

WHY WE LOVE THE BIBLE

Int.

1. Aim: To show some of the reasons why we all should love the Bible.
2. Ps. 1:1-2 "Blessed [is] the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight [is] in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night."
 - a. Delight is in law of the Lord
 - b. Meditates day and night
3. These verses are an inspired tribute to the Bible
 - a. Ps. 119:105 "Thy word [is] a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."
 - b. Ps. 119:97 "O how love I thy law! it [is] my meditation all the day."
 - c. Ps. 199:165 "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them."
 - d. Ps. 119:127 "Therefore I love thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold."
 - e. Ps. 119: 159 "Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness."
4. Eight reasons why we love the Bible

Discussion

I. BECAUSE OF THE AUTHOR

- A. 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. 2 Tim. 3:16-17
- C. God is the author of this eternal book.

II. WE LOVE THE BIBLE BECAUSE OF ITS CHIEF CHARACTER - JESUS

- A. From the first book [Gen. 12:1-3] to the last [Rev. 22:21] Jesus Christ is her chief character
- B. Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God
1. Acts 4:1ff - some preachers kept on preaching in the name of Jesus Christ
 2. The Apostles had been talking about the resurrection. This carpenter from Nazareth was far more than that. He was the Divine Son of God. He has been raised from the grave. The Sadducees didn't like that. They controlled the ruling body at that time in Judea. They were grieved over this. They tried to get these Apostles to quit preaching in Jesus Name. They said we don't aim to do that. They threatened them. But they declared we will keep on going.
 3. Then in Acts 4:12 They say ["Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."](#)
- C. Several years ago people talked about having Christ but not the Bible.
1. They said we want Christology and not bibliolatry !
 2. That is impossible !
 3. Jesus Christ is the center piece of the Bible
 4. It's foolish to say we are going to follow Christ and then reject the evidence about Christ
 5. Some talk about having the Spirit of Christ - but then pay no attention to what he says through His word.
- D. We love The Bible because of it's chief Character - Jesus Christ.

III. WE LOVE THE BIBLE BECAUSE OF ITS UNITY

A. Library

1. 66 books written by about 40 authors over a period of about 1600 years.
2. The Good Book was written by kings and soldiers, farmers and fishermen, the educated and the uneducated.
3. It was begun by Moses in the Desert of Arabia and finished by John on the Isle of Patmos.
4. It was composed in palaces of kings and tents of shepherds, beside still waters and within prison walls.
5. It was written in 3 languages and several countries.

B. Yet there is a unity between Genesis and Revelation and Malachi and Matthew.

- C. III. Suppose we pass out 66 pieces of marble to 66 trained people, and told them we want you to use your ability to sculpture something out of these pieces of marble. Maybe this is spread out over several years, maybe even a few hundred years, some of them not knowing what the others were doing. But at the end of the time you gather all the pieces back together and you immediately notice something unusual. These pieces fit. Not only do they fit, but they are an absolute masterpiece as they come together. That is what we have in the Grand Old Book. The Masterpiece of God.

IV. WE LOVE THE BIBLE BECAUSE OF THE BEAUTIFUL SCHEME OF REDEMPTION

- A. There is the precious thread that begins at Genesis and continues to Rev.
1. It talks about How God saves sinful man.
 2. He committed his love toward us while we were yet sinners. He allowed Christ to die for us. Rom. 5:8 *“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”*
- B. Here are five words that begin with the Letter “P” that describes this thread that comes through the Bible.
1. PROMISE: - Gen. 12:1-3 - made to Abraham - all be blessed
 2. PROPHECY: - Isa. 53:1-7
 3. PREPARATION: - John the Immerser - Mt. 3:1-3 & Jn. 1:6
 4. PERFECTION: - those who heard the word, believed it and obeyed it - 3,000 Acts 2:41 - v. 47 *“the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”*
Perfection is used in the sense of full grown or maturity.
 5. PLAN: - H.B.R.C. B. = Salvation
- C. We love the Bible because of it's beautiful scheme of redemption

V. WE LOVE THE BIBLE BECAUSE THE BIBLE SUPPLIES OUR BASIC NEEDS

- A. Most people think that LOVE is the number one basic need
1. Jn. 3:16 - the golden text of the Bible gives a special place for love
 2. The greatest commandments are centered in love - Mt.22:37-39
 3. Man sees God's hand reaching to ours through his word he wants to reach upward and hold on to God's unchanging hand.

