




TRUTH: The Bible is Reliable

Hebrews 4:12-13


 Hebrews 4:12–13 (NIV) “For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. ¹³ Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”


The Bible **endures critically**.

 Hebrews 4:12a (NIV) “For the word of God...”

 2 Peter 1:16–21 (NIV) “We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to Him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.” ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with Him on the sacred mountain. ¹⁹ And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

The Bible **lives continually**.


 Hebrews 4:12a (NIV) “For the word of God is living and active.”


 John 6:63 (NIV) “The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.”

 2 Timothy 3:16a (NIV) “All Scripture is God-breathed...”


 Isaiah 40:8 (NIV) “The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.”


The Bible **cuts healingly**.

 Hebrews 4:12b (NIV) “For the word of God is... Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”

 1 Thessalonians 5:23 (NIV) “May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

The Bible **reflects honestly**.

 Hebrews 4:13 (NIV) “Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”

 James 1:23–25 (NIV) “Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.”

IMPACT

- Imitating Christ
- Meeting Needs
- Proclaiming the Good News
- Assimilating people into the church
- Celebrating God
- Teaching the Word of God

Do you read the Bible regularly? Do you let the Bible regularly read you? Some of us don’t read the Bible for the same reason we don’t go to the doctor or the dentist—we are afraid of what we are going to hear when we get there (or we know what we are going to hear). Why are we so afraid of getting better? What would happen if we started trusting God instead of avoiding God? What did you learn today?

