

## What's Your Sign?

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- John 5:39,40
  - The Jewish religious leaders studied the Old Testament with great diligence—they believed that if one could comprehend *the words of the text*, they would gain a share in the world to come.
  - Similarly many people today think Bible study is an *end in itself* rather than a *function leading to The Destination*.
  - How do you read Scripture (and other books)?

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  - Mistakes in reading: Reading with the mind only.
    - Reading with an open mind but a shut heart – not allowing the Spirit to guide us into the Truth (1Cor.2:12,13; Ep.1:18)
    - Reading not to hear from God but to find arguments and conformations to support our own beliefs. (unlearning??)
  - An even bigger mistake: Regarding God as having only given us a *written revelation*.
    - *The Revelation* of God is a revelation *in* history.
    - It is not God *speaking*, but God *acting*.
    - The Bible itself is not His complete revelation; it is *the record* of His revelation.

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- John 5:39,40
  - v. 40:
    - There is only one proper way to read the Bible – to read it as all pointing to Jesus.
    - Then many of the things which puzzle us, and sometimes distress us, are clearly seen as stages along the way, a pointing forward to Jesus, *Who is The Revelation*.
    - The Jews worshipped a *God who wrote* rather than a *God who acted* and therefore when Christ came they did not recognize Him.
    - The function of the scriptures is not to give life, but to point to the Person Who can, Jesus.