

## Finding Clarity in the Scriptures by Using Varying Study Techniques

The scriptures can become more meaningful to you if you study them using the following techniques:

1. **The Microscopic View:** Slow and intense study of separate verses or chapters helps one to see principles in depth.
2. **The Overview:** Reading or reviewing large bodies of scriptures helps one to recognize connections and helps in seeing the overall picture.
3. **The Layered View:** Looking for more than one level of meaning in the scriptures. To help understand this view, compare Matthew 24 and JST—Matthew 24. Note that the Prophet Joseph Smith divided Christ's prophecy into two portions: the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. and the destructions at His return. In the Biblical Matthew, they are intertwined, because the first is a pattern for the other. The layered view is very common in scripture.
4. **The Telescopic View:** Some prophets, particularly prophets like Isaiah, wrote about the future. But they often shifted their focus back and forth to different future events such as (1) the exile and return of the Israelites; (2) Christ's first coming; (3) the apostasy; (4) the Restoration and return of Israel; (5) Christ's Second Coming.

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## Jesus Christ Did Not Minimize the Sabbath, He Maximized It!

1. Some people believe that Jesus was a Sabbath breaker; others believe that he minimized the Sabbath, yet others believe that he fulfilled it.
2. Some people still believe the Sabbath should be observed on the seventh day.
3. Christ actually maximized the Sabbath, by changing the day from the seventh day to the first day of the week, *to honor His resurrection!* Thus it magnifies its significance.
4. According to Elder Orson F. Whitney and early Christian writers, the seventh day still teaches of the millennium and Earth's seventh period of rest (*Saturday Night Thoughts*, Deseret News, May, 1921, pp. 9-10).
5. The new Sabbath, on the first day of the week, teaches of that period after the Millennium, when the faithful will be resurrected and enter into Christ's kingdom of glory (Elder Orson F. Whitney, Op. Cit; several early Christian writings).