

# Bible Study in a digital age



by Robert Hatfield

As long as the earth stands, God's Word will be the ultimate source of authority. Jesus said, "my words shall not pass away" (Mat. 24:35). Even in eternity the inspired Scriptures will be opened and used to judge each soul (John 12:48). The Bible has proven itself in every age to be as powerful (Heb. 4:12-13), and applicable (Psa. 119:9) as it was in the day it was preached for the first time.

As long as the earth stands, sin will be that which causes men to be separated from God. The temptation used to allure Eve to the forbidden fruit (Gen. 3) — the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (1 John 2:16) — is used daily on many unguarded souls.

So there are two changeless facts: God's Word is unchanging through the ages, and Satan continually tempts man. It is no wonder why the Bible repeatedly admonishes Christians to **STUDY**. The command to study is given time and again: 2 Timothy 2:15, Hebrews 5:12-14 and 2 Peter 3:18 are just a few examples. Yet it seems that some Christians do not seriously consider studying as a **command** from God. "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hosea 4:6).

The command is to study the Bible with an open heart. However, one may study his or her Bible in various ways. In fact, in this digital age, no one has an excuse for *not* studying God's Word!

The technological advancements that are enjoyed today can be put to great uses in terms of Bible study. Think about the following ways in which East Hill solicits digital help to "ring out the message." Computers are used each week in designing and printing this bulletin. The **Truth In Love Lectureship books** are published in a much easier fashion thanks to the help of digital technology. The weekly radio broadcast (98.3 FM, Sunday's at 8:00 a.m.) is recorded directly onto a computer, then burned onto a CD and taken to the radio station. PowerPoint visual aids for sermons are made and operated entirely on computers. CD's and DVD's of each sermon are made available in mass quantities with the help of digital technology. Producing Bible materials for the masses is becoming easier in this digital age.

The help is not only in the production of the material; accessing sound Bible material has never been easier than it is today. Consider East Hill's web site ([www.easthillchurch.org](http://www.easthillchurch.org)) onto which every sermon, gospel meeting, summer series, radio broadcast, Truth in Love lectureship book and bulletin article is placed from week to week. Any Bible student can log on and access all of these materials — absolutely free! The works of other brethren are doing great good. WorldVideo Bible School has sent over 430,000 **Searching for Truth** DVD's to date. The **Gospel Broadcasting Network** is now broadcasting all across the nation via DirecTV and Dish Network. Many other opportunities daily present themselves through this great medium.

God's people have no excuse for a failure in both personal Bible study and evangelism. Technological advancements help to show the lost the unchanging truth of God, which makes men free (John 8:32).

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