

Significance of the Cross...

The authors of the gospels tell us that the Lord Jesus spoke of the cross before His death (**Matt. 10:38; Mark 10:21; Luke 14:27**) as a symbol of the necessity of full commitment (even unto death) for those who would be His disciples. But the major significance of the cross after Jesus' death and resurrection is its use as a symbol of Jesus' willingness to suffer for our sins (**Phil. 2:8; Heb. 12:2**) so that we might be reconciled (**2 Cor. 5:19; Col. 1:20**) to God and know His peace (**Eph. 2:16**).

Thus the cross symbolizes the glory of the Christian gospel (**1 Cor. 1:17**): the fact that through this offensive means of death (**1 Cor. 1:23; Gal. 5:11**), the debt of sin against us was "nailed to the cross" (**Col. 2:14**), and we, having "been crucified with Christ" (**Gal. 2:20**), have been freed from sin and death and made alive to God (**Rom. 6:6–11**).

The cross, then, is the symbol of **Jesus' love, God's power to save**, and the thankful believer's unreserved commitment to Christian discipleship. To those who know the salvation that Christ gained for us through His death, it is a "wondrous cross" indeed.

Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary

<http://jc.thegift.co.za>

DIRECT BIBLE EXTRACTS

Communication a Biblical Approach

The Holy Bible,
New King James Version,
(Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas
Nelson, Inc.) 1982.



This booklet has been compiled from the new Topical Textbook, and the Bible extracts taken from the references mentioned in the Bible. I hope that this may become easier for you to find out His message relating to this Topic directly from the Bible, and how you could apply this to your personal life according to the world around you and your own circumstances.

Believing in the message and without doubt, one begins to realize how from the beginning of the Bible until the end, God does give us the same message, and no matter how we try to interpret it, the essence and core of our explanation comes directly from the His Word.

We will miss out on the issues relating to these extracts but I trust that these extracts will lead you to further study these circumstances and story leading to these messages.

This has been my Way of discovery, from my own personal decision to find out more about my Creator and what He wants of me. Through His Word He has revealed many insights that have excited me to keep searching for more, and this has now become a daily habit for me.

Best wishes in your discovery, through your own and personal commitment!

Enjoy your Day!

...through Jesus Christ our saviour!

Henrique Martins

<http://jc.thegift.co.za>

as they were moved by the Holy Spirit” (2 Pet. 1:21). It was through the human writers of Scripture that God revealed Himself to mankind in a written revelation of His truth. The writing was inspired (literally “God-breathed”). The writer was the agent God used to **communicate** His truth.



WHY WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE

RICHARD G. LEE

THE BIBLE IS THE GREATEST BOOK EVER WRITTEN. IT TELLS US NOT ONLY HOW TO LIVE ON EARTH, BUT HOW TO GET TO HEAVEN AS WELL. THE BIBLE IS ALSO THE GREATEST LITERATURE EVER WRITTEN. IT IS SIMPLE, YET SUBLIME. ITS CONTENTS INCLUDE DRAMATIC STORIES, PROPHETIC PREDICTIONS, PERSONAL LETTERS, BEAUTIFUL POETRY, AND PRACTICAL ADVICE. BUT THE BIBLE IS MORE THAN JUST GREAT LITERATURE. THE SCRIPTURES THEMSELVES CLAIM TO BE THE WORD OF GOD.

In the Old Testament, the prophets thundered, “Thus says the LORD” (Jer. 19:1). In the New Testament, the apostle Paul declared, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God” (2 Tim. 3:16). Peter adds his testimony that “holy men of God spoke

Communication - a Biblical Approach.

1. Key Texts. **Pr 10:11-14,18-21; 25:11-14; 26:17-28; Jas 3:1-8.**
2. **Communication**
 - a. The Power of Words. **Pr 11:9; 12:18; 15:4; 18:21; Mt 12:37; Jas 3:1-8.**
 - b. The Value of Words. **Pr 20:15; 25:11-14.**
 - c. The Source of Words. **Pr 6:12; 15:28; 16:23,24; Mt 12:34.**
3. **Handling Communication Properly**
 - a. Be Listening. **Pr 18:13; 19:20; Jas 1:19.**
 - b. Do Not Talk Too Much. **Pr 10:19; 13:2,3; 17:27-28; Ec 10:12-14; Col 4:6.**
 - c. Do Not Nag. **Pr 21:19; 26:21.**
 - d. Do Not Meddle. **Pr 26:27.**
 - e. Do Not Gossip. **Pr 11:13; 20:19; 26:20.**
 - f. Do Not Brag. **Pr 14:23; 27:2.**
 - g. Be Slow to Speak. **Pr 15:28; 29:20; Jas 1:19.**
 - h. Be Wise in Timing. **Pr 15:23; Eph 4:29.**
 - i. Admit Wrongs. **Pr 29:23; Jas 5:16.**
 - j. Do Not Lie. **Ps 34:13; Pr 12:19,22; 26:18,19; Eph 4:15,25.**
 - k. Do Not Respond in Anger. **Pr 15:1; Eph 4:26.**
 - l. Avoid Quarrels. **Pr 17:14; 20:3.**
4. **Communication Guidelines**
 - a. Set a Guard over my Lips. **Ps 141:3.**
 - b. Deliver me from Lying Lips. **Ps 120:3.**
 - c. May my Lips Offer up a Sacrifice of Praise. **Heb 13:15.**
 - d. Let me Speak Encouragingly. **Eph 4:29.**
 - e. Bride my Tongue. **Jas 1:26.**

Key texts

Proverbs 10:11-14

¹¹ The mouth of the righteous *is* a well of life,
But violence covers the mouth of the wicked.

