

Some Fun Quotations about the Bible from Martin Luther

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These are the Scriptures which make fools of all the wise and understanding, and are open only to the small and simple, as Christ says in Matthew 11:25. Therefore dismiss your own opinions and feelings, and think of the scriptures as the loftiest and noblest of holy things, as the richest of mines which can never be sufficiently explored, in order that you may find divine wisdom which God here lays before you in such simple guise as to quench all pride. Here you will find the swaddling clothes and the manger in which Christ lies.

-- Luther, *Luther's Works*, vol. 35: *Prefaces to the Old Testament*, 236.

It is for Christ's sake that we believe in the Scriptures, but it is not for the Scriptures' sake that we believe in Christ. -- Martin Luther (1483-1546)

The church is not a pen-house but a mouth-house.

Luther's Works, Companion Volume, p. 63.

The Christian reader should make it his first task to seek out the literal sense, as they call it. For it alone holds its ground in trouble and trial.

- Martin Luther, *Luther's Works*, vol.9, 24

The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me... A simple layman armed with Scripture is to be believed above a pope or a cardinal without it.

-- Martin Luther, quoted in "Martin Luther--The Early Years,"
Christian History, no. 34.

The Holy Scriptures require a humble reader who shows reverence and fear toward the Word of God, and constantly says,

'Teach me, teach me, teach me.... The Spirit resists the proud.'

- Martin Luther, *Luther's Works*, vol.54, 379; *Table Talk*, 5017



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