

1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2He was with God in the beginning.
3Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4In him was life, and that life was the light of men. 5The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.
6There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. 7He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. 8He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. 9The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.
10He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.
14The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

15John testified concerning him: "I have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."
16From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. 17For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made himself known.
19Now this was John's testimony when the Jews of Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him, "Are you the Christ?"
20He replied, "I am not." "Are you Elijah?"
21He answered, "No."
22Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer so that we may believe." John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness."
23John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness."
24Now some Pharisees who had been sent questioned him, "Why then do you baptize with water?"

Bible Study



Taking a Deeper Look

What is the Proper View?

Bible
Study



AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY'S STATE OF THE BIBLE 2014

POWERED BY BARNA GROUP

What do Americans believe about the Bible? What role does it play in their lives? On behalf of American Bible Society, the Barna Group studied the beliefs and behaviors of U.S. adults. Here are the findings.

PEOPLE ARE LESS LIKELY TO VIEW THE BIBLE AS SACRED.

2011=86%

2014=79%

BIBLE LOVERS AND SKEPTICS



19%
ENGAGED*

19%
SKEPTICS†

* Bible engaged are those who:
1. Follow the Bible as the actual or inspired Word of God with no factual errors;
or believe the Bible to be the inspired word of God with some factual errors; and
2. Read the Bible daily or at least four times per week.

† Bible skeptics are those who expressed the most negative or non-worship view of the Bible from five options, saying they believe the Bible is just another book of teachings written by men, containing stories and advice.

BIBLE OWNERSHIP REMAINS STRONG,
BUT READERSHIP REMAINS WEAK.



88%
of households own
a Bible.



4.7
Average number of Bibles
per household



37%
of Americans read
it once a week or more.

MILLENNIALS* ARE LEADING THE SHIFT TOWARD SKEPTICISM

*Ages 18-29

WHILE 50% OF ALL ADULTS
BELIEVE THE BIBLE HAS TOO
LITTLE INFLUENCE IN SOCIETY,
ONLY 30% OF MILLENNIALS*
BELIEVE THIS. *Ages 18-29

19% OF MILLENNIALS BELIEVE
NO LITERATURE IS SACRED

13% OF ALL ADULTS BELIEVE
NO LITERATURE IS SACRED

“THE BIBLE CONTAINS EVERYTHING
A PERSON NEEDS TO KNOW TO LIVE
A MEANINGFUL LIFE.”

35% OF MILLENNIALS
AGREE

50% OF ALL ADULTS
AGREE

NON-READERS

39% OF MILLENNIALS
NEVER READ THE BIBLE

26% OF ALL AMERICAN ADULTS
NEVER READ THE BIBLE

METHODOLOGY

State of the Bible, 2014: 1,012 telephone interviews from Jan. 9-Jan. 20, 2014 (including interviews via cell phone) and 1,524 were surveyed online from Jan. 25-Feb. 5, 2014.
Commissioned by the American Bible Society | AmericanBible.org
Roughly equal number of interviews were conducted online and by telephone (including cell phone interviews).
Conducted by Barna Group | barna.org

Percentages reflect U.S. adults, unless noted.



AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY
Barna Group

Why Study this Book?

It is the source of:

- A. Stability in the Storms**
- B. Foundation of Faith**
- C. Defense against the Devil**
- D. Converting others to Christ**



How Can we Take a deeper Look?

- A. Make it a part of your daily life**
- B. Include it in your daily activities**
- C. Ask questions**
- D. Use new technology**