¹² Hatred stirs up strife,
But love covers all sins.

¹³ Wisdom is found on the lips of him who
has understanding,
But a rod *is* for the back of him who is devoid
of understanding.

¹⁴ Wise *people* store up knowledge,
But the mouth of the foolish *is* near
destruction.

Proverbs 10:18-21

¹⁸ Whoever hides hatred *has* lying lips,
And whoever spreads slander *is* a fool.

¹⁹ In the multitude of words sin is not lacking,
But he who restrains his lips *is* wise.

²⁰ The tongue of the righteous *is* choice silver;
The heart of the wicked *is* *worth* little.

²¹ The lips of the righteous feed many,
But fools die for lack of wisdom.

Proverbs 25:11-14

¹¹ A word fitly spoken *is* *like* apples of gold
In settings of silver.

¹² *Like* an earring of gold and an ornament of
fine gold
Is a wise rebuker to an obedient ear.

... Deliver me from Lying Lips

Psalm 120:3

³ What shall be given to you,
Or what shall be done to you,
You false tongue?

... May my Lips Offer up a Sacrifice of Praise

Hebrews 13:15

¹⁵ Therefore by Him let us continually offer
the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit
of *our* lips, giving thanks to His name.

... Let me Speak Encouragingly

Ephesians 4:29

²⁹ Let no corrupt word proceed out of your
mouth, but what is good for necessary
edification, that it may impart grace to the
hearers.

Bride my Tongue

James 1:26

²⁶ If anyone among you thinks he is religious,
and does not bridle his tongue but deceives
his own heart, this one's religion *is* useless.

Handling Communication Properly . . .

. . . Avoid Quarrels

Proverbs 17:14

¹⁴ The beginning of strife *is like* releasing water;
Therefore stop contention before a quarrel starts.

Proverbs 20:3

³ *It is* honorable for a man to stop striving,
Since any fool can start a quarrel.

Communication Guidelines . . .

. . . Set a guard over my Lips

Psalm 141:3

³ Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth;
Keep watch over the door of my lips.

¹³ Like the cold of snow in time of harvest
Is a faithful messenger to those who send him,

For he refreshes the soul of his masters.

¹⁴ Whoever falsely boasts of giving
Is like clouds and wind without rain.

Proverbs 26:17-28

¹⁷ He who passes by *and* meddles in a quarrel
not his own

Is like one who takes a dog by the ears.

¹⁸ Like a madman who throws firebrands,
arrows, and death,

¹⁹ *Is* the man *who* deceives his neighbor,
And says, “I was only joking!”

²⁰ Where *there is* no wood, the fire goes out;
And where *there is* no talebearer, strife ceases.

²¹ *As* charcoal *is* to burning coals, and wood to fire,

So *is* a contentious man to kindle strife.

²² The words of a talebearer *are* like tasty trifles,

And they go down into the inmost body.

²³ Fervent lips with a wicked heart
Are like earthenware covered with silver dross.

²⁴ He who hates, disguises *it* with his lips,
And lays up deceit within himself;

²⁵ When he speaks kindly, do not believe him,
For *there are* seven abominations in his heart;

²⁶ *Though* his hatred is covered by deceit,
His wickedness will be revealed before the assembly.



²⁷ Whoever digs a pit will fall into it,
And he who rolls a stone will have it roll
back on him.

²⁸ A lying tongue hates *those who are* crushed
by it,
And a flattering mouth works ruin.

Communication . . .

. . . The Power of Words

Proverbs 11:19

¹⁹ As righteousness *leads* to life,
So he who pursues evil *pursues it* to his own
death.

Proverbs 12:18

¹⁸ There is one who speaks like the piercings
of a sword,
But the tongue of the wise *promotes* health.

Proverbs 15:4

⁴ A wholesome tongue *is* a tree of life,
But perverseness in it breaks the spirit.

Proverbs 18:21

²¹ Death and life *are* in the power of the
tongue,
And those who love it will eat its fruit.

²² Lying lips *are* an abomination to the LORD,
But those who deal truthfully *are* His delight.

Proverbs 26:18,19

¹⁸ Like a madman who throws firebrands,
arrows, and death,
¹⁹ *Is* the man *who* deceives his neighbor,
And says, “I was only joking!”

Ephesians 4:15,25

¹⁵ but, speaking the truth in love, may grow
up in all things into Him who is the head—
Christ—²⁵ Therefore, putting away lying,
**“Let each one of you speak truth with his
neighbor,”** for we are members of one
another.

