

## Points From the Past

Written by Steve Watts

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In the long ago, God visited the core reason of the weaknesses, shortcomings, and failures of His people. He expressed a sadness and lamentable condition that existed among them. Truth had eluded them at their own choosing. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hos. 4:6). Jesus said "truth will set you free" (John 8:31-32), thus a lack of it will put one into slavery and bondage. Bondage of the soul gains dominance from a lack of study. Throughout the apostolic teachings are rumbling proclamations of study's value and the need of it.

In visiting a gospel meeting from the past via tape recording, I heard Bro. Fred Kirbo sound forth the need of study so I now share the timely message with you. Bro. Fred begins:

"Lord help me be eager to learn. Bible reading should be encouraged everywhere. We ought to exhort each other to read our Bibles. We should give each other the exhortation to study and not only exhort to study, but study ourselves. There is not enough Bible reading, not enough searching the Scriptures. Jesus said one time, "search the Scriptures for in them you think you have hope of eternal life and they are they that testify of me." Any man that will not search the Scriptures is not doing what Christ told him to do. The Bible says that the Bereans were nobler than those of Thessalonica in so much that they searched the Scriptures daily whether those things were so which were spoken by Paul. They searched the Scriptures daily. I wonder how many of us pick up a Bible at least once a day, study our Bibles, try to learn more, obtain more knowledge? It certainly is a command of God. Paul in aiding Timothy in his proclamation of truth told him to "study to show thyself approved unto God." Again he told the same man, "give thyself to reading." I wish I could keep that in your minds from now on, "give thyself to reading, to exhortation, and to doctrine." Study the Scriptures.

Those words are still pertinent for us today though spoken decades ago. The voice of truth rings clearly, audibly resounding the sweet information of the redeeming Saviour's invitations, commandments, and hopes! —582 Murray Kittrell Rd., Readyville, TN 37149