

The Bible - The Word of God

Introduction

- 1. Recently, John MacArthur wrote, "From the very beginning, the battle between good and evil has been a battle for the truth."**

Genesis 3:1-5. Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, 'Has God indeed said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?' And the woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' **Then the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die.** For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.

- A. Satan succeeded in getting Eve to question the truthfulness of God's instruction.**
 - 1) This has been his tactic ever since: to cast doubt on God's straightforward revelation, to get people to question whether God's Word is clear enough to be certain about what it teaches.**
- 2. Can the Bible be understood? Can we be certain about what it teaches?**
 - A. These are very important questions!**

What Does the Bible Say?

1. Jesus preached the “Word of God.”

Luke 5:1 So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret,

2. The Apostles preached the “Word of the Lord.”

Acts 8:25 So when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel in many villages of the Samaritans.

3. The Holy Scriptures were taught to Timothy.

2 Timothy 3:14-16. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

4. The Bible claims to be the truth.

2 Timothy 2:15

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

5. The person of God and the Word of God are “tied together” --- interconnected.

A. For one to say that the Bible can't be understood is to deny God's ability to make it understandable. Even the things hard to understand, can be understood with effort.

2 Peter 3:16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

Can the Bible Be Understood by All?

- 1. It should be obvious to us that the Bible is clear enough for even a very simple person.**

Psalms 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, **making wise the simple**;

Psalms 119:130 The entrance of Your words gives light; It **gives understanding to the simple**.

- A. The Bible can be understood even by those without great intellectual ability.**

Robert Beymond writes:

“...one does not need to be “learned” when reading the gospels or hearing them read, to discover that they teach that Jesus was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed mighty miracles, died on the cross ‘as a ransom for many,’ and rose from the dead on the third day after death.”

Is the Bible Clear in All Essential Matters?

- 1. At this time, let us look at Christ’s response to the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection:**

Matthew 22:23-32

- A. They should have known!**

- 1) Notice that Jesus did not say – “I see how you may have not understood because the Scriptures are not very clear on this subject.”**

- B. Regardless to whom He’s speaking, the blame for misunderstanding any teaching of Scripture is never the Scriptures fault, but on the individuals themselves for their lack of understanding.**

Must There Be a Special Method Used to Interpret the Bible?

1. **The answer to this question is NO.**
 - A. **The Bible was written in the language of the common man, the man on the street.**
 - B. **The Holy Spirit used ordinary men (fishermen, shepherds, farmers) to communicate the message of God.**
 - 1) **We need to read it like other books – using regular methods to interpret in order to understand.**

Ephesians 3:3-4 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),

2. **The Holy Spirit plainly tells us, through the writing of Peter:**

2 Peter 1:19-21 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that 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.

Conclusion

1. **All men will be judged by the Word of God.**
John 12:48
2. **Claiming that the Bible is not clear enough to understand in no way relieves one of their responsibility.**
3. **The Bible is certainly a lamp to my feet and a light to my path!**

