

“BIBLICAL AND HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES ON THE
NEED FOR THE BIBLICAL LANGUAGES”

Jason S. DeRouchie, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Old Testament
Bethlehem College and Seminary
jason.derouchie@bcsmn.org

Ezra 7:9c–10 – “The good hand of his God was on him, for Ezra set his heart to study and to practice the Torah of Yahweh and to teach both statute and rule in Israel.”

The Uniqueness and Importance of God’s Book

1. Using the biblical languages exalts Jesus and affirms God’s wisdom in giving us his Word in a book.

The Priority of Studying God’s Book

2. Using the biblical languages enables us to observe more accurately and thoroughly, understand more clearly, evaluate more fairly, and interpret more confidently the inspired details of the biblical text.
3. Using the biblical languages allows us to use more efficiently and evaluate more fairly the best secondary tools for biblical interpretation.

The Necessity of Practicing God’s Book

4. Using the biblical languages fosters a depth of character, commitment, conviction, and satisfaction in life and ministry that results in a validated witness in the world.

The Responsibility of Teaching God’s Book

5. Using the biblical languages provides a warranted boldness, a sustained freshness, and a more articulated, sure, and helpful witness to the Truth in preaching and teaching.
6. Using the biblical languages equips us to defend the Gospel and to hold others accountable more confidently.

The Goal of a Bible-Saturated Life and Ministry

7. Using the biblical languages helps preserve the purity of the Gospel and a joyful glorifying of God by his Church into the next generation.