

Out of God's
many gifts to us,
what:

- ▶ Reveals truth about Himself.
- ▶ Reveals His desires and intent for us.
- ▶ Expresses His love for us.
- ▶ Reveals our destiny.
- ▶ Exposes evil.
- ▶ Gives us hope and comfort.
- ▶ Is the source of wisdom, understanding and discernment.
- ▶ Teaches history (“His Story”).

- ▶ Is our compass and a guiding light.
- ▶ A source of purpose, peace and healing.
- ▶ Able to transform our lives, our culture and the world.

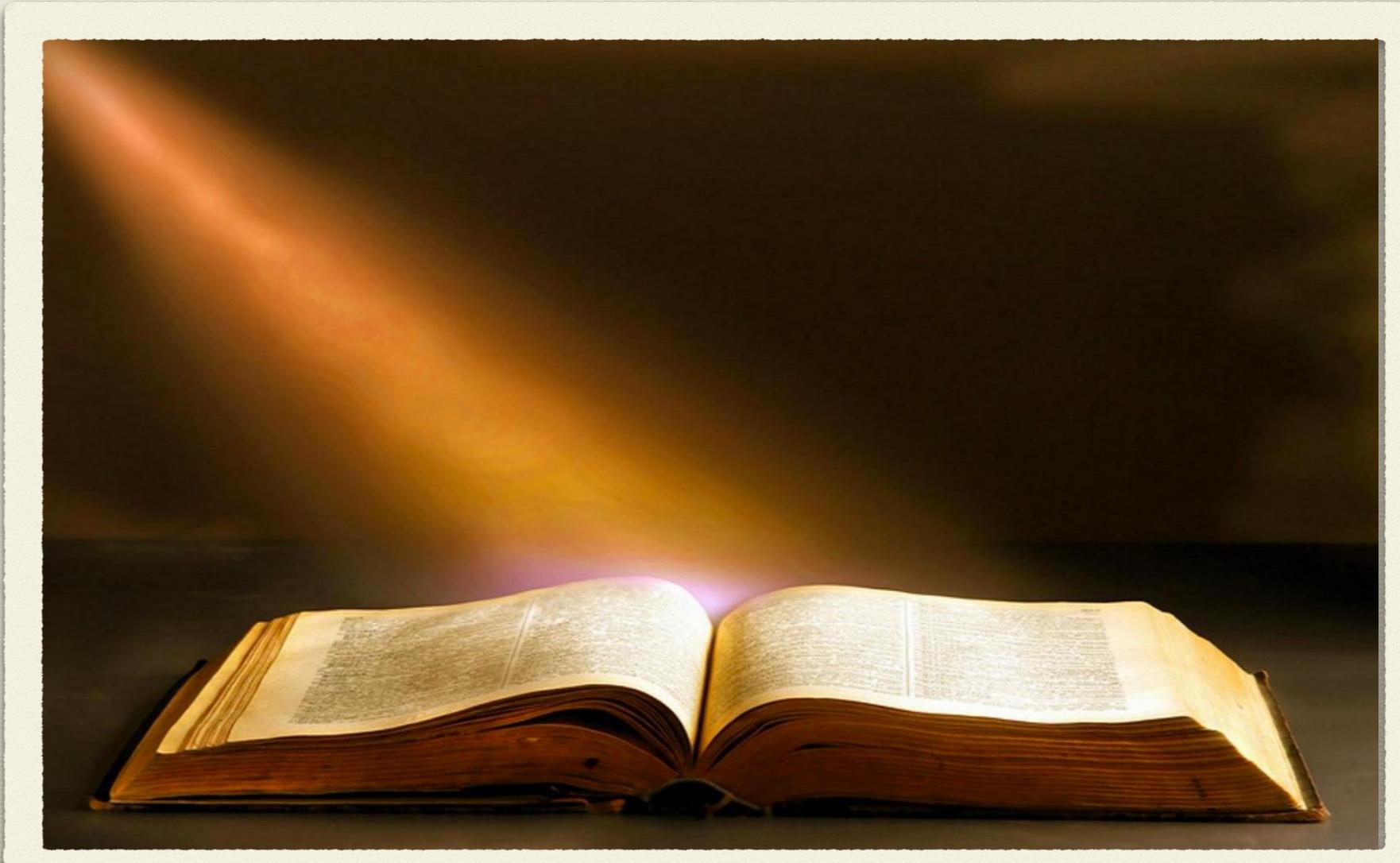
What is the only
thing Jesus used
to appose the
temptations of
the devil?



**What is the ONLY offensive
weapon found in the Armor
of God?**



► What has miraculously endured throughout history despite multiple attempts to destroy it?



- In 64 A.D., Emperor Nero tried to wipe out the Bible and anyone who professed Christ. he blamed them for burning Rome which he did himself. There are about 7 million graves in 900 miles of graves beneath the streets of Rome.
- In 200AD, the Jews were persecuted under Antiochus Epiphanies and the Pentateuch was torn up and burned. “...anyone found possessing the book of the covenant was condemned to death by the decree of the King.”
- In A.D. 303, the Roman Emperor Diocletian issued an edict to destroy Christians and their Bible. What followed was brutal.
- In 1700, the French humanist, Voltaire proclaimed, “one hundred years from now the world will hear no more of the Bible.” Fifty years after his death, Bibles were printed by the Geneva Bible Society in the very house where he lived and on his own printing press!
- In 1866, Pope Pius IX said: “Socialism, Communism, clandestine societies, Bible societies... pests of this sort must be destroyed by all means.”
- During the 19th century, the government of Korea outlawed the Bible and tried to keep it out of the land.
- The former Soviet Union tried to outlaw the Bible and now the Word is flourishing there.

- **The Bible has been translated into over 1,400 languages. No other book comes close.**
- **When the printing press was invented in 1450, the first book ever printed was the Bible.**
- **The discovery of the Dead Seal Scrolls in 1947 (written by the Essenes about 200 B.C.) confirmed the reliability of the Bible as it was passed down through the ages with only a variation of only 2% from the oldest texts we had of the Bible from around 800 A.D.**

- ✓ The Bible was written over 1600 years
- ✓ By more than 40 inspired authors
- ✓ On three different continents
- ✓ In three different languages
- ✓ From all backgrounds of life (fisherman, kings, generals, peasants, philosophers, shepherds, politicians, historians, etc.)
- ✓ Who wrote in dungeons, temples, on beaches and hillsides, during peace and during war.

- ✓ It is the subject matter of hundreds of controversial subjects
- ✓ It gives a tremendous amounts of details, history, geography, dates, names, places etc. which makes it very easy to disprove if it were inaccurate.
- ✓ Yet, none of it has ever been disproven.
- ✓ It is consistent internally (does not contradict itself) AND externally (does not contradict archeology).

- It has been read by more people than any other book.
- It has been published in more languages than any other book.
- There have been more copies produced in part or in its entirety than any other book.

All of this is evidence that God's Love Letter, lovingly and miraculously assembled by Him, through selected inspired writers, was meant to endure throughout all generations.

So now what?

- ▶ **Do something (spend the first 15 minutes of each day)**
- ▶ **Start somewhere (pick a distraction free place to pray and read)**

- ▶ **Start with the book of John by reading a chapter a day.**
- ▶ **Consider a chapter in Proverbs daily (there are 31 chapters, so one for each day of the month).**
- ▶ **Pick up a “read the Bible in a year” program. While reading:**
 - * **Learn to use a concordance or means to cross reference what you are reading.**
 - * **Take notes**
 - * **Make it personal (what is God saying to YOU?)**