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## **SIX PILLARS OF FAITHFUL BIBLE STUDY**

Keep the following principles in mind whenever you are studying the Bible.

1. The Bible is Inspired (God is the author).
2. The Bible is Inerrant (There is no mixture of error in its matter. Therefore, it is totally true).
3. The Bible is Infallible (Scripture is completely trustworthy).
4. The Bible is Authoritative (It is the definitive source for knowing what to believe and how to live).
5. The Bible is Sufficient (Everything needed to be saved and to grow as a Christian is found in God's Word).
6. The Bible is Clear (Everything God has chosen to reveal to his people can be clearly understood).

## **LAW**

Much of what is referred to as "the Law" (Genesis-Deuteronomy) is really a mix of sermons/discourses, narratives, instructions, and, of course, laws. The Law reveals God's holiness and served to distinguish Israel from every other nation.

Before you get started, ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand, believe, and obey his Word. Bible study, after all, is intended to help see more clearly and savor more intensely our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

## **Deuteronomy 6:1-9**

"This is the command — the statutes and ordinances — the Lord your God has commanded me to teach you, so that you may follow them in the land you are about to enter and possess. 2 Do this so that you may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life by keeping all his statutes and commands I am giving you, your son, and your grandson, and so that you may have a long life. 3 Listen, Israel, and be careful to follow them, so that you may prosper and multiply greatly, because the Lord, the God of your ancestors, has promised you a land flowing with milk and honey.

4 “Listen, Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. 5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. 6 These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. 7 Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Bind them as a sign on your hand and let them be a symbol on your forehead. 9 Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your city gates. -- Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (CSB)

### **COMA QUESTIONS FOR DEUTERONOMY 6:1-9**

Work your way through each section of COMA, allowing the questions to guide your journey through the text.

#### **Context**

- What has happened so far in the narrative? Have there been any major events, characters or themes?
- What has happened just prior to the section you are reading?

#### **Observation**

- What do you learn about the main characters in this section? How does the author describe them? How do they describe themselves?
- Is time or place significant in the events that happen in the passage?
- Is there a conflict or high point in the passage?
- Do you think there is a main point or theme in this section of the story?
- What surprises are there?

#### **Meaning**

- Are there any ‘editorial’ comments from the author about the events in the narrative? How do these comments illuminate what is happening?
- Does someone in the narrative learn something or grow in some way? How? What does this person learn?
- How does the passage point forward to what God is going to do in the future? Does it prophesy or anticipate Jesus Christ in some way?
- How could you sum up the meaning of this passage in your own words?

#### **Application**

- How does this passage challenge your understanding about who God is and what he is like?
- Is there some attitude or behavior you need to change?

\*The COMA study method and questions are produced by Matthias Media and Holy Trinity Church. They have been taken from ***One-to-One Bible Reading*** by David Helm. For more one-to-one Bible reading resources, or to purchase the book, please visit [www.matthiasmedia.com](http://www.matthiasmedia.com).