Welcome To The YORWW Bible Institute & Religious Studies, Inc. Group!

(See: Acts 17:11; 2nd Corinthians 10:4-5; 1st Thessalonians 5:21)

Advancing Biblical Literacy Through Research, Education, and Independent Inquiry

Key Bible Texts Considered:

> **Acts 17:11: Now these were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of the mind, examining the Scriptures daily, whether these things were so.** -- *American Standard Version*
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> **2nd Corinthians 10:4-5: Since the weapons of our warfare are not fleshly, but are powerful through God for the demolition of strongholds. We demolish arguments 5 and every high-minded thing that is raised up against the knowledge of God, taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.** -- *Holman Christian Standard Bible*
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> **1st Thessalonians 5:21: Make sure of all things; hold fast to what is fine.** -- *New World Translation [1984 & 2013 Edition]*

The **YORWW Bible Institute & Religious Studies, Inc. Group** is a faith-based educational and research organization dedicated to the serious study of Scripture, biblical theology, religious history, and prophetic interpretation. Our mission is to encourage careful examination of the Holy Scriptures and to promote a deeper understanding of God's purpose as revealed throughout the biblical record.

Through research, teaching, publications, lectures, and public discussion, the Institute seeks to assist students, researchers, and interested readers in examining religious claims objectively and testing teachings against the Scriptures. We believe that meaningful study requires both intellectual honesty and a willingness to investigate all things carefully.

Areas of Study:

- Biblical Exegesis and Scriptural Interpretation

- Comparative Scriptural Analysis

- The Divine Name in Scripture

- Prophecy and Patterns of Fulfillment

- Christian Discipleship and Worship

- Religious History and Development

- Religious Liberty and Freedom of Conscience

- Biblical Themes, Types, and Prophetic Continuity

Our Purpose:

This bible Institute exists to advance biblical literacy, encourage independent examination of religious teachings, preserve valuable research materials, and provide educational resources for those seeking a greater appreciation of the Bible and its message.

Whether you are a student, researcher, minister, or sincere seeker of truth, we invite you to explore the Scriptures with diligence, integrity, and an open mind.

We invite you, personally in the comfort & privacy of your own home [via or through the internet], to join us in the exciting, wholesome and spiritually beneficial pursuit of biblical understanding through research, study, and thoughtful inquiry, at this website. -- See: **Acts 17:11; 2nd Corinthians 10:4-5; 1st Thessalonians 5:21**.

The mission declaration for the YORWW Bible Institute & Religious Studies, Inc., is built around these three (3) key bible texts:

Acts 17:11 - examine the Scriptures daily.

2nd Corinthians 10:4-5 - test and challenge arguments, taking thoughts captive to Christ.

1st Thessalonians 5:21 - prove or make sure of all things.

When viewed together, we believe these three (3) particular bible texts or bible passages, form a coherent theme:

1. Acts 17:11: Investigation

The Bereans did not simply accept what they were told, even from the Apostle Paul. They examined the Scriptures to determine whether the teachings were true.

The principle is:

Faith should not fear examination. (**1st Peter 3:15**)

2. 2nd Corinthians 10:4-5: Evaluation

Paul describes a process of analyzing and overthrowing ideas, arguments, and assumptions that conflict with divine truth.

This involves:

questioning tradition,

testing doctrines,

evaluating interpretations,

examining religious authority claims,

bringing conclusions under the authority of Christ.

The emphasis is not blind acceptance but intellectual and spiritual scrutiny.

3. 1st Thessalonians 5:21: Verification

Paul's instruction is:

"Make sure of all things; hold fast to what is fine."

This moves beyond merely hearing and evaluating. It calls for verification, retaining what survives examination and discarding what does not.

