

So What?

READING

Romans 2
Matthew 23
Romans 12

The Bible is meant to change your life, not just increase your knowledge.

The Bible was given to us to change our lives, not just to increase our knowledge. When you read it and the spirit teaches you something new. You need to ask “So what? What am I supposed to do with that? What is that showing me that I need to change?”

This is from the preface of “Torch of the Testimony” by Kennedy.
(A great book BTW about real church history, readable/downloadable for free from archive.org)

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that through patience and through comfort of the Scriptures we might have hope.” These are the words of the apostle Paul to the Romans (Rom. 15:4). The history of the Old Testament was not written for us only that we might know, but that we might learn from the experience of those who have gone on before, lessons which will vitally affect our daily living and order the progress of our spiritual walk. The great need of the present day is not for more knowledge, theological or historical, but that what knowledge we have should be practically related to life.

Do you know anyone like that? Puffed up with knowledge. Often they’re arrogant, condescending, self righteous. They think that because they know more, they’re somehow better than everyone else. More enlightened, more “holy”...

Romans 2 basically lays out that we will be judged based on what we know. If we never heard of Yeshua, but God had revealed to us that there was a creator. Then we will be judged on whether we responded to that and sought him out, or worshipped him in some way. But if we rejected that knowledge, then we will be judged. And if we heard of Yeshua and what he did for us, and rejected it... there is no hope left for us. We’re doomed.

So if we claim to know more than others. Are we prepared to be judged more than others? We will be. We will be judged on how well we put what we have been shown, into practice. How did our lives change because of that knowledge?

This was the problem with the Pharisees. They had so much knowledge. They studied the scriptures all the time. They even memorised huge sections of it. All good things. But they didn’t do what it said.

They were arrogant. They were proud. They thought they were better than everyone else. They were wrong. They thought the outside appearance showed that they had the knowledge. But Yeshua looks at the heart.

Imagine reading Matthew 23 and realising that he’s talking about YOU. Read it now. Make sure he isn’t.

“But woe to you scribes and Pharisees. Hypocrites. Because you devour the homes of the widows, and you pray long prayers for appearance. Because of this you’ll receive a more severe condemnation.”

“Serpents. Offspring of vipers. How will you flee from the judgement of Gehenna?”

And Paulus’ warning in Romans 12. To not be puffed up by your knowledge, but to let it change you. To offer your self, your body, your heart, everything, up to God as a sacrifice to him.

I entreat you then brothers, because of the compassions of God, to present your bodies to God as a living, holy, pleasing sacrifice — your logical service. And don’t be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you discern what the will of God is — good and pleasing and perfect.

For I say through the grace which has been given to me, to all among you, don’t think too highly of yourselves, but be of a sound mind, and consider yourselves in accordance with the measure of faith which God has distributed to each one of you.

So how is your bible knowledge? What have you learned? More importantly, how has it changed not just your mind, but your heart, your life? If it hasn’t ... it’s time to pray. Imagine holding your heart in your hands and offer it up to Yahweh to do whatever he wants with it.

Why are you still just sitting there? Pray. Or continue in your hypocrisy. Your choice.