

God's living word

4. The Bible and clarity – how can I know what it says?

John Percival

**Introduction**

- Is the Bible clear?

**God's Word is understandable – because it is from a speaking God**

**God's Word is understandable – provided we come to it with the right heart**

**God's Word is understandable – therefore we can interpret it for ourselves**

**Conclusion**

**Bible references:** Psalm 119:105, Mat. 15:16, Mark 7:13, Mat. 13:15, Luke 24:25, Mark 9:32, John 5:39-40, 1 Cor. 2:14, Psalm 119:130

**Deuteronomy 6v1-9 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, <sup>2</sup> so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. <sup>3</sup> Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you.

<sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. <sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>8</sup> Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. <sup>9</sup> Write them on the door-frames of your houses and on your gates.

**Deuteronomy 30v11-14 (NIV)**

<sup>11</sup> Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. <sup>12</sup> It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, "Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so that we may obey it?" <sup>13</sup> Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, "Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so that we may obey it?" <sup>14</sup> No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart so that you may obey it.