

What's So Important about the Bible?

Here's what we know, somewhere inside of us, from the time we are children:

There is a God.

And then, as we grow older, we realize:

I know there's a gulf between me and Him.

So, here's the question we have to ask:

Has God Spoken?

This question opens up the door to all the other important questions:

- Are we here just by ourselves with no help at all?
- Is God watching and caring? Did He really start it all?
- And if so, has He spoken to us?
- Has He given us any clues as to Who He is and What He is like?
- Does He want us to speak to Him?
- Does He want to have a relationship with us?
- And if so, what does that look like?
- And if He has spoken, has He spoken clearly? Can we understand what He has spoken?
- If God has **not** spoken, then we're on our own, and we just have to do the best with what we receive in this life.
- But if God **has** spoken....if He **has** spoken....then run as fast as you can to get a copy of His Words. Sell all you have to get just a chance to read them.

We Believe God Has Spoken. And we believe the Bible is what He has spoken.

- **Dual Authorship** - God spoke through men. He used their personalities and experiences and used their very hands to write out His words, but those words are, word-for-word, His very words.-
- **Inspired** – God inspired men to write the words He wanted them to write. They were not their own thoughts. They are totally trustworthy to be directly from God. Therefore, they apply directly to our lives today, even though they may have been written 6,000 years ago.
And not only were the words inspired, but also the men who decided which books would make up the Bible were inspired, too. They were led by God to determine, in a logical and normal way, which letters and writings to include in the canon of the Bible, and which to exclude.
- **Sola Scriptura** – There is no other book like this one. There is no other authority which competes with this one. The Book of Mormon does not. The Koran does not. The assorted writings of the church fathers (those which are not included in the Bible) do not. There is no other word from God which would negate anything in the Bible. There are no other writings more authoritative. Absolutely none.

In “Seven Reasons You Can Trust the Bible”, by Erwin Lutzer, Pastor of Moody Church in Chicago, Pastor Lutzer gives the following reasons you can trust that the Bible is the very words of God:

1. The Bible claims to be God’s Word.
2. History Confirms the Bible’s Reliability.
3. Bible prophecies Prove its Truthfulness.
4. Jesus Himself affirmed the Bible’s Authority & Truth.
5. Science supports Biblical Creation.
6. God’s People, by His Providence, Recognized the Canon.
7. The Bible has Power to Change Lives.

Our favorite Bible passages on which we stake our faith:

“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.” **Hebrews 4:12&13**

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” II Timothy 3:16&17

“No prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”
2nd Peter 1:20&21

“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and honeycomb. Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.” Psalm 19:7-11

Therefore.....This is What We Do Because of What We Believe about the Bible:

Learn about it...

Preach it....

Teach it....not just stories....verse-by-verse, chapter-by-chapter....all ages

Read it....Every day

Live it....

Memorize it....oh, yes, you can

Speak it.....

A Little Test of Facts About the Bible

66

40

1500

1189

33,173

39

27

1

4,000

100

1455AD

6 Billion

2,000

Christ

Answer Key on back

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 66 | books in the Bible |
| 40 | authors |
| 1500 | years to write |
| 1189 | chapters |
| 33,173 | verses |
| 39 | Old Testament Books |
| 27 | New Testament Books |
| 1 | Bible author who was not Jewish |
| 4,000 | Time period covered by Old Testament |
| 100 | Time period covered by New Testament |
| 1455AD | Invention of Printing Press |
| 6 Billion | Copies of the Bible since then |
| 2,000 | Different languages the Bible is published in today |
| Christ | The theme of the whole Bible. |