



**INTRODUCTION:** The Greek word for knowledge is *gnosis*. It means knowledge that is acquired by studying or experience.

*Romans 11:33, "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!"*

*Joshua 13:1, "Now Joshua was old and stricken in years; and the LORD said unto him, Thou art old and stricken in years, and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."*

We can say the very same thing about our study of the Bible. In Proverbs 2:1-5, we are promised 2 things: the understanding of the fear of the Lord and knowledge of God. 4 sets of couplets in these five verses will lead us to the knowledge of God.

#### **I. RECEIVING THE WORD: RECEIVE AND HIDE (PROVERBS 2:1)**

##### **A. RECEIVE THE WORD (PROVERBS 2:1)**

##### **B. HIDE THE WORD (PROVERBS 2:1; PSALM 119:11)**

*Psalm 119:11, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."*

*James 1:21, "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls."*

The phrase "the engrafted word" gives a picture from horticulture, where two plants are grafted together as one. Grafts are composed of 2 parts: 1) The scion is the detached part of a plant which becomes the flowering or fruiting top part; 2) The rootstock is the rooted and growing part of another plant. One will cut the scion a certain way and attach it to the rootstock and they become one. James pictures the Word of God as a living plant that is grafted into the very soul of a man and changes his behavior, giving him the very nature and mind of our rootstock, Jesus Christ.

#### **II. ASSIMILATING THE WORD: INCLINE AND APPLY (PROVERBS 2:2)**

*II Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*

To assimilate means to take it in; to absorb and incorporate just like food. It has to do with purposeful, deliberate study with the objective of applying it to our lives.

##### **A. SINGLE-MINDED DILIGENCE (II TIMOTHY 2:15-A)**

The word "*shew*" has to do with presenting. It speaks of the Judgment Seat.

##### **B. SELF DISCIPLINE (II TIMOTHY 2:15-B)**

*Acts 17:11, "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."*

##### **C. STRAIGHT DIVISION (II TIMOTHY 2:15-C)**

This is a metaphor for a stone mason's vocation. He cuts the stone straight and true so that they all will fit in their proper place as he builds. The key is that we must interpret the Bible properly. It deals with the subject of hermeneutics

*"If the plain sense makes common sense, seek no other sense." – David Cross*

#### **III. REVERING THE WORD: CRY AND LIFT UP (PROVERBS 2:3)**

The Holy Spirit is our guide as we read and study Scripture. Revering the Word has to do with recognizing the connection between Prayer and the Word of God.

*John 16:13, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth . . ."*

*Acts 6:4, "But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word."*

*"We need to stop reading the Word of God as a text book and start reading it as a Love Story." – Adrian Rogers*

*Psalm 119:97-104, "97 MEM. O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day. 98 Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me. 99 I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation. 100 I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts. 101 I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word. 102 I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me. 103 How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! 104 Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way."*

*Psalm 138:2, "I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name."*

#### **IV. TREASURING THE WORD: SEEK AND SEARCH (PROVERBS 2:4-5)**

*Matthew 6:19-21, "19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."*

*Psalm 19:7-11, "7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. 8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. 9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. 11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward."*