

# Scott's Thoughts

April 13, 2025



*“They said to him, ‘Then say Shibboleth,’ and he said, ‘Sibboleth,’ for he could not pronounce it correctly. Then they seized him and slaughtered him at the fords of the Jordan. At that time, 42,000 of the Ephraimites fell.” (Judges 12:6, ESV)*

*Passwords. What is the password? Do you often forget them? Do you find yourself changing them and forgetting to write them down? Personally, I’ve always disliked passwords. While I appreciate the need for securing my information, passwords have become a source of frustration.*

*When we first bought our house, one of the first tasks was to change all the door locks. Each door initially had a separate key, so we opted for locks that shared the same key. This offered security while eliminating the hassle of juggling multiple keys. One key, it’s simple and efficient.*

*I have several computers, each requiring either a password or a fingerprint reader. I love fingerprint readers because they simplify my life—no need to remember anything. When I first started using passwords, things were easy. A combination of letters and numbers was sufficient, and I could use the same password for everything. Then, as security measures grew stricter, everything changed. Now, computers not only require system passwords but individual passwords for various programs, each with specific rules for creation. It can feel overwhelming, as though I need another computer just to keep track of my passwords.*

*Our lives are full of identity checks beyond passwords. At the grocery store, we punch in codes to pay with credit cards. At the airport, simple tickets are no longer enough—now we need a Real ID for access to a plane. Remember the days when flights were so much simpler? But the actions of evil individuals have led to innocent people facing extra costs and time for basic tasks. Take, for example, a recent experience I had while traveling in Florida. After stopping for gas, the card reader rejected my credit card repeatedly. Thankfully, I had enough cash in my wallet to cover the cost. It turns out that the card reader was defective. Instances like this make me question how secure our electronic security systems and bank accounts truly are.*

*When the trumpet sounds and the dead rises, will we need a password then? Thankfully, the answer is no! Jesus will be there, and if there’s ever a question about our eligibility to enter heaven, He will grant us entry because He knows us fully—everything about us. Jesus is my trust and security.*

*“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 7:21, ESV)*

*“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber.” (John 10:1, ESV)*

Thanks for listening and keep on shining

—Scott