

Introduction

1. Society is growing weaker in mind
2. God, in His infinite wisdom, saw fit to give mankind His Holy Bible
 - a. Holy, because it comes from the Holy One ([Isa. 57:15](#))
 - b. Bible, because it is not just a book, it is the Book of books making one complete to everything good ([2 Tim. 3:16-17](#))
3. In giving us a book:
 - a. God requires us to read the Holy Scriptures
 - b. Good results will come to those who read and apply the Holy Bible

The Requirement to Read

1. The king of Israel was required to read the law ([Dt. 17:18-20](#))
 - a. Those who lead need to know the law so they can teach, exhort, and convict those who contradict ([1 Tim. 3:2](#); [Titus 1:9](#))
2. The Levites were required to read to the people ([Dt. 31:9-13](#))
 - a. Those who serve need to know the law ([1 Tim. 3:9](#))
3. Timothy was required to give attention to reading ([1 Tim. 4:13](#))
 - a. Those who teach need to know the law ([1 Tim. 1:5-7](#); [2 Tim. 3:7](#))
4. Local congregations of the church were required to read letters from the apostles
 - a. Colossians and Laodiceans ([Col. 4:16](#); cf. [Rev. 3:14-22](#))
 - b. Thessalonians ([1 Th. 5:27](#))
 - c. Seven churches of Asia ([Rev. 1:3](#))

The Results of Reading

1. Revelation from God ([Eph. 3:1-7](#))
 - a. God wants us to understand His will ([Eph. 5:17](#))
 - i. He has revealed His will completely ([Rm. 12:2](#); [Jm. 1:25](#))
2. Reverence toward God ([Neh. 8:5-6](#); cf. [Dt. 31:12-13](#))
3. Remorse for sin ([Neh. 8:7-11](#))
 - a. King Josiah showed remorse and repentance after the law was read ([2 Kgs. 22:8-11](#); cf. [2 Kgs. 22:1-23:25](#))
4. Rejoicing for understanding and obeying ([Neh. 8:12-18](#))
 - a. The Ethiopian eunuch understood, obeyed the Gospel, and rejoiced ([Acts 8:26-39](#))

Conclusion

1. Reading of God's Word is required by God
2. Reading of God's Word produces results
 - a. It provides God's revelation
 - b. It produces reverence toward God
 - c. It produces remorse and repentance due to sin
 - d. It produces rejoicing