

JANUARY 2

*All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching,
for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.*

2 TIMOTHY 3:16

When we read the Bible, we're not just reading some old book written hundreds of years ago by people, who are dead and gone, we are reading THE WORD OF LIFE, sent to us by God Himself, to show us how to live in this twenty-first century, and how to find our way through all the pitfalls and temptations of life in the world today, and to make a glorious success of life.

Notice four things the Bible has to teach us:

1. TEACHING. It's not just a story book, though it includes that. It takes us through the life and behaviour of hundreds of people, good and bad, and shows us what life is meant to be under God's guidance.
2. REPROOF. None of us is perfect. We sin, we make mistakes, we go wrong, and God has to remind us and rebuke us, and we find this hard to take. But rebuke by itself is not enough.
3. CORRECTION. Where our life has gone wrong, it needs to be put right again, and so – continually – the Bible leads us back into God's way for us. It's like the weaving of a rug or carpet. If the weaver makes a mistake, he has to undo the work right back to the mistake, and start again. So, keep short accounts with God. Put things right with Him every day.
4. TRAINING. Training in righteousness. This is not something you can bring to a finish. It goes on all your life long – even if you live to be 100! We need to be taught afresh every day.

PRAYER

*Open Thou mine eyes that I may learn wondrous things out
of Thy Law. AMEN.*