B. We all have the basic need of SECURITY

1. Many people's lives are shaken because of a lack of security
2. Phil. 4:7 Paul could say from a Roman prison that he had the peace of God that passeth all understanding. He could write this book of Joy because the word appears 18 times in this book. Only 4 chapters and 105 verses. Almost 1 out of 5 verses talks about joy in some way.
3. Phil. 4:19 "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

C. A third basic need we all need is HOPE

1. When a man gives up hope the consequences are serious.
2. Hope is the anchor of the soul - Heb. 6:19
3. In the first century some of the Christians were suffering and even being killed. But John wrote "... I heard a voice from heaven.... Rev. 14:13

VI. WE LOVE THE BIBLE BECAUSE IT ANSWERS OUR BASIC QUESTIONS

A. Three Basic questions that all men ask.

1. How did we get here?
2. What is our purpose in being here?
3. What is the Destiny of Man?

B. The Bible answers these questions

C. How did we get here? [1]

1. Origin of man is found in Gen. 1:26 - man came from God.
2. Man was created by God

D. What is our purpose for being here? [2]

1. Ecl. 12:13-14 "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this [is] the whole [duty] of man. 14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether [it be] good, or whether [it be] evil."
2. The nature of man is found in the next verse Gen. 1:27. Man is not just another animal. He is not just another higher form of animal. He is one that has been made in the image of his maker. He is a moral creature. Without the Good book man is an amoral creature - one without morals. Man is a moral creature because he knows right from wrong. He is to train his life in keeping with that will from above. There is a difference between an Adolph Hitler and the Apostle Paul. But without the Bible there would be no real difference between those two men.

E. What is our Destiny? [3]

1. The Bible answers the Question about the DESTINY of man.- Jn. 5:28-29
Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.
 - a. Telescopes can reach out and show us things millions of miles away.
 - b. We've never found a machine that goes across the six feet of sod.
2. Everything that we know about the hereafter is between these two covers.

F. The Bible tells us how we got here, why we are here and what our destiny will be.

VII. WE LOVE THE BIBLE BECAUSE OF ITS INDESTRUCTIBILITY

- A. Most things around us perish
 - 1. Houses - Automobiles - Clothes
 - 2. Our bodies on this earth are decaying and perishing
- B. But the Bible keeps on lasting
 - 1. Mk. 13:24-31 --- some say the passage is talking about the destruction of Jerusalem, some say the end of time, some say both.
 - a. Many people in the first century believed in worshiping the Sun - learned from the Egyptians - you can depend upon the Sun - Let's worship the Sun.
 - b. Others said let's worship the Moon - we like the moon - it's also dependable
 - c. Others, say you need to check the stars because our destiny is controlled by the stars. [Still have some like that today] You need to check the stars out before you really do anything about life.
 - 2. Jesus said - the sun is going to be darkened - the moon is not going to give her light - and the stars are going to fall out of the sky. Will Pass Away.
 - 3. But though heaven and earth pass away - "My word will not pass away" - v.31
- C. The Bible is a deathless book - it is eternal as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. - I Pet. 1:24-25 For all flesh [is] as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: 25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.
- D. Poem - The Hammer and the Anvil.

VIII. WE LOVE THE BIBLE BECAUSE OF ITS PRODUCT

- A. I Cor. 11:1 "Be ye followers of me, even as I also [am] of Christ."
1. We are not perfect, but we know who is.
 2. He was the Divine Son of the living God.
- B. Have you ever met anyone who said that they used to lie, curse and do all kinds of evil things. Then one day there were some fine atheists who came into our community. They gave me some books and I began to read these books. And now I am a much better person. ????
- C. Many people tell about how they were evil, and they are not proud of it, and how they came into contact with the Bible and learned the Old Jerusalem Gospel. And now they are not like that any more.
- D. I'll. Man working at a factory repairing some machines. At lunch time after eating he reached in his lunch box and got his Bible and began to read. A learned Mathematician walked in and asked "what's that you're reading? It's the Bible. "Why are you reading the Bible? Don't you know it's old fashioned? It's out of Date. I bet your mother made you read that when you were a child. Why are you reading that thing?" Man said let me ask you a question. You are a mathematician. Do you ever use the multiplication tables. "Yes, Every day I use the multiplication tables. What's that got to do with it?" Why do you use them? They are old fashioned. Some people say they are out of date. If I had a gun at your temple you could not tell me who wrote the multiplication tables. So why do you use them? It got rather quiet. He kept pressing the Man. Why do you use the multiplication Tables. He finally said "because it just works."

- E. That's one of