

WALKING IN WISDOM (Colossians 4:5) Number #4

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All Scripture quotations from the Editor are from the New King James Version

(Bible Resources may be found on: www.johntpolkll.com)

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**Till I Come, Give Attention To Reading" 1 Timothy 4:13**

### INTRODUCTION:

1. A couple of weeks ago, the number of electronic books (Kindle, Nook, etc.) exceeded the sales numbers of printed books. **Text**-"till I come" means "while you wait."
2. That people are reading is good – that most of the book sales are among adults is not good!
3. **Romans 10:13-15** For "whoever **calls** on the name of the LORD shall be saved.' How then shall they **call on Him** in whom they have **not believed**? And how shall they **believe in Him** of whom they have not **heard**? And how shall **they hear without a preacher**? And how shall **they preach** unless **they are sent**?"

**THOUGHT: How shall anyone read the Bible without first learning to read?**

4. **Revelation 1:3** (Read, Heed, Need) cf **Deuteronomy 4:5-8**

### DISCUSSION:

**A. Read** (Greek *Anaginosko* – recognize, know accurately, read)

1. **Jesus chided the Jews** for their obvious lack of exposure to the Scriptures (parallel to "dark ages?"):
  - a. **Matthew 12:3-4, 5**-about David and priests' exemptions
  - b. **Matthew 19:4-5**-about creation of marriage
  - c. **Matthew 21:15-16**-about people's excitement over Him
  - d. **Matthew 21:42-44**-about rejection of Jesus
  - e. **Matthew 22:31-32**-about life after death
  - f. **Matthew 24:15-16**-about Jerusalem's destruction
  - g. **John 19:19-22**-Pilate's misrepresentation over the cross was for all the Jews to read

## 2. Reading Scriptures is "lifeblood" of salvation:

- a. **Acts 8:28-32**-Need Gospel for guidance
- b. **Ephesians 3:1-7** cf **v.4**-Read words of revelation
- c. **2 Corinthians 1:13**-Scriptures written to be read
- d. **2 Corinthians 3:1-3**-Christians are epistles, also
- e. **Colossians 4:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:27**-Christians should cause Scripture to be read by others

### B. Heed (Understand what is being said!)

1. **Nehemiah 8:6, 8** "So they **read distinctly** from the book, in the Law of God; and they **gave the sense**, and **helped them to understand** the reading."
2. **Acts 8:28-30** "And sitting in his chariot, **he was reading Isaiah the prophet**. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go near and overtake this chariot.' So Philip ran to him, and **heard him reading** the prophet Isaiah, and said, '**Do you understand what you are reading?**'"

### 3. 1 Timothy 4:13

### C. Need (Don't walk away empty-headed!)

1. "give attention" = "keep on putting your mind upon"
2. "the reading" = focusing on the letters/words  
**Acts 13:15**

3. "to exhortation," "to doctrine" follow "the reading"

### CONCLUSION:

1. What else is it unimportant to read and understand: traffic signs? Prescriptions? Textbooks?
2. "He that has ears to hear, let him hear what the Spirit says" has application as if He said, "he that has eyes to read, let him read:" **Mark 16:16.**

-----John T. Polk II

**Salted Speech Colossians 4:6**

~We admire the truth if it harmonizes with our opinions and desires.

~The greatest compliment you can pay truth is to accept and apply it.

~Truth never dies but it can be paralyzed by indifference to it.

**~If you think nobody cares if you're alive,  
try missing a couple of payments.**

## CREATION SHOUTS

Pay attention and you shall see  
Evidence abounds for you and me  
Just go outside and look around  
With every smell and sight and sound  
In the sky and in the sod  
**Creation shouts, "There is a God."**

See the trees with new-formed leaves  
Observe the pollen-spreading bees  
Marvel at the sleeping bear  
Holed up all winter without a care  
Take more than a passing glance  
**Creation says, "It wasn't by chance."**

Muse at the birds with soaring wing  
As they tweet cheerful notes and sing  
View the fish breathing under water  
Or the playful actions of the otter  
Ask the ant, the plant, or the pine  
**They will tell, "It's God's design."**

For since the creation of the world  
God's attributes have been unfurled  
He can be understood, in part  
By the things we see with eyes and heart  
In His Word God accuses  
**That deniers have no excuses.\***

So go outside and look around  
Soak in every sight and sound  
In the caves and in the sea  
On the plains and in forests free  
In this place and all abroad  
**Creation shouts, "There is a God!"**

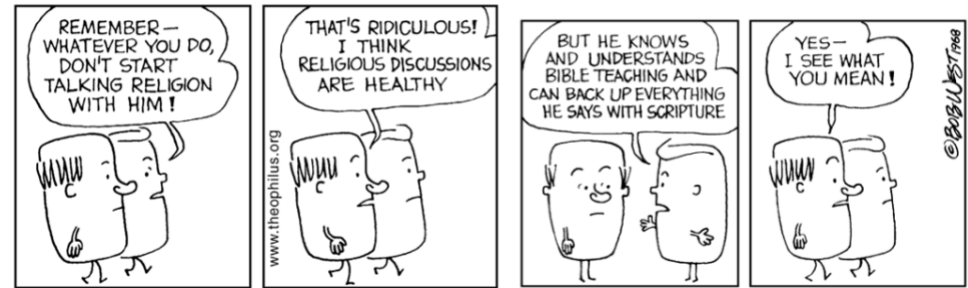
~~~~~Edd Sterchi

<http://www.broadwaychurchofchrist.net/>

* **Romans 1:20**

THEOPHILUS

A Word of Caution



Parables from Nature

"I will open my mouth in parables, I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world." Matthew 13:35

| PARABLE | MATTHEW | MARK | LUKE | JOHN |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|------------|
| → The Sower and the Seeds | 13:3-9 | Mark 4:3-9 | Luke 8:5-8 | |
| → The Grain of Wheat | | | | John 12:24 |
| → The Tares | Matt. 13:24-30 | | | |
| → The Net | Matt. 13:47-50 | | | |
| → The Patient Husbandman | | Mark 4:26-29 | | |
| → The Mustard Seed | Matt. 13:31 | Mark 4:30-32 | Luke 13:18 | |
| → The Leaven | Matt. 13:33 | | Luke 13:20 | |
| → The Budding Fig Tree | Matt. 24:32 | Mark 13:28 | Luke 21:19-31 | |
| → The Barren Fig Tree | | | Luke 13:6-9 | |
| → The Birds of Heaven | Matt. 6:26 | | Luke 12:24 | |
| → The Lillies of the Field | Matt. 6:28-30 | | | |
| → The Vultures & the Carcass | Matt. 24:28 | | Luke 13:37 | |
| → The Tree & its Fruits | Matt. 7:16 | | Luke 6:43-49 | |
| → The Weather Signs | Matthew 26:2 | Mark 8:11-13 | Luke 12:54-56 | |

