten
- *Studying Scripture is one of the ways you show God you are serious about him and his word.*
- **rightly dividing the word of truth** – to cut straight, to teach the truth directly and correctly.
- *If Paul says to rightly divide the word of truth that implies that we can wrongly divide it.*

Deception will mark the last days and false teachings.

- ***1Timothy 4:1 (NKJV)*** Now the Spirit ^[a]expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,
- ***Doctrines of demons:*** Doctrines refers to teachings; People will fall astray listening to deceptive teaching literally inspired from demons.
- *We must be able to discern what is 99% truth from what Truth is.*
- *Studying God words will protect us from Deception.*

What to study about scripture?

- *Context:*
- ***literal meaning*** (*what it says*) *What does it say at face value?*
- ***historical setting*** (*the events of the story, to whom it is addressed, and how it was understood at that time*) or *Cultural Context*
- ***grammar*** (*the immediate sentence and paragraph within which a word or phrase is found, The word “Behold” in a beginning of a sentence*)
- ***synthesis*** (*comparing it with other parts of Scripture for a fuller meaning Ex: John 8:32, John 14:6*)

Verses out of Context

- **Verses out of context:** Leads to Misunderstanding, misapplication, false assumptions
- **Ex: Matthew 7:1 False Application (Never tell anyone they are doing wrong.)** (This verse speaks about judging people hypocritically or unrighteously)
- **Romans 8:28 (God will make all by decisions work for my Good)** (In context this verse applies to those who are actively seeking Gods will and his purpose God will make sure they stay in it)
- **Philippians 4:13 (Whatever I set my mind to I can accomplish all my Goals)** (Paul is talking about being able to have joy amidst hard circumstances, We can endure all Hardships for Christ's sake)

Original Language and Word study

- *The Bible was written In Hebrew and Greek by over 40 men of diverse backgrounds over the course of 1500 years.*
- *Sometimes to understand the words that authors used in the time period we must go back to the original language.*
- *This opens the scripture and gives more context on words that may have lost meaning int translation.*
- *All English versions of the bible are translations not original texts.*

Word study Power

- **Κρατος** -God's dominion, God's authority, God's strength
- **Ἐχουσια** – delegated authority, or given privilege, permission
- **Δυναμις** – miraculous power, divine ability, Ex: Matthew 7:22 (wonderful works)
- **John 1:12(KJV)** But as many as received him, to them gave the power (**Ἐχουσια**) to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:
- **Ephesians 6:10 (KJV)** Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power (**Κρατος**) of his might.
- **Acts 1:8(KJV)** But ye shall receive power, (**Δυναμις**) after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Study Tools

Different Translations:

- **NASB (New American Standard) 2020** – Accurate Translation from original text.
- **ESV (English Standard Version)** – Accurate Translation from original Text.
- **NKJV (New King James Version)** – Good for Cross referencing and Reading
- **AMP (Amplified)** – For Commentary and Explanation.
- **NLT (New Living Translation)** – Simplified Version of reading.

Study Tools: Study Bible

- ***Introductions:*** authorship, historical context, key themes, and major events.
- ***Articles:*** provide historical context, theological insights, and practical considerations.
- ***Footnotes:*** Notes at the bottom of pages that offer definitions, references to other parts of the Bible, and additional comments on specific verses.
- ***Maps and Charts:*** Visual aids that illustrate biblical geography, timelines, genealogies, and more to easily digest complex information.

Study Tools: Online Resources

- ***Blue Letter Bible:***
 - *Free online resource for in depth Biblical study.*
 - *Word by Word Translations, Greek and Hebrew, Commentaries*
- ***Enduring Word Commentaries:***
 - *Verse by Verse Explanation of the whole Bible.*
- **BibleGateway:**
 - Subscription gives you Online study Bibles