

PRECIOUS BIBLE

1. Precious Bible, what a treasure
Does the word of God provide;
All my needs for life and pleasure,
Here in fullness are supplied:
Let the world account me poor,
Having this I want no more.

2. Food of which the world's a stranger,
Filled with it my Spirit lives.
Of excess there is no danger,
Nourishment is what it gives:
On the words of Christ I feed,
Here is meat and drink indeed.

3. When my faith is just surviving,
Or when Satan wounds my mind,
Scripture sets my heart reviving;
Healing balm in Thee I find:
To its promises I flee,
Each affords a remedy.

4. In each hour of dark temptation
Satan cannot make me yield;
For God's word is consolation
And to me a mighty shield:
While the Scripture truths endure,
By their power I am secure.

HEARING GOD IN THE BIBLE

(from the DVD program)

Hearing God speak is the ultimate aim in studying the Bible. There are many ways to do that, but more important than any plan or system for studying is the spirit in which it is done.

When Jesus told his listeners, "He who has ears, let Him hear," (Matthew 11:15), he was not talking about sound waves hitting their ear drums. The early Brethren called it "hearing with inner ears." They believed the Holy Spirit gives us that capacity if we truly want to hear from God and are willing to act upon what we hear. What it takes on our part can be summarized in an acrostic for the word "hear". H - E - A - R

H is for humility. Only the humble can truly hear God. "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble," the Bible tells us (I Peter 5:5). The humble are teachable. They know that even in a lifetime they cannot grasp all that God has to say. So they do not approach the Bible with a made-up mind, looking for verses that support their present point of view. They want His input. They will have favorite verses, but they believe that God speaks in other passages, even the hard ones. They also know they can learn from others and that being a part of a small group or having a Bible reading partner, helps them hear more clearly. The humble have the right spirit to hear God speak in the Bible.