

**THE BIBLE  
WAS NOT  
WRITTEN  
TO YOU**

Deuteronomy 5:3



# THE AUDIENCE & THE SUBJECT

- The Bible is rarely written to the people it is about.
- Sometimes, the text makes this clear (Gen. 2:24; Rom. 4:23-24).
- Other times it takes more work to shift from subject to audience (1 & 2 Chron.)
- This can cause major shifts in our understanding of a text (Jonah).
- Sometimes the shift is more subtle, but still important (Matt. 8:5-13).



# THE AUDIENCE & ME

- There are places where it is very easy to see that I am not the original audience (2 Tim. 4:13).
- Other times, people insert themselves too quickly (Jer. 1:5).
- We have to start by learning what we can about the original audience (Jer. 29:11).
- Sometimes the audience isn't completely clear (Hebrews).
- If we skip this step entirely, we may not even know what words mean (Jn. 3:16).