. . . Do Not Respond in Anger

Proverbs 15:1

¹ A soft answer turns away wrath,
But a harsh word stirs up anger.

Ephesians 4:26

²⁶ **“Be angry, and do not sin”:** do not let the
sun go down on your wrath,

Handling Communication Properly . . .

Ephesians 4:29

²⁹ Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.

. . . Admit Wrongs

Proverbs 29:23

²³ A man's pride will bring him low,
But the humble in spirit will retain honor.

James 5:16

¹⁶ Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

. . . Do Not Lie

Psalms 34:13

¹³ Keep your tongue from evil,
And your lips from speaking deceit.

Proverbs 12:19,22

¹⁹ The truthful lip shall be established forever,
But a lying tongue *is* but for a moment.

Matthew 12:37

³⁷ “For by your words you will be justified,
and by your words you will be condemned.”

James 3:1-8

¹My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. ²For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he *is* a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. ³Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. ⁴Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. ⁵Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! ⁶And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. ⁸But no man can tame the tongue. *It is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.



.. Communication ...

... The Value of Words

Proverbs 20:15

¹⁵ There is gold and a multitude of rubies,
But the lips of knowledge *are* a precious jewel.

Proverbs 25:11-14

¹¹ A word fitly spoken *is like* apples of gold
In settings of silver.

¹² *Like* an earring of gold and an ornament of
fine gold

Is a wise rebuker to an obedient ear.

¹³ Like the cold of snow in time of harvest
Is a faithful messenger to those who send
him,

For he refreshes the soul of his masters.

¹⁴ Whoever falsely boasts of giving
Is like clouds and wind without rain.

... The Source of Words

Proverbs 6:12

¹² A worthless person, a wicked man,
Walks with a perverse mouth;

Proverbs 15:28

²⁸ The heart of the righteous studies how to
answer,
But the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil.

Proverbs 27:2

² Let another man praise you, and not your
own mouth;

A stranger, and not your own lips.

... Be Slow to Speak

Proverbs 15:28

²⁸ The heart of the righteous studies how to
answer,
But the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil.

Proverbs 29:20

²⁰ Do you see a man hasty in his words?
There is more hope for a fool than for him.

James 1:19

¹⁹ So then, my beloved brethren, let every
man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to
wrath;

... Be Wise in Timing

Proverbs 15:23

²³ A man has joy by the answer of his mouth,
And a word *spoken* in due season, how good *it*
is!

Handling Communication Properly . . .

. . . Do Not Meddle

Proverbs 26:27

²⁷ Whoever digs a pit will fall into it,
And he who rolls a stone will have it roll back
on him.

. . . Do Not Gossip

Proverbs 11:13

¹³ A talebearer reveals secrets,
But he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a
matter.

Proverbs 20:19

¹⁹ He who goes about *as* a talebearer reveals
secrets;
Therefore do not associate with one who
flatters with his lips.

Proverbs 26:20

²⁰ Where *there is* no wood, the fire goes out;
And where *there is* no talebearer, strife ceases.

. . . Do Not Brag

Proverbs 21:19

¹⁹ Better to dwell in the wilderness,
Than with a contentious and angry woman.

Proverbs 16:23,24

²³ The heart of the wise teaches his mouth,
And adds learning to his lips.

²⁴ Pleasant words *are like* a honeycomb,
Sweetness to the soul and health to the
bones.

Matthew 12:34

³⁴ “Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil,
speak good things? For out of the abundance
of the heart the mouth speaks.

Handling Communication Properly . . .

. . . Be Listening

Proverbs 18:13

¹³ He who answers a matter before he hears *it*,
It *is* folly and shame to him.

Proverbs 19:20

²⁰ Listen to counsel and receive instruction,
That you may be wise in your latter days.

James 1:19

¹⁹ So then, my beloved brethren, let every
man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to
wrath;



Handling Communication Properly . . .

. . . Do not talk too much

Proverbs 10:19

¹⁹ In the multitude of words sin is not lacking,
But he who restrains his lips *is* wise.

Proverbs 13:2,3

² A man shall eat well by the fruit of *his* mouth,
But the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence.

³ He who guards his mouth preserves his life,
But he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction.

Proverbs 17:27-28

²⁷ He who has knowledge spares his words,
And a man of understanding is of a calm spirit.

²⁸ Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace;
When he shuts his lips, *he is considered* perceptive.

Ecclesiastes 10:12-14

¹² The words of a wise man's mouth *are* gracious,
But the lips of a fool shall swallow him up;

¹³ The words of his mouth begin with foolishness,
And the end of his talk *is* raving madness.

¹⁴ A fool also multiplies words.
No man knows what is to be;
Who can tell him what will be after him?

Colossians 4:6

⁶ *Let* your speech always *be* with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

. . . Do Not Nag

Proverbs 21:19

¹⁹ Better to dwell in the wilderness,
Than with a contentious and angry woman.

Proverbs 26:21

²¹ As charcoal *is* to burning coals, and wood to fire,
So *is* a contentious man to kindle strife.