

MISHeard

Back to Basics

“The Bible is very easy to understand. But we Christians are a bunch of scheming swindlers.

We pretend to be unable to understand it because we know very well that the minute we understand, we are obliged to act accordingly.”

Søren Kierkegaard

Dumb and Dumber: How Biblical Illiteracy Is Killing Our Nation

Study after study in the last quarter-century has revealed that American Christians increasingly don't read their Bibles, don't engage their Bibles, and don't know their Bibles. It's obvious: We are living in a post-biblically literate culture. Ed Stetzer

Dumb and Dumber: How Biblical Illiteracy Is Killing Our Nation

LifeWay Research study found that only 45 percent of those who regularly attend church read the Bible more than once a week. Over 40 percent of the people attending are reading their Bibles occasionally—maybe once or twice a month, if at all. In fact, 18 percent of attenders say they never read the Bible.

Dumb and Dumber: How Biblical Illiteracy Is Killing Our Nation

Simply put, we have a biblical literacy deficit in part because we have a **spiritual maturity deficit**. Plenty of research shows the correlation between spiritual maturity and reading the Bible. If you want spiritually mature Christians, get them reading the Bible. That's a statistical fact, but more importantly, it's a biblical truth.

Your relationship with the Bible
will directly affect your
relationship with God

3 Types of Biblical Attacks

Historical: Do the peoples, places, events line up with known verifiable history

Hermeneutical: Was there proper translations of the original text/languages and was there extra content added

Post-modern: Is there missing books of the Bible and who controlled canonicity

Personal

Author	Book	Date Written	Earliest Copies	Time Gap	# of Copies
Homer	<i>Iliad</i>	800 B.C.	c. 400 B.C.	c. 400 yrs.	643
Herodotus	<i>History</i>	480-425 B.C.	c. A.D. 900	c. 1,350 yrs.	8
Thucydides	<i>History</i>	460-400 B.C.	c. A.D. 900	c. 1,300 yrs.	8
Plato		400 B.C.	c. A.D. 900	c. 1,300 yrs.	7
Demosthenes		300 B.C.	c. A.D. 1100	c. 1,400 yrs.	200
Caesar	<i>Gallic Wars</i>	100-44 B.C.	c. A.D. 900	c. 1,000 yrs.	10
Tacitus	<i>Annals</i>	A.D. 100	c. A.D. 1100	c. 1,000 yrs.	20
New Testament		A.D. 50-100	c. A.D. 114 (portions) c. A.D. 200 (books) c. A.D. 325 (complete N.T.)	c. +50 yrs. c. 100 yrs. c. 225 yrs.	5366

Gaius Suetonius Tranquillas

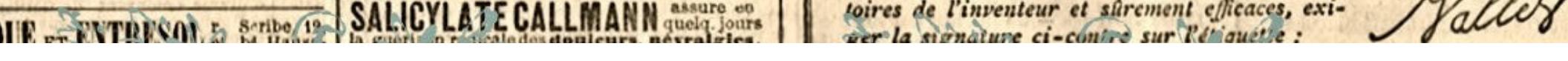
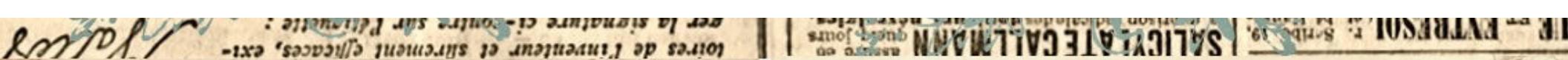
chief secretary of Emperor Hadrian
(117-138 A.D.) he had access to the
imperial records

“Because the Jews at Rome caused
continuous disturbances at the
instigation of Chrestus, he expelled
them from the city”

Thallus (52AD) as referenced by Julius Africanus, who wrote about 221 A.D.

“On the whole world there pressed a most fearful darkness; and the rocks were rent by an earthquake, and many places in Judea and other districts were thrown down. This darkness Thallus, in the third book of his History, calls, as appears to me without reason, an eclipse of the sun”

Hermeneutics is the science of interpreting what an author has written. Hermeneutics focuses specifically on constructing and discovering the appropriate rules for interpreting the Bible. These methods and principles are often drawn from outside of scripture in historical, literary or other fields. It inevitably involves **exegesis**, which is the act of interpreting or explaining the meaning of scripture. The goal in applying the principles of hermeneutics is to "rightly handle the word of truth"



Hermeneutical

Luke 1:1-4: inaccurate accounts circulating

2 Thessalonians 2:2: verify authenticity

“report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come.”

2 Thessalonians 3:17: Paul’s mark

“I, Paul, write this greeting in my own hand, which is the distinguishing mark in all my letters.

This is how I write.”

Post-Modern

Gospel of Thomas

Gospel of Mary

Gospel of Truth

The Apocryphon (Secret Book) of James

The Apocryphon (Secret Book) of John

Post-Modern

The Nag Hammadi Library

The Nag Hammadi Library, a collection of thirteen ancient books (called "codices") containing over fifty texts, was discovered in upper Egypt in 1945

Carbon dating of the texts range from late 2nd Century to late 4th century

Post-Modern

John 7:53-8:11

[The earliest manuscripts and many other ancient witnesses do not have John 7:53—8:11. A few manuscripts include these verses, wholly or in part, after John 7:36, John 21:25, Luke 21:38 or Luke 24:53.]

Mark 16:9-20

[The earliest manuscripts and some other ancient witnesses do not have verses 9–20.]

Personal

But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be **led astray** from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ. For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached, or if you receive a different spirit from the Spirit you received, or a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it easily enough. "

2 Corinthians 11:3-4

Personal

Led astray-there has been a belief in the early church and in scripture that the revealed truth of the bible can be modified to suit a persons preference

For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 2 Timothy 4:3-4

Personal

For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Hebrews 4:12

Personal

it judges the thoughts and attitudes of
the heart

When he comes, he will prove the world to
be in the wrong about sin and righteousness
and judgment John 16:8

Personal

I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God's curse! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God's curse! Galatians 1:6-9

Personal pervert the gospel of Christ

This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. John 3:19-20

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