

THE BIBLE IS THE WORD

Int.

1. Aim: To show that the Bible is the Word of God and therefore has an important place in our lives.
2. Ps.68:11 "**The Lord gave the word: great [was] the company of those that published [it].**"
3. The word "BIBLE" is not found in the Bible. 773,746 words
 - a. Ancient city called Byblos on the Syrian coast North of Tyre and Sidon.
 - b. From this port traders carried Egyptian papyrus which was used for writing - and from which we get our word "paper".
 - c. The Greeks spoke of the rolls of paper on which their books were written as "biblia - called after the name of the place from which the material came.
 - d. That is the source of our word "Bible" which literally means "Books".
 - e. II Tim. 3:16-17 Scripture = from a Latin word which means "the writings"
4. There are several kinds of "bibles" in existence
 - a. Mechanics Bible , Gardening Bible, Sports Bible
 - b. These are "Guide books" explaining how to do certain things.
 - c. There is only one Bible for living to please God. - "The Holy Bible"
 - d. It is the Book of Books - It is called "The book" - Ps. 40:7
5. This is the most wonderful book in the world. It reveals the most wonderful person the world ever knew, Jesus Christ
6. The bible is the word - it is:
 - a. Interesting
 - b. Inspired
 - c. Profitable

Discussion

I. **INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE**

A. Written by 40 men

1. About 40 men over a period of nearly 1,600 years
2. II Pet. 1:21 **"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [as they were] moved by the Holy Ghost."**

B. Bible facts

1. Two Sections O.T. & N.T. 66 books 39 & 27
2. 1,189 chapters - 31,102 verses - 773,746 words - 3,566,480 letters
3. Average word has fewer than 5 letters
4. Bible was divided into chapters in 1250 AD by Cardinal Hugo
5. It was divided into verses by Sir Robert Stephens in 1551 AD

C. Unusual facts

1. Shortest Chapter in the Bible is Ps. 117 = two verses
2. Longest Chapter in the Bible is Ps. 119 = 176 verses
3. Center chapter of the Bible is Ps. 118 - 594 chapters before and after
4. Center verse in the Bible is Ps. 118:8 **"It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man."**

II. INSPIRED

A. II Tim. 3:16-17

1. Inspired = God breathed
2. God put into the minds of those who wrote the Holy Scriptures the words which they wrote in the Bible.
3. It is free from any errors, mistakes, or contradictions
4. O.T. Claims
 - a. Ex. 7:1 **"And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet."**
 - b. Ex. 4:16 **"And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, [even] he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God."**
 - c. Jer. 9:12, 20 13:15
 - d. Jer. 30:4 **"And these [are] the words that the LORD spake concerning Israel and concerning Judah."**
5. N.T. claims about the O.T.
 - a. Acts 1:16 **"Men [and] brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus."**
 - b. Acts 28:25 **"And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,"**
 - c. The N.T. writers said that what the O.T. writers wrote was what the Holy Spirit said.

6. The N.T. writers were guided by the Holy spirit
 - a. John 16:13 - Jesus promised his apostles that the H.S. would guide them into all truth - **"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."**
 - b. 1 Cor. 2:13 - The H.S. gave the words to Paul **"Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual."**
 - c. These men had credentials to prove they were inspired
 - (1) Mark 16:20 **"And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with [them], and confirming the word with signs following. Amen."**
 - (2) Heb. 2:1-4
 - d. An inspired man claimed to be guided by God. If he could cause a blind person to see, raise the dead, and heal all kinds of diseased then he was recognized as an inspired person.
 - e. They confirmed the word with signs and wonders

B. Original Manuscripts were inspired

1. There is not one original manuscript of either the O.T. or N.T. that remains today
2. They have either been destroyed or lost
3. What we have today are the copies of the manuscripts
 - a. When these documents became old, they were reverently buried by the Jews
 - b. In making copies they were extremely careful - counting not only the words, but the letters.

- c. If a mistake was made then that sheet was destroyed at once.
 - d. The writers were to reverently wipe their pen before writing the name of God in any form, and to wash their whole body before writing "Jehovah", lest that holy name should be tainted even in the writing.
4. Since the original was in Hebrew and Greek and Aramaic, we have translations

C. This Inspired Book:

1. Is full of wisdom about how to live
2. Represents true history without exaggeration, flattery or distortion.
3. Gives us a perfect system of morals
4. Forbids nothing but what is bad for us and requires nothing but what is good for us.

D. This book called the Bible is very powerful:

1. By it the proud have been humbled
2. The impure have been made pure
3. The unjust have been made honest
4. The cruel have become meek
5. Drunkards have become sober people
6. Liars have been made to be truthful
7. It has comforted countless broken spirits, dried up rivers of tears, and given radiant light to people in darkness

E. Poem - the Bible

III. IS PROFITABLE

- A. II Tim. 3:16-17 "Profitable" = to be useful or beneficial, of value -
1. Doctrine - Teaching, instruction
 - a. No one can do that which is pleasing to God until he knows what His will is for him
 - b. Heb. 5:8-9 - he is the author of eternal salvation to those who will obey
 - c. The doctrine of Christ is sound
 - (1) Tit. 2:1 **"But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:"**
 - (2) Sound = healthy, wholesome
 - d. This doctrine of Christ must not be changed - I Tim. 1:3 - **"As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine,"** - teach no other doctrine
 - e. The Bible is the word of God that is profitable for Doctrine.
 2. Reproof
 - a. Convicts the guilty of wrong doing - his sin is exposed and rebuked
 - b. The bible can expose mistakes and wrongs in ourselves and others.
 - (1) Acts 2 - Peter preached and they were convicted by the scriptures
 - (2) Acts 24:25 - Felix was touched by the message of God
 - c. The word of God does not ignore, excuse or cover-up sin. The remedy for sin is to remove it from our life. The Bible convicts us of our sins so we will repent.
 - d. The Bible is profitable for reproof.

3. Correction

- a. The Bible is profitable for correction.
- b. It is not enough to just know that we are disobedient
- c. There must be an effort on the part of the spiritual to bring the offender back to the proper relation with God and man.
- d. Correction = means to restore the sinner to a right position
 - (1) Setting a person straight, make amends, improvement
 - (2) Correction means to set upright something that was out of line.
- e. The Bible can correct family problems and doctrinal errors
- f. The Bible convicts us of error or sin and guides us to the truth.

4. Instruction in Righteousness

- a. Righteousness = the state of him who is such as he ought to be, the condition acceptable to God. Correctness in thinking, feeling and acting. [Thayer p.473]
- b. Instruction = training and discipline
- c. There must be continuous training if the person is to grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord
 - (1) II Pet. 3:18
 - (2) Tit. 2:11-14
- d. The Bible guides and inspires the soul in holiness and right living.
- e. Bible is profitable for education in righteousness - training how to live and discipline our life. We are molded by God through the scriptures

B. This book called the Bible is the final revelation

- 1. There will be no other
- 2. Gal. 1:6-9

C. This book is from God and we will be judged by it

1. Jn. 12:48
2. Rev. 20:12

Conclusion

1. Over all purpose of the bible is to make the man of God complete and ready for every good work - II Tim. 3:16-17
2. The Bible as God gave it is sufficient for every need of the child of God.
3. The Bible is:
 - a. The most translated book in the world
 - b. The best seller of all the books in the world
 - c. The best book in the world
4. The Bible is: Interesting Inspired Profitable
5. Bible is the Best Book In The World !
6. Have you obeyed ?

Poem

THE BIBLE

This book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are unchangeable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map. The pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand object, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It will be opened in the judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

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