**Duplication encouraged**. An open Bible should accompany your study of this topic. Study each verse given in order to answer each question correctly. Print this document out and pencil in the answers in the blanks provided. It may be best to cut and paste it to your word processing software and then print it out. Your life in Christ will be enriched forever as you embrace and put into practice His Word.)

There is a great absence of scriptural resourcefulness in the people of God today. Think for a minute; How many "Christians" do you personally know who use Scripture when they speak, in their thought processes, reasonings, when they are making decisions, etc.? If they do not, it is clear that there is no depth of divine substance in them - Matthew 12:34; Isaiah 8:20.

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly (abundantly) in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord." Colossians 3:16

According to Hebrews 5:11-14, spiritual maturity is measured by how much of God's Word is personified in the believer. We should utterly desire God's Word to be at work in our daily thoughts and lives. We should allow for God's holy Word to replace all human reasonings, philosophies, psychology and traditions concerning the divine. See Colossians 2:8. Because of the lack of knowledge of God's Word, many of His own people are "destroyed" and " do err" (Hos. 4:6; Matthew 29:22.).

The Bible is the overcoming factor in the lives of all who love and live it. There will be no victory outside of God's life in His Word. May the testimony of the LORD concerning our individual lives be as His "testimony" of David, whom He saidwas "a man after mine own heart, which shall fulfil all my will."

Acts 13:22

"Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me." Psalms 119:133

The words contained in the Bible are God's revelation to man. His words embody His original, present, and future intent and message of redemption to fallen mankind. The message of the Redeemer, Jesus Christ, is found from the beginning to the end of the holy Scriptures. The loving and eternal purposes of our Creator toward His creation are recorded within its pages (Jeremiah 29:11).

Our God has gone to great lengths to provide a written record of His covenants, commandments, will, communion, and dealings with mankind. *His ultimate purpose, in furnishing us with His written Word, is that we might know Him and His love toward us, both now and forever* (John 17:3; 20:31). The eternal and living Word, Jesus Christ, is the central Theme of all of Scripture. His past, present, and future divine sovereignty, actions, decrees, workings, love, reign, judgments and rewards are revealed herein.

1. How were the worlds framed? Hebrews 11:3
2. What is it that <i>upholds</i> the universe at this very moment? Hebrews1:3
3. What does God promise that His Word will accomplish when it is sent forth? Isaiah 55:11
4. Who is it that inspired the Scriptures? 2 Timothy 3:16

Never has there been and never will there be a book so loved, so hated, so authentic, validated, tested, and proven, as the Bible is. Throughout the ages, God's written Word has stood the test. No man, committee, religion, nor organization has ever successfully disproved its contents. No book has ever sold more copies or been so widespread and popular as the Holy Bible. God's Book has always been the all-time bestseller and always will be. The God who inspired the Bible is infallible and unchanging, and thus is His Word. God's Word can be trusted. As millions of faithful souls have discovered through the ages, you can stake every part of your life upon the Author of its contents.

5.	Who did God use to record His holy Word as He inspired them? 2 Peter 1:20,21

The Scriptures did not come from man's private opinion or interpretation, but by the direct inspiration of God the Holy Ghost through holy men of God. During the span of approximately 2,000 years, the Scriptures were penned by over 40 men who were divinely moved upon to record His oracles. Not one contradiction exists within the Bible or between the writers or writings of the Bible, although there are some "things hard to be understood." (2 Pet. 3:16). There is perfect agreement, harmony, and continuity in all of Scripture which originated and emanated from one Source. The New Testament records Jesus quoting from the Old Testament writings - Mt 4:4,7,10. The Son of God repeatedly confirmed the authenticity of the Old Testament Scriptures - Mt 19:4, 12:40, 23:35, 24:15; Luke 4:25, 17:27, 20:37. This is one of the greatest seals of God's approval that the Bible is His inspired Word. Jesus not only confirmed the inspiration of the Old Testament writings, but He also promised the inspiration of the New Testament writings. He promised that the Spirit of the Father would speak through His disciples - Mt. 10:20 cp. Lk. 10:16; Mk. 13:11; Mt. 28:18,20; Jn. 14:26, 16:13. The disciples of Jesus carried on after Jesus departed from them. They executed "all that Jesus began both to do and teach" (Acts 1:1). The early Church "continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine" (Acts 2:42). The apostle Paul guoted from the Gospels - 1 Tim. 5:18; also see Mt 10:10; Luke 10:7. The apostle Peter categorized

Paul's writings with the inspired "Scriptures" of the Old Testament - 2 Peter 3:16 Paul charged the brethren that his epistles be read in the churches which authenticates them as Holy Writ, divine in origin Col. 4:16; 1 Thess. 5:27.
6. Did God ever do any recording Himself? Exodus 24:12, 32:15,16, 34:1
From the above verses we see that God led the prophets of old by example. He personally came to the earth and recorded His holy precepts upon earthly stone.
7. What are some of the reasons that God has had the Scriptures recorded?
John 20:31
Romans 15:4
1 John 5:13
Habakkuk 2:2

As we see in Habakkuk 2:2, God has had His Word recorded so that the person who reads it is empowered to run in the way that God has prescribed.

8. What has always been the plan of God in declaring His Word to His people?
Deuteronomy 4:10
A.
В.
9. Who were the Scriptures written for? Romans 15:4; 1 John 5:13

From the time the Scriptures began to be recorded and until now, millions have searched and embraced the priceless truths of the Bible. His recorded Oracles have comforted, instructed, and strengthened the lives of countless God-fearing souls over the centuries. There are millions across the globe, in our day, who search out and live daily by the precepts of their Maker recorded in the Holy Bible. Some are forced to cling to God's message at the expense of their own lives (Matthew 10:22; Revelation 2:10-11). Our Heavenly Father has seen to it that His Word be recorded in many languages and it continues to be recorded in new languages. He loves all of His creation.

10. In John 5:39, which one of the three divine persons of the Godhead is said to be the theme of holy Scripture?

11. Who did the Old Testament prophets write about? Luke 24:27, 44
As you have just read, Jesus personally confirmed the divine inspiration of the Old Testament writings and revealed that He was the central Theme of those Scriptures.
12. Who did Moses write about? John 5:46
13. What is one of the names of Jesus Christ, recorded in John 1:1, 2, 14; Rev. 19:13?

Again here, the person of Jesus Christ is emphatically revealed. He is the Word of God. He is God's expression and revelation to man. Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word of God, and the written Word are interrelated. The living Word, Jesus Christ, becomes more and more precious, known, loved, and understood to the person who studies the written Word of God. He is its central theme and revealed to the believer through its contents. His nature is revealed and His character is produced within the lives of those who search and obey His Word.

14. What is settled in heaven forever? Psalms 119:89
15. Will God ever change His mind about, break, or alter what has been recorded in the holy Scriptures? Psalms 89:34
16. According to Jesus Christ, what will never change? Mark 13:31
The term "pass away" simply means <i>to be altered</i> . As is the case with His nature, God's Word never will be changed (Mal. 3:6; James 1:17-22). At no time in history has God failed to answer a seeking heart that claimed the promises of His Word. Not one Biblical promise has ever failed. "Seek ye out of the book of the Lord, and read: no one of these shall fail." Isaiah 34:16
17. According to Isaiah 40:8, what "withereth", what "fadeth", and what "shall stand forever"?
18. Are the Word of God and the Gospel the same? 1 Peter 1:25 (circle one)
YES
NO

19. What did God say was even more authoritative than His own actual audible voice speaking from Heaven? 2 Peter 1:16-21
The "more sure word" is the recorded "prophecy of the scripture." (2 Peter 1:19)
The phrase "unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts" reveals to us that the revelation of God is progressive and unfolding as the believer seeks Him in the Spirit and in the Scriptures (John 4:23-24).
20. What did the LORD place even above His own name? Psalms 138:2

NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO VERBALLY THANK YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER FOR PROVIDING YOU WITH HIS HOLY, TANGIBLE WORD.

#### **OPTIONAL ASSIGNMENT:**

In 250 words or more write an essay to convince the reader of the inspiration of the Bible. Use Scriptures and Scripture references in your essay. Start by communicating with the Author of the Bible in prayer.

Write your essay with clarity, neatness, and in an organized manner.

### **SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION:** 2 Timothy 3:16

It would be very advantageous for you to *cross reference*, in your Bible, all of the Scriptures in this study. For example, pencil in each topically similar verse into the margin next to the corresponding verses on this same subject. Write out these verses with references on index cards. Make it a priority to carry and post these memorization cards where you will study and meditate upon them. These two

measures will build in you a wealth of truth on this topic. This will help you to retain and become resourceful in the things of God - ready to be used of Him. *Capture* the knowledge that you have learned, don't let it get away from you. *Capitalize on your efforts. This is* preparation in