

The Way More Perfectly

*A Self-Teaching Bible Study
Bringing You to a Higher Spiritual Level*

Timothy C. Mitchell

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About the Author

Timothy C. Mitchell's spiritual roots began with an uncle who discovered the Acts 2:38 experience at a Pentecostal altar. Edward Artigue then brought his mother, two sisters (Gertrude Mitchell and Loretta Bernard, former missionary to Korea) and brother-in law to the Lord. From that small beginning to now, all of the children in these three families for four generations have received the Holy Ghost and been baptized in Jesus Name. Not one has backslid at any time!

Mitchell was born and raised in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He attended First Pentecostal Church where his father served as Sunday School Superintendent for over 30 years. Called into the ministry at the age of eight when he saw a vision of Jesus coming in clouds of glory, his entire life has been devoted to serving the Lord. He received a Bachelor of Theology from Texas Bible College. He was ordained into the ministry by the United Pentecostal Church in 1973. A successful bi-vocational minister, in 1981 he founded New Testament Christian Center and Fiberglass Repair in Montgomery, Alabama. He is also a real estate investor and developer. He has been a writer for adult Word Aflame® Sunday School curriculum for many years. Coming from a rich and varied secular and spiritual background, you will enjoy his unique scriptural insight and practical approach to subjects.

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Dedication

This Bible study is dedicated to sincere people with an open heart and mind who are searching for God. It is also a guide for those faithful lovers of truth who are walking in all the light they have and yet they sense that something is missing. To these dear people we boldly proclaim, *"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts"* (II Peter 1:19).

They who hunger and thirst after righteousness shall be filled. God has seen your sincerity and desire. He is now ready to reveal unto you His complete will. *"So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (I Corinthians 1:7).

Join people like:

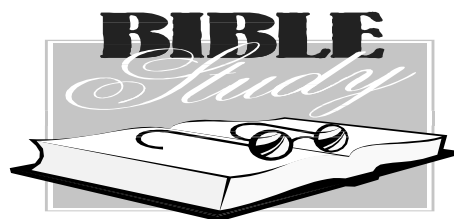
1. Nicodemus - a religious leader who realized that another minister had more spiritual power in his ministry than he and went to seek for it. He was humble enough to ask (John 3:1-8).
2. The Woman at the Well - someone living in sin because her religion, which focused on where to worship and not Who to worship, was powerless to help overcome her problem (John 4:7-26).
3. Cornelius - a just, devout, family-oriented, "Christian" man whose generosity and prayer gained the attention of God. Because he lived in an area where there was no church preaching complete truth, God sent an angel to direct him to a preacher who would tell him the full plan of salvation (Acts 10).
4. John the Baptist Believers - men worshiping God in all the truth they knew but totally ignorant of what God really had available for them. *"When they heard this,"* they had an attitude of *"What shall we do?"* and instantly obeyed. (See Acts 2:37; 19:5.)
5. Apollos - *"And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him **the way of God more perfectly**"* (Acts 18:24-26).

Following God's Word will bring more light to our pathway and lead us to the right way, the complete truth, and abundant life (John 14:6).

•Psalm 119:105 *"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."*

•Proverbs 4:18 *"But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."*

•I Peter 2:9 *"But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light."*



Introduction

●Isaiah 28:9-12 *“Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? . . . For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing.”*

The proper method to understand and gain knowledge of God’s Word is by comparing verses of Scripture on that particular subject. The Bible says, *“in the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.”* (See Deuteronomy 17:6; Matthew 18:16; and II Corinthians 13:1.) Taking two or preferably three passages concerning the same subject and establishing truth is the correct way to form a biblical doctrine. For example, if a person wanted to know how to be baptized, he would find all the verses in the Bible pertaining to baptism. Then he would compare and combine the information to completely understand that subject and form his belief.

We should not establish doctrine by using only one verse of Scripture. A one witness “private” interpretation has much potential for error and misinterpretation (II Peter 1:20). A good example of doctrinal error is the belief of “baptizing for the dead” which is based on only one Scripture reference found in I Corinthians 15:29. By interpreting this verse literally, some have erroneously concluded that if one knows the name of his kinsmen, he can be baptized in proxy for them and thereby give them an opportunity to be saved. Like a stool with one leg, using only one Scripture to support a belief is unstable. By adding two or three more supporting Scriptures, it makes a doctrine solid and secure.

If you want to really understand doctrine or a particular subject, you must study line upon line, precept upon precept, verse by verse, finding here a little and there a little. You begin searching through the Old Testament and follow the subject on into the New Testament. After thoroughly studying every related passage on the subject, you will then know *“all the counsel of God”* (Acts 20:27). For example, on the first creative day God spoke and said, *“Let there be light”* and *“called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night”* (Genesis 1:3-5). Yet it was not until the fourth day that the sun, moon, and stars were created. What lighted the world in the meantime? To answer that we must let Scripture explain Scripture—line upon line, here a little and there a little. John began his Gospel like Genesis with the creation and revealed that God was the source of all life and *“the life was the light of all men”* (John 1:1-10). I John 1:5 says, *“God is light, and in him is not darkness at all.”* Then skipping to the end of the Bible we see the final picture, *“And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof”* (Revelation 21:23). These three portions of Scripture (witnesses) teach us that God was the source of that light.

Studying the Bible is like building a brick wall. You cannot take one brick and conclude that the whole wall is that color, shape, or size. You must view all the bricks together—line upon line, row after row, each separate and different yet bonded as one—to get the total picture.

The Way More Perfectly© utilizes this correct biblical method of study. Verse by verse we will discover what the Word says concerning vital subjects. We will use each passage of Scripture as a piece of the puzzle. When we combine them all, we will have a clear picture of God’s complete and perfect will.

