

The Bible is the Word of God.

Lesson for Sunday, May 12, 2019

INTRODUCTION:

- The Bible has always had its enemies. Ask: *What are the most serious enemies of the Bible in today's world?*
- The devil hates the Bible. Some people despise it; others just deny it; still others distort it and have warped, misused, and abused it.
- Adrian Rogers once said, "The greatest enemy of the Bible is the so-called Christian who simply ignores the Bible or disregards it."
- Today we begin a new series called, "The Bible Matters." Why is this so important? Why do I want you to be here every week of this series?
 - Your salvation depends on understanding the Gospel message **of the Bible.**
 - Your assurance depends on resting in the truth **of the Bible.**
 - Your spiritual growth depends on living by the principles **of the Bible.**
 - Your power in witness depends on the confidence you have **in the Bible.**
- The most important truth you must nail down is: **The Bible is the Word of God.**

BIBLE STUDY: **The Bible is shown to be the Word of God because of its...**

1. **Scientific** Accuracy
 - a. Usually the first attack on the Bible is that it is not scientifically accurate.
 - i. Ask: *What scientific attacks have you heard before?*
 - ii. The fallacy of this attack is that science is in a continual state of flux.
 - iii. ILL: In 1861, the French Academy of Science wrote a pamphlet stating there were 51 incontrovertible scientific facts that proved the Bible is not true. Today there is not a reputable scientist on Earth that believes even one of those 51 so-called "facts." Science is always changing; God's Word never does! Here are some illustrations from your Bible...
 - b. Job 26:7 – The Earth is suspended in space.
 - i. The ancient Egyptians believed the earth was supported by pillars.
 - ii. The Greeks believed the world was carried on the back of Atlas.
 - iii. The Hindus believed that the earth was resting on giant elephants.
 - iv. Job is possibly the oldest piece of literature known to man and he had it right from the beginning!
 - v. How did Job know this? 2 Timothy 3:16 – "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God..."
 - c. Isaiah 40:22; Luke 17:34-36 – The Earth is round, not flat.
 - i. Remember Columbus? He was warned in 1492 that he would sail off the edge of the earth.
 - ii. Yet in Isaiah, in 750 BC, he wrote that God sits above the circle of the earth. The word "circle" is the same word that means "globe."
 - d. Leviticus 17:14 – The blood circulates through the body
 - i. It wasn't until 1628 that it was discovered that the blood circulates.
 - ii. Think of what blood does for us: it carries fuel to the cells, oxygen to burn that fuel, carries away waste, fights disease and helps maintain our body temperature.
 - iii. Even our first president, George Washington, was bled to death by physicians who thought that would heal him.
 - iv. Moses knew back in Leviticus that the blood sustains life.
 - e. Scientific accuracy is a powerful proof that the Bible is the Word of God.
2. **Historical** Accuracy
 - a. Another familiar attack is on the historical accuracy of the Bible.

- b. “Moses can’t write!”
 - i. In the late 1800s, the idea that Moses could have written the first five books of the Bible was ridiculed. Popular historical belief was that people in that age did not know how to write.
 - ii. Then a lady was gardening in northern Egypt and came across some clay tablets. They were called the Tel el-Armana were used for correspondence between the Egyptians and people in Palestine – centuries before Moses was born!
 - iii. Not only did they know how to write, but they also had a postal service!
 - c. There is an overwhelming abundance of evidence that proves the historical accuracy of God’s Word. The Bible is not a collection of myths and fables, it tells of actual events with real people in real places.
 - i. ILL: Proofs exist for Moses, King David, the Hittites, Simon of Cyrene, Jesus, the Apostle Paul, Herod the Great, Daniel, etc.
 - ii. If someone wants to believe that the Bible is not historically accurate, they have to willingly ignore mountains of evidence that refutes their belief.
3. Wonderful **Unity**
- a. Consider...
 - i. The Bible is a collection of 66 books.
 - ii. It was written by at least 40 authors that lived over a period of time that would span at least 1600 years.
 - iii. They lived in about 13 different countries and on 3 different continents.
 - iv. They came from all backgrounds: shepherds, kings, soldiers, princes, fishermen, scholars, historians, and common laborers.
 - v. The Bible contains different styles and at least three different languages.
 - b. But when you bring it all together, it makes one book that has one story:
 - i. One theme – redemption.
 - ii. One Hero – the Lord Jesus.
 - iii. One Villain – the devil.
 - iv. One purpose – the glory of God!
 - c. The Bible is a testimony to itself of its supernatural quality. The Bible is no accident; it didn’t just happen. The unity of the Bible is proof of the wonderful inspiration of God’s Word. (That will be our topic next week!)

CONCLUSION:

The Bible is not a science book. It was not written to tell us how the heavens go; it is written to tell us how to go to heaven. And the Bible is not a history book. It is “His Story,” the story of God. You will never be a great Christian until you come to the unshakable conviction that the Bible is the Word of God.

DISCUSSION:

- Why don’t we study God’s Word like we should?
 - Cold heart/ignorance/time constraints/don’t believe it/etc.
 - Why should we? II Timothy 2:15
- What do you do that is more important than studying God’s Word each day?
 - Psalm 19:7-11, especially verse 10
- Has there ever been a time when your faith in God’s Word has been challenged?
 - Share personal experiences from a college class, etc.
- What changes would you have to make to designate 30 minutes each day for the study of God’s Word?
 - Get practical here – may have to go to bed earlier so you can wake up on time/may need to watch less TV/may need to quit some time consuming hobby!