

## Passage to Ponder

(John 5:39)

You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.

The Jews in this passage were in error as were the Thessalonians in today's bible study of Acts 17. These two groups were in error because of their approach and purpose for studying the Bible. They approached the bible as a legal contract rather than a love letter from God. Their purpose for studying the bible was to find rules and what benefited them rather than looking for Jesus who is the fulfillment to the law and the prophets.

As a result of their approach and their purpose for studying the Bible they missed out and lived independent from Jesus.

This morning we have a warning from this passage as well as from Acts 17. It's a warning of not using the Bible for it's purpose and not reading the Bible for all it's worth.

As a tools can be used many different ways each one has a proper use and a specific purpose.

The same is true for automobiles, a car or a truck can be used for different things but to get out of it all it's worth you need to drive it for what it was designed for.

The Bible can be used for history, a text book for ancient Hebrew and Greek grammar, science, archeology, theology, apologetics and many other things.

But Jesus tells us in this passage that the purpose and design of the Bible is so we can know Him and be dependent on Him in a daily relationship.

In conclusion and in contrast to the Jews and the Thessalonians were told in Acts 17:11 concerning the Berean's, These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily *to find out* whether these things were so.

This morning lets purpose our heart to be like Jesus' disciples and the Berean's who decided to follow Jesus in a daily relationship.