



# We Can Understand the Bible Alike

Foundational Doctrines

## Understanding the Bible

- **Our ability to understand God's word is a "given."**
  - Israel was taught God's law to understand – Neb. 8:2-3, 8
  - We understand by reading – Eph. 3:2-4
  - God commands us to understand – Eph. 5:15-17
- **That we can understand implies we understand it alike.**
  - If communication is possible, a common understanding is possible.
  - If communication is possible, a common understand of God's word is possible – Eph. 3:6; Mt. 16:4-12

# Revelation's Purpose Demands Common Understanding

- Revelation is so we can know the truth – 1 Cor. 2:7-13
  - The apostles preach what was given them so all could “know the things freely given to us by God”
  - That we can know the truth means we can know the same things – 1 Tim. 4:1-5
- God’s word is to reprove and correct – 2 Tim. 3:16-17
  - This is not possible without a common understanding of God’s word
  - Christians did correct others concerning doctrine – Acts 18:24-26

# What is Needed for Common Understanding?

- Honest and good hearts – Lk. 8:15
- Proper attitudes toward the Scriptures and its authority – 1 Cor. 4:6
- Diligence in their efforts to find the truth – 2 Tim. 2:15; Acts 17:11; 2 Pet. 3:16
- Willingness to accept all that God's word says on a subject – Psa. 119:160; Mt. 7:7; Jas. 1:6; 1 Jn. 5:14
- Willingness to reject any interpretation of scripture that contradicts the plain teaching of other scripture – Mt. 4:5-7