



"The Word of God"

Psalms 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path.

Introduction

To walk safely in the woods at night we need a light so we don't trip over tree roots or fall into holes. In this life, **we walk through a dark forest of evil**. But the Bible can be our light to show us the way ahead so we won't stumble as we walk. **It reveals the entangling roots of false values and philosophies.** (false compromise, middle ground). Study the Bible so you will be able to see your way clear enough to stay on the right path.

The Bible -The Word Of God -
It is so important for a believer or follower of Christ to start right: therefore, the first lesson is designed to help **establish your faith** in the Bible, for it is the Word of God.

Keep in mind that:

- The Bible is not a book of philosophy, although it is philosophical.
- Do not go to the Bible for a scientific work. However, there is no discrepancy between ascertained facts of science and the Bible.
- The Bible is not a book of history, but is found to be accurate when recording history.

The Bible was given to man from God, revealing Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and God the Son, the only Saviour - ***John 14: 6 - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*** He is the centre and the circumference. It is Christ from Genesis to Revelation.

What you should know is that: the Bible is as high above all other books as the heavens are above the earth. Someone has said of the Bible:

- **Read it to be wise** - Wisdom is the quality of having good judgment based on knowledge.
- **Believe it to be safe:** God may not promise us safety, but He does promise us eternal protection.
- **Practice it to be right.** - 1 Corinthians 15:33 - Do not be deceived: "Bad company ruins good morals."

1. THE BIBLE CLAIMS TO BE THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD

2 Timothy 3: 16-17 - *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.*

All scripture is given by inspiration of God. -“Upon this statement of fact, evangelical Christianity stands. The Bible claims to be the inspired Word of God. By "inspiration" we mean that the Holy Spirit exerted His supernatural influence upon the writer of the Bible. The writings were inspired not necessarily the writers, for the Bible now here claims to have been written by inspired men.

The Holy Spirit is the author of the Bible. **2 Peter 1:21** - *for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*

Christ told His disciples that He would leave "many. things"unrevealed, and that the Holy Spirit would come and choose certain persons and through them reveal His perfect will unto man; and that the Holy Spirit would be the believer's teacher. **John 16:12-15** - *I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.*

2. THE BIBLE IS A DIFFICULT BOOK

1 Corinthians 2:14-16 - *But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For “who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.*

The Bible is a difficult book because it came from the Infinite to the finite - from the unlimited, all powerful God, to limited man. There cannot understand the Bible as you would understand the writings of Plato or Socrates. You can study the great philosophers with the natural mind, and by diligent application, grasp

their profound meanings. If the Bible could be understood by natural man, would be a natural book, and could not be the Word of God.

Since the Bible is from God, and therefore spiritual, before you can receive its teachings, you must be **born of the Spirit**; *John 3: 6 - That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit*; and be filled with the Spirit - *Ephesians 5:18 - And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit.*

Always approach the Bible praying that the Spirit will be your teacher and will guide you to a better understanding of His Word, or it will remain a difficult, closed book. *John 16:12-15 - "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.*

3 . THE BIBLE IS A BOOK OF ONENESS

The oneness or unity of the Bible is a miracle. It is a library of 66 books, written by over 35 different authors, in a period of approximately 1,500 years. Represented in the authors is a cross section of humanity, educated, including kings, fishermen, public officials, farmers, teachers and physicians. Included in the subjects are science, poetry, drama, biography and prophecy.
religion,

4 . THE BIBLE CLAIMS SPECIAL POWER

Hebrews 4:12 - 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.

"The Word of God 'is quick, and powerful..."

1. **The Bible claims dividing power** as a sword (above verse). The Bible will separate man from sin. Psalms 119:11 - Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.

2. **The Bible claims reflecting as a mirror** - **James 1:22-25** *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.*

In the Bible, we see ourselves as God "sees us-as sinners 22-25). **Rom. 3:23** - *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*

3. **The Bible claims cleansing power** as water. **Ephesians 5:26** - *that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,* David prayed that God would "wash him from iniquity" and "cleanse him from sin" - **Psalms 51: 2** - *Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And cleanse me from my sin.*

4. **The Bible claims reproductive power** as seed - **1 Peter 1:23** - *having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,*

We are children of God because we have been born into the family of God by the incorruptible seed of God. This is the new birth. **John 3:1-7** *There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."*

Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"

Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

5. **The Bible claims nourishing power** as food. **1 Peter 2:2** - *as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,*

The Bible is spiritual food for the soul. No Christian can remain strong in the Lord and not study the Word of God.