

# Preface

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Our goal is to teach you to read the Bible for yourself. You are certainly capable of reading and understanding this great book, but if you are like most people you are occasionally:

- frustrated
- confused
- bored
- overwhelmed by the task.

We assume that, since you are attending this course, you want help in furthering your understanding of the Bible while avoiding the many roadblocks that hinder progress. We think we can provide you with keys and tips in doing so.

The aims of the course are to help you:

1. become more familiar with the Bible;
2. be able to read and understand the Bible independently;
3. evaluate the claims for the Bible's inspiration.

In addition to these course notes, you will also need *The Bible Readers' Handbook* which contains many useful charts, maps and other tools to help in your Bible reading.

We are committed to helping you to discover the Bible message for yourself, and to be able to evaluate it for yourself. No knowledge of the Bible is assumed—we will start from the very beginning.

We hope this course will meet your needs. It is suitable for people of all religions—you don't have to be a Christian. The only requirement is a desire to learn more about the Bible for yourself.

Rob Hyndman  
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