

F. Divine Revelation is relevant.

1. A _____—a revealing Book (Ja. 1:23)
2. A _____—a life-giving Book (I Pe. 1:23)
3. A _____—an illuminating Book (Psa. 119:105, 130; Prov. 6:23; II Pe. 1:19)
4. A _____—a convicting Book (Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12)
5. A _____—a destructive Book (Jer. 23:29)
6. A _____—a prospering Book (Prov. 3:18; 4:7–9; Josh. 1:8)
7. _____—a cleansing Book (John 15:3; Eph. 5:25–27; Psa. 119:9–11)
8. _____—a nourishing and sustaining Book (I Pe. 2:2; I Cor. 3:1, 2; Heb. 5:12–14; Psa. 19:10; 34:8; 119:103; Amos 8:11; Matt. 4:4)

Discipleship Course

Understanding the Scriptures

The Revelation of God to Man

After the fall of man, mankind experienced a great separation from God. The Bible says, *“there is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God”* (Rom. 3:11). When Jesus came into the world, the Bible says, *“And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not”* (John 1:5). Sin had brought such a darkness upon man that they could not understand Who God is or His will for them. God was not willing to leave us in darkness but decided to bring light to us in a variety of ways, but ultimately through His Word. This lesson is about the doctrine of Revelation, specifically examining the different ways God has revealed Himself to mankind.

Revelation—*“the divine act of communicating to man what otherwise man would not know.”*

- I. _____ (Psa. 19:1–6; Rom. 1:19–23)
- II. _____ (Deut. 30:1–10; Rom. 8:28)
- III. _____ (Col. 1:16–17; Acts 17:28; Matt. 6:31–33)

“In the Old Testament the title *Almighty God* (‘El Shaddai’) conveys the truth that God sustains His people. The term indicates more than that God is a God of strength. That He is; but the title includes the impartation of His strength as a child draws succor

from the mother's breast. The word *shad* as combined in 'El Shaddai,' means *breast*, and supports the conception of a mother's nourishment imparted to her child."—Chafers Systematic Theology

IV. _____ (Matt. 11:3–6)

- Miracles disclose the divine power of God and His ability to operate independently of natural laws that limit man. It is important to understand the miracles of the early church, since the misunderstanding of them have led to many modern heresies.
- A. The Lord performed supernatural acts of power to cause men to fear Him and trust His ability to protect, preserve and punish evil (Israel's journey in the wilderness).
- B. Jesus did miracles to confirm His Messiahship in fulfillment of Scripture (Mal. 4:1–2; Matt. 4:23; John 10:38; 20:30–31).
- C. The apostles did miracles fulfilling Scripture prophecy to confirm the authority of the message they were preaching (Mark 16:15–20; Acts 2:42; II Cor. 12:12).
- D. Miracles do not build faith in the Gospel. We must believe by faith the complete revelation of God as given in the authoritative Scriptures (Luke 16:29–31; Rom. 10:17).

V. _____ Communication (Num. 12:8; Deut. 34:10)

- God revealed His words to men directly, convincing them of the divine origin of the truth and emboldening them to tell others what was revealed. Many claim God has spoken to them, but they would be like the false prophets that the Lord said, "*prophecy out of their own hearts.*" (Ezek. 13:2–17).

VI. _____ (John 1:1–2, 14, 18; I Cor. 1:24; Heb. 1:1–2)

VII. _____—the Bible is a specific and essential feature of all divine revelation.

- A. Divine revelation is _____ (Deut. 29:29).
- B. Divine revelation is _____ on the facts revealed (Col. 2:9–10; Rom. 8:29; I John 3:2).
- C. Divine revelation is _____ (Mark 4:28).
- D. Divine revelation is primarily for the purpose of _____ (II Tim. 3:15; I John 5:9–12).
- E. Divine revelation is _____ (Jude 1:3).