

69.5 Throw the Book at Them¹

Aren't you glad you have a Bible? Most American Christians have more than one copy of the Bible and maybe multiple translations. I am not sure where it came from, but I still have my first Bible (perhaps I should call it my "*Melchizedek Bible*"). I found that old pew Bible in my house when I was nineteen and read the Book of Proverbs because I like concise language, including puns. Reading that wisdom book opened me to reading the rest of the Bible. I think one of my parents must have taken that old Bible with them when they left home. There was nothing fancy about that Bible, it was an old, small print King James Version, but my encounter with it changed my life.

We like to give Bibles to people at their births and new births. The Gideon organization has given away millions of Bibles over the years. One of my favorite memories from my last church was the annual special contribution we collected for Eastern European Missions. "EEM," as we called it, began with Christians smuggling Bibles into Eastern Europe during the days of the "Iron Curtain." Today the organization prints and distributes thousands of Bibles annually in places like Ukraine. The schools of Ukraine are begging for Bibles because they know that students who read the Bible are better behaved and more studious than those who don't. The enemies of America know this, too, and have removed the scriptures from their original prominence in schools. On July 13, 1789, in a letter to Jeremy Belknap, **Dr. Benjamin Rush** stated:

The great enemy of the salvation of man, in my opinion, never invented a more effectual means of extirpating Christianity from the world than by persuading mankind that it was improper to read the Bible at schools.

Not only did our Founding Fathers finance the American Revolution for Liberty, but many also helped establish Bible societies in our fledgling country. Like the people of Ukraine, our Founders understood the value of students reading, meditating on, and practicing the Holy Scriptures. They wanted every American home to have a Bible. The first American organization to give away Bibles was the *Bible Society of Philadelphia*. **Dr. Benjamin Rush**, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and several denominations, comprised this first Bible society. The leaders of these groups may have disagreed on theology, but they all agreed on the importance of reading the Bible. **William White** wrote:

[The Bible Society] . . . manifestly a design in which all denominations of Christians with no exception may unite. They all profess to derive their creeds from the Sacred Writings. They all profess to believe that those Writings contain the fountain of life, which, of course, they are equally bound to open to those who may be perishing under maladies which nothing else can relieve.

Other parts of the country saw the success of the Philadelphia Bible Society and began similar groups. Within eight years, 121 Bible organizations started across America to distribute the word of God to our citizens. These American Bible societies were a means by which the "**word of the Lord could run swiftly and be glorified**" as Paul stated in **2 Thessalonians 3:1**.

The Bible is crucial for our lives here and in the hereafter. The enemies of God and America want to remove the Bible from our country, history, and lives. They know something that Christians have forgotten, **Psalm 119:105** (NKJV).

Your word is a lamp to my feet

¹ Cummings, Brad, and Lance Wubbels, editors. *The Founders' Bible*. Newbury Park, CA, Shiloh Road Publishers, 2012, pp. 1931-1932.

And a light to my path.

The Bible is an “owner’s manual” for our lives. God gave us His word to direct our lives here and now, not so we could merely go to heaven. The enemy knows we are incapable of flawless self-direction, we need God’s guidance, and that guidance comes through His word. Jeremiah makes a keen observation in **Jeremiah 10:23** (NKJV):

O LORD, I know the way of man is not in himself; It is not in man who walks to direct his own steps.

Proverbs 3:6 enforces Jeremiah’s thought with:

In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Did you know that you can drive across the United States in the dark? Your vehicle’s headlights can project enough light on the road to see several feet ahead. You can cross the country a few feet at a time because the headlights light up your roadway. So it is with the Bible as it lights our daily path and empowers us to reach our destinations.

The enemy also knows **Psalm 119:133** (NKJV), which reads, "**Direct my steps by Your word, And let no iniquity have dominion over me.**" The word of God is the antidote to sin’s power, and the enemy tries to discredit and remove our access to it. The adversary wants us to sin because sin separates us from God, our power and source of life.

The Bible tells us that Jesus removed our sins using His vicarious death on the cross. He does not want us to continue in directionless sin (**Romans 6:1**), but to gain direction from God’s word. Through study, memorization, and meditation, we gain His guidance when we hide His word in our hearts.

I am grateful for our forefathers’ foresight to share the Bible throughout America. They established a "*Christian Nation*," not just a religious one, and wanted all Americans to know the words of God. If we know and live by God’s word, we will live out its principles, which we see in documents like the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Do you want to resist the tyranny of the "*Deep State*?" You can do so in the simplest of ways: tap into God’s power through His word. Read, study, meditate, and practice the word of God and drive a stake through the heart of evil. Knowing God’s word helps us understand God, His Son, and His Spirit. Jesus said in **John 8:31-32** (NKJV):

³¹ **Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”**

Let’s practice and share the Bible with others who may not have ever read it. That Book changes lives. Our Forefathers knew and experienced it, and so can we.

Keep The Light of *God’s Word* Burning!