

# *Understanding the Bible*

## **A Free Bible Knowledge Course**

"What is life?" - "What are we?" - "Why are we here?" - "Where are we heading?" - "Does life have a purpose?"

The Bible claims to provide the answers to these questions, beginning from before any physical matter existed up to after it all finishes.

Although the Bible is a collection of books by various writers over numerous years, it is not a jumble of disjointed documents thrown together under one cover. There is an underlying theme throughout the book: God's purpose behind creation, His strategy to accomplish it, Satan's persistent attempts to thwart it and how God finally accomplishes it.

The Bible is like an unfolding drama having an idyllic start quickly shattered by evil. An ongoing conflict ensues which eventually reaches a crucial climax. Virtue prevails and the end is just and good.

Even though it is like a drama it is not written as fiction. The writers claim to be stating facts.

## **Course Details**

This course is aimed at providing an overall understanding of the Bible, showing how it all harmonises - without going into a lot of detail - accepting the text at face value aiming to tell it as the Bible says it. It is not

trying to prove the Bible. The lessons concentrate on trying to help people to understand what the Bible is all about.

However we will gladly consider any questions you might ask on the authenticity of the documents that make up the Bible.

**If you would like information on the historical authenticity of the Bible documents - ask us for our free leaflet :**

### **Fact Sheet 01"THE DOCUMENTS"**

If you want to have an overall understanding of the Bible, this could be the course for you.

### **The Format**

The course is divided into 10 units with the following headings:-

- 1 THE BIG ISSUE  
The Beginning
- 2 GOD'S FAITHFUL PRESERVED  
Adam to Babel
- 3 GOD SELECTS A FAMILY  
Abraham to Joseph
- 4 GOD PREPARES A NATION  
Moses to Joshua
- 5 THE NATION CONSOLIDATED  
Judges to David
- 6 THE DIVIDED KINGDOM  
Solomon to the Dissolution of the Nation
- 7 GOD CLEANSSES THE NATION  
The Captivity to the Golden Years
- 8 HE ARRIVES !  
The Messiah Enthroned.
- 9 THE OUTCOME  
God's Purpose Accomplished
- 10 SUMMARY  
From Eternity to Eternity

## **Reading Matter**

Units 1 to 9 have lists of suggested readings. So you will need a copy of the Bible. You do not need any other books to do this course.

You can use almost any of the well known popular translations of the Bible. But we would advise you not to use paraphrases. Paraphrase like "The Good News Bible" are not suitable for this kind of study.

## **Test Questions**

Units 1 to 9 have one or more questions mostly based on the subject matter of that unit. These are phrased so as to promote thought. The purpose of this course is designed to increase understanding so the questions have been framed with that in mind.

The questions are not set to test skill. They are designed to encourage personal study of the text and so improve understanding.

## **Keys to each unit**

In each subsequent unit we give our suggested answers to the questions. Should you want more clarification do not hesitate to write to us. We will carefully consider any queries with a view to making helpful comments. We want this course to be as beneficial as possible.

**Useful References**

There is a list of Bible references at the end of each unit. These are for those who want to do further study.

We use abbreviated Bible references. These abbreviations are explained in the first unit. This knowledge will also be useful to you when you read books which refer to passages in the Bible.

**Copyright**

You might want to keep referring to the units even after you have completed the course. So you may keep them and copy them. All we ask is that they are copied as they are, including the copyright notice and that they are not sold.

They may not be sold and the text must not be altered without our permission.

**Cost**

This service is entirely free. Your only cost will be the postage stamps on any mail you send to us.

Your letters will be treated in the strictest confidence. Also be assured that we will not attempt to contact you unless you ask us to.

**Acknowledgement**

We are grateful to all who have helped us in the preparation of this course. We pray that through this work the Lord will be glorified.

**To obtain this course**

Print your name and full address in the spaces below and send this leaflet in a stamped envelope addressed to:-

We will return this leaflet to you.

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the  
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