

**HAVE YOU NOT READ?**

**MATTHEW 22:31**

**“...HAVE YE NOT READ THAT WHICH WAS  
SPOKEN UNTO YOU BY GOD...”**

# Outline

Introduction

What are the different types of readers?

Why is reading important?

How can we become better readers?

Conclusion/Invitation

# WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF READERS?



## Matthew 23:13

“But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.”

- **Refused to teach what they knew**
- **Taught false teaching**

**Some will NEVER read the Bible**

## Matthew 23:23

“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith; these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.”

## Matthew 15:9

“But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of me.”

- We must guard our hearts, so we do not quit reading the scriptures.

**Some will only SELECTIVELY read the Bible**

## Acts 8:27-28

“And he arose and went; and behold, a man of Ethiopia...had come to Jerusalem for to worship, was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet.”

- Inference shows his faith
- Read out loud (focus, reverence)

## Acts 17:11

“...they received the word with all readiness of mind and searched the scriptures daily whether those things were so.”

- Reverent reading means searching the scriptures. (Not imposing my preferences, interpretations)

**God demands us to read REVERENTLY**

**WHY IS READING IMPORTANT?**

## Psalm 1:1-3

“Blessed is the man...but his delight is in the law of the Lord and in his law doth he meditate day and night.”

- 1<sup>st</sup> Word in the Book
- Reading scripture should make us happy.

## Revelation 1:3

“Blessed is he that reads, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.”

- Reading makes us prosperous in this life.
- Reading makes us prosperous in the life-to-come.

**Reading show us how BLESSED we are**



## Ephesians 3:4

“...Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)...

- The gospel can be understood.
- NEEDED: Bible “guides” **Acts 8:31 Are you ready to answer the call?**

## 2 Timothy 3:14-15

- “But continue thou in the things which thou has learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;”
- Lois and Eunice answered the call.

**Reading helps us to gain UNDERSTANDING**

## Romans 15:4

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.”

Through reading we gain hope of salvation, resurrection, and suffering.

## Hebrews 6:19

“Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast...”

**Reading helps us to grow HOPE**

**HOW CAN WE BE BETTER  
READERS?**

## Ezra 7:10

“For Ezra **had prepared** his heart **to seek** the law of the Lord, and **to do** it, and **to teach** in Israel statutes and judgements.”

- We are expected to read God’s word.
- God’s word demands much more than reading.

## James 1:22

“But be ye **doers** of the word, and not **hearers** only, deceiving your own selves.”

- Faith requires both
- 2 Timothy 1:5 “unfeigned” faith

**Our reading must be with INTENTION.**

## Deuteronomy 17:19

- The duty of God's kings required, "And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein **all the days of his life**; that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:"

## 1 Timothy 4:13

- "Till I come, **give attendance** to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."
- Attendance-presence in body
- Attention-presence in mind

**Our reading must be REGULAR.**

## Psalm 119:10;18

“With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.”

“Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.”

Devotion connects with worship.

## 1 Peter 2:2

“...newborn babes desire the sincere milk of the word..”

- Is the word of God a NECESSITY in our lives? Optional?
- Do we make our reading devotional, or do we read devotionals?

**Our reading must with DEVOTION.**

## Conclusion/Invitation

Have you obeyed the gospel?

- Hear Believe
- Repent Confess Christ
- \_\_\_\_\_ Baptized