Taken together, these three (3) bible texts outline a simple but tremendously effective progression for the novice bible student, namely:

Three (3) Step Scripture Action

1) **Examine:** Acts 17:11 Investigate claims

2) **Evaluate:** 2nd Corinthians 10:4-5 Test arguments and reasoning

3) **Verify:** 1st Thessalonians 5:21 Retain what withstands scrutiny

Research • Education • Scripture • Inquiry

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Interesting Quote On Religion Found Below Of "Carl Sagan" [Great Scientist]:

The fact that religions can be so shamelessly dishonest, so contemptuous of the intelligence of their adherents and still flourish, does not speak very well for the tough-mindedness of the believers. But it does indicate, if a demonstration were needed, that near the core of the religious experience is something ***remarkably resistant to rational inquiry***.

-- This statement is cited as coming from **Broca's Brain**, in the essay "A Sunday Sermon."

The Carl Sagan Quotation in Context

The quotation from Carl Sagan [shown above] serves as an external challenge to religion. Whether one agrees with Sagan or not, the placement of the quotation appears intended to raise a question:

Should religious beliefs be exempt from examination?

The YORWW introduction appears to answer:

No. Religious claims should be investigated, tested, examined, and compared with Scripture.

In that sense, 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 occupies a significant role in the statement. Rather than merely defending existing beliefs, Paul describes an active process of examining and challenging ideas. "Bringing every thought captive" implies that no doctrine, tradition, interpretation, or human reasoning should be beyond scrutiny. Every belief must ultimately be measured against what is understood to be the truth revealed through Christ. -- **John 8:32**

From an academic perspective, this resembles a form of ***critical inquiry guided by Scripture***: claims are not accepted merely because they are ancient, popular, institutional, or traditional. They are subjected to examination, and only then retained if they withstand testing. It has always been our intention, that this theme itself is consistently reflected throughout the YORWW Congregation's Framework and Structure Carefully Demonstrated Throughout Its Doctrine & Teachings provided on this website.

"Make sure of all things; hold fast to what is fine."
— 1st Thessalonians 5:21 -- New World Translation

Helping the Novice Bible Student

Many sincere individuals desire to understand the Bible but are often overwhelmed by the many voices, interpretations, traditions, and doctrines that exist within the religious world. The YORWW Bible Institute & Religious Studies, Inc. seeks to provide a simple, scripturally based approach that can assist beginning Bible students in developing sound study habits.

Our educational approach is built upon three key scriptural principles:

Step 1: Examine Acts 17:11

The Bereans were commended because they carefully examined the Scriptures to determine whether the things they were hearing were true.

"Examining the Scriptures daily, whether these things were so."

For the novice Bible student, this means:

Read the Scriptures personally.
Verify what others teach.
Compare claims with the biblical text.
Develop familiarity with the Bible itself.

Principle: Faith should not fear examination.

Step 2: Evaluate 2nd Corinthians 10:4-5

The Apostle Paul describes a process of examining ideas, arguments, teachings, and assumptions.

For the novice Bible student, this involves:

Asking questions.
Comparing interpretations.
Considering alternative viewpoints.

Testing reasoning and conclusions.
Bringing every doctrine into harmony with Christ's teachings.

Principle: Truth welcomes scrutiny.

Step 3: Verify
1 Thessalonians 5:21

Paul instructed Christians:

"Make sure of all things; hold fast to what is fine."

Verification is the final step.

For the novice Bible student, this means:

Accept what can be supported.
Reject what cannot be demonstrated.
Retain conclusions that withstand careful examination.
Continue learning with humility and an open mind.

Principle: Accept evidence, not merely assertion.

A Simple Three-Step Bible Study Method
Examine

Acts 17:11 Investigate the claim.

Evaluate

2 Corinthians 10:4-5 Test the reasoning.

Verify

1 Thessalonians 5:21 Retain what withstands scrutiny.

Our Invitation

Whether you are completely new to Bible study, returning after many years, or seeking a deeper understanding of Scripture, we invite you to join us in the rewarding pursuit of biblical literacy through research, education, and independent inquiry.

The goal is not simply to accumulate information, but to cultivate the habit encouraged by Scripture itself:

Examine carefully.
Evaluate honestly.
Verify thoroughly.

"Make sure of all things; hold fast to what is fine."
— 1 Thessalonians 5:21