

Mid-Week Meditation
June 24, 2020
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Two people read the same Bible.
One sees reasons to love, the other sees reasons to hate.
One sees unity, the other division.
One finds prejudice, the other equality.
One discovers compassion, the other indifference.
One goodwill, the other malice.
Two people, one book.
One Book. Two views.
The book is a mirror.
The reflection is you.

N.W.

I don't know who N.W. is, but they/she/he made me think.

I have taken part in hundreds of discussions of Biblical passages over my lifetime.

Sometimes the differences in opinion are clear, sometimes they are subtle, even fuzzy.
Sometimes, two people can end up with three opinions!

The Bible is the source of all manner of things: instruction, comfort, challenge, exhortation, inspiration, division, confusion and more.

Every time we come to the Bible, it is new.

Even passages we know well and have read often are new – because we are new, every time we open the book.

We are not the same people we were the last time we turned those pages. We are bringing new and different experiences, thoughts, and knowledge every time.

One of the saddest things I have ever heard was at a funeral I attended. One of the family members of the woman said: *"Mum was fond of saying, there is nothing about the Bible you can tell me, that I don't already know."*

That is unfortunate, even tragic. One of the principles of Reformation theology is that we believe the Holy Spirit is constantly re-forming us, revealing new insights, and giving us new understanding, every time we come to Scripture.

If you think you know the Bible – you don't.

But that's okay, because the Spirit is still with us, and tomorrow is a brand-new day.