

Welcome to The International Bible Course

Greetings fellow Bible student:

Thank you for enrolling to take The International Bible Course through postal mail. This course consists of eight sections that are designed to teach the truth concerning God and His word. God loves us all very much; so much, that He has blessed us with the Bible so that we can inquire and learn about Him and His plan for us. We want to congratulate you in making the choice to participate in this course and hope that you will grow to know the Lord throughout this study.

The Bible tells us in Luke 8:11, “Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God” and in 1 Corinthians 3:6, “I planted, Apollos watered, but **God gave the increase**”. From these verses, we learn that it is through the power of God and His word that His truth can be taught and give us the opportunity to choose His will and grow spiritually. However, since the establishment of the church, as recorded in Acts chapter 2, men have misled, misrepresented, and taught false doctrines that have been in complete contradiction with the word of God. Therefore, we desire to teach the pure truth of God’s word as it is documented throughout the Bible.

In 1 Corinthians 14:33 we learn that, “**God is not the author of confusion but of peace**, as in all the churches of the saints.” Sadly, many have made the word of God appear confusing and difficult to understand by adding their own doctrines and man-made commandments. However, when we strip our minds of all the opinions and ideas of men, we can clearly see what God has taught us throughout His word.

We have an example within the New Testament of one who was unaware of his incorrect teaching and what was done in helping him make proper corrections. In Acts 18, starting in verse 24 and going through verse 26, we read of a man named Apollos: “**24** Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man *and* mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus. **25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord**; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, **though he knew only the baptism of John**. **26** So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, **they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.**” Whatever your religious or spiritual background is, The International Bible Course has been designed to teach you the truth and way of God more accurately.

This course is comprised of eight interactive sections and one final section that is to be completed and retained by the student. Each section is designed around a specific topic. These topics are chosen and based strictly upon God’s word. The points that are made originate from the Bible. Therefore, within each section, the verses that are used will be highlighted in red ink (when color printing is used) and italicized so that they may be distinguished clearly. This will also help in answering the questions within the worksheet because each answer can only be found using the verses. However, you are encouraged to follow along and read the verses yourself. This can be done using your own Bible or by accessing www.Biblegateway.com.

Each worksheet and lesson will be no longer than one page front and back (two pages when printing does not occur on both the front and back pages). The worksheets will have a total of 25 true or false, multiple-choice, and fill in the blank questions. There will also be a portion of the worksheet that has two optional written responses. The 1st response is available to state what you have learned from the lesson and the 2nd response is available to ask any questions you may have. If you are taking this course through correspondence, you will then return your completed worksheet through the postal mail. When a completed worksheet is returned, a new section will be sent (in order to return completed worksheets a pre-stamped envelope will be provided with each section for those taking the course through postal mail). When you receive the next section, it will contain the lesson and worksheet for that section as well as a copy of your previously completed worksheet and an answer key for that worksheet. The answer key is provided in order to examine the accuracy of your responses when compared to scripture.

Throughout the course, you will also have the opportunity to complete three questionnaires that are provided to initiate self-examination prior to studying specific sections. These questionnaires will be provided with section 2, section 3, and section 4. If you are taking this course through correspondence, you will send back your completed questionnaire along with your completed worksheet for that section. The questionnaire will then be returned to you with the next section you receive. Finally, there will be a thank you letter and spiritual evaluation that accompanies the answer key to worksheet eight. This final section is intended to congratulate and thank you for completing the course and also gives you an opportunity to take a personal spiritual evaluation in comparison to the word of God (the spiritual evaluation is to be retained by the student and will not be returned).

We hope that in taking this course you will learn more about God’s word and make application to His instruction. Thank you again for choosing to sign up and may your life be greatly impacted by the Lord and His truth.

May you trust in the Lord,

The International Bible Course

Bible Translation: New King James Version*

*unless otherwise noted

Source: Biblegateway.com

The International Bible Course
www.TheInternationalBibleCourse.com

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Bold within verses added to place emphasis on specific words within the passage