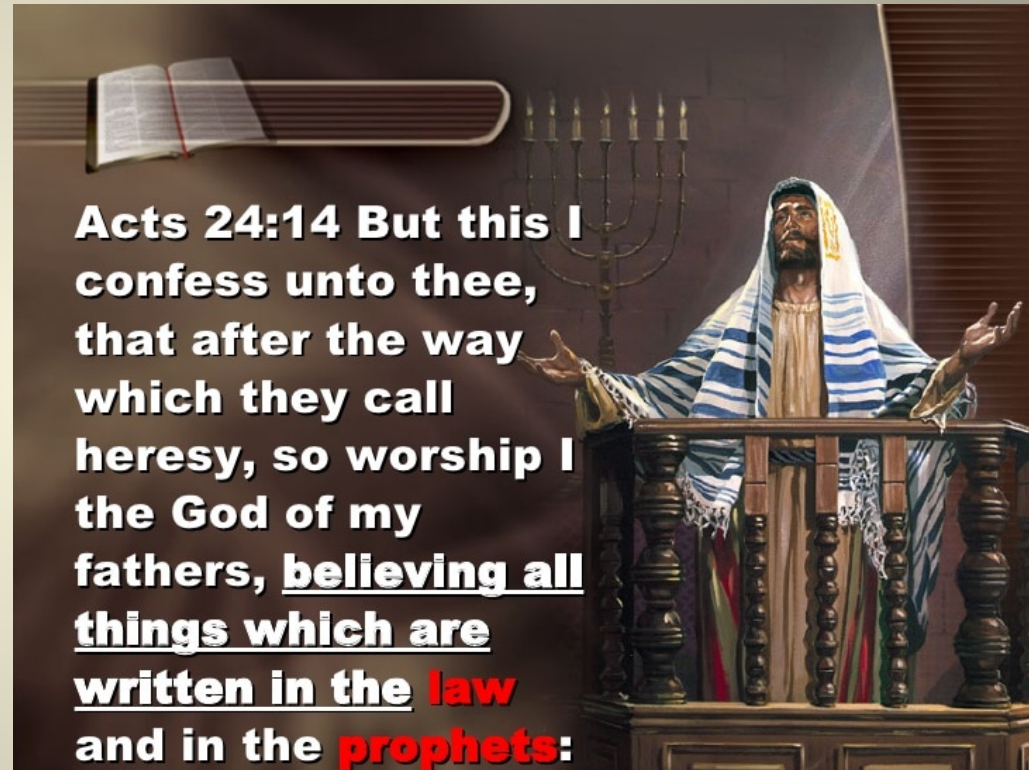
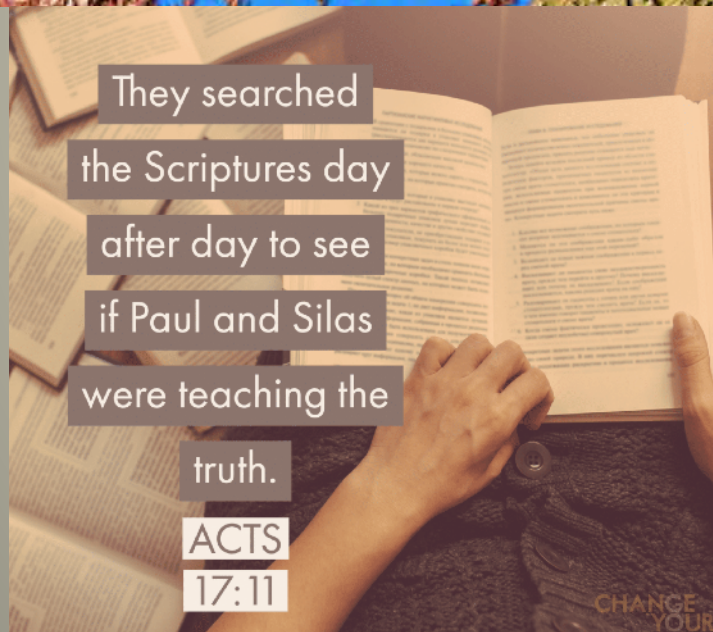


Searching the Scriptures



SHA'UL OF TARSUS

Where To Begin

“Only when people have learned to take the Old Testament really seriously can they be entrusted with the story of Jesus. The church has reversed that argument and turned Christian faith into a faith that is itself truncated.”

“The Old Testament is more interested in creation, in the world of the nations and politics; it is more accepting of death and of the ambiguities of human life; it lacks a ‘positive’ picture of life after death or a stress on the Messiah; it understands human sinfulness differently; it stresses reverence for God; it sees us as free to complain at God and to express doubt; it emphasizes enjoyment of everyday family life and food and drink; it values sacramental worship; and it enjoins detailed outward obedience to divine commands.

My attitude to such differences is to see them not as points where the New Testament surpasses the Old, but as points where Christians are especially likely to have something to learn.”

John Goldingay