



SESSION #2 ~ FINDING ANSWERS IN THE BIBLE

Well, of course, we can answer some of your questions here, but it is your responsibility as a Christian to study the Word of God on your own. Here are some suggestions:

Translations: The Bible was written in Hebrew and Greek, so we need translations into our language. Since the Bible is verbally inspired, translations ought to give the exact meaning of the original words. Unfortunately some modern "translations" are too loose, emphasizing eloquent expression instead of original meaning. Other translations come from one man or one denomination, so their views may influence their work. Seek a translation made by many men from different groups, who believe in verbal inspiration and who emphasize the meaning of the original words (the introduction usually describes the translators and their philosophy).

For a primary study Bible, I suggest the King James Version, New King James Version, or New American Standard Version. Others may be useful for comparison, but not for a main study Bible. Comparing several translations may help clarify the text.

Cross references: Some Bibles have footnotes on each verse that refer to other similar verses. From those verses you might find still others, etc. This is useful for "studying other verses on the subject."

Concordance: A concordance lists words in the Bible alphabetically and gives passages where each word is used. Some concordances are brief; others are more complete. Uses of a concordance include: (1) finding many passages about a subject; (2) finding a particular verse if you know one or two words in it; (3) determining the meaning of a word by studying verses where it is used.

Suggested procedure for studying a Bible subject

1. Select the topic or question.
2. Jot down everything you think you already know about the topic.
3. List the important words related to the topic. You will use these to find pertinent passages in the concordance.
4. Compare similar passages. Use a concordance, cross references, etc.
5. Study each passage. Ask questions, draw conclusions, make applications, think of illustrations.

Awake My Soul, An Offering Bring

Words: Brian L. Penney, 2009.

Music: 'Melismata 22' Thomas Ravenscroft, 1611 (#22 from "Melismata"). Setting: Brian L. Penney, 2009.
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♩ = 120

1. A - - wake my soul, an off' - ring bring to Je - - sus
2. In awe we stand up - on this ground, His wis - - dom
3. Then to this world, be - hold what grace! He comes to
4. A - - wake my soul, a - rise and sing, e - - ter - - nal

our ex - - alt - ed King; Sing to Him Who reigns a - - bove in -
and His pow'r a - - stound; All His won - ders we be - hold, in
res - cue A - - dam's race; Our Re - deem - er, our High Priest, from
praise to Christ our King; In His Church, His Name con - fessed, we

car - - nate fount of grace and love; Sing to Him Who
heav'n and earth His stor - y's told; All His won - ders
sin and death He brings re - - lease; Our Re - deem - er,
wor - - ship Him a - - mong the blessed; In His Church, His

reigns a - - bove in - - car - nate fount of grace and love.
we be - - hold, in heav'n and earth His stor - y's told.
our High Priest, from sin and death He brings re - - lease.
Name con - fessed, we wor - ship Him a - - mong the blessed.

