

# “How Readest Thou?”

Luke 10:25-28

## Introduction:

- A. Pointing to the Bible for answers in spiritual matters makes one “peculiar” and “narrow” in today.
  - 1. But, it is exactly what Jesus did in our text.
  - 2. Jesus said, “it is written,” over 20 times in the four gospel accounts.
- B. Pointing to the Bible is not enough, one must read it correctly – “How readest thou?”
- C. There are certain failures in reading the Bible that could keep one from eternal life.

## Discussion:

### I. The Failure to Read at All.

- A. The *results* is general ignorance of God’s will.
  - 1. Do not know *what* is written (Matt. 22:29; Hos. 4:6; Acts 3:17)
  - 2. Accounts for much of the hold that error and superstition has on people.
  - 3. Accounts for much of our church problems and the inability to solve them easily.
- B. The *cause* is general indifference toward reading and learning the Scriptures (cf. 2 Tim. 2:15)
  - 1. Not a lack of time – 30 minutes a day a slow reader could read Bible through twice each year.
  - 2. Not a lack of opportunity – Bibles are cheap and plentiful.
  - 3. A lack of interest – interested person only limited by ability.

### II. The Failure to Read Correctly.

- A. Do not know *how* to read *what* is written – “rightly dividing” (2 Tim. 2:15)
- B. We need to read like Jesus and the apostles read.
  - 1. Treat stories as fact, not fable or myth.
    - a. The creation story (Matt. 19:4; 1 Tim. 2:13; 2 Pet. 3:5)
    - b. The flood story (1 Pet. 3:6, 20; Matt. 24:37, 38)
    - c. The “fish story” (Matt. 12:40).
  - 2. Interpret in light of all Bible says (Matt. 4:5-7).
  - 3. Insist on “word for word” significance (Gal. 3:16; Heb. 8:13)
  - 4. View silence as prohibitive rather than permissive (Heb. 7:14).

### III. The Failure to Read Honestly.

- A. The lawyer was not honestly seeking the truth (v. 25)
  - 1. His question was a great one.
  - 2. His motive was not good – was neither to help himself or Jesus.
- B. The lawyer knew the Biblical answer (v. 27, 28).
  - 1. Further proving he was not asking for information.
  - 2. His motive was to tempt Jesus and justify his disobedience.
- C. The lawyer was a self-justifying quibbler (v. 29)
  - 1. Many quibble over words to avoid obedience and standing for right.
  - 2. Many seek to justify themselves by comparisons – “Am not as bad as, or no worse than”
  - 3. Many seek to minimize sins by magnifying the sins of others.
  - 4. Many try avoid obedience by difficult hypothetical questions.

## Conclusion:

- A. Brother or sister, “how readest thou?”
  - 1. At all?
  - 2. Correctly?
  - 3. Honestly?
- B. Sinner friend, how do you read the great invitation to “come unto me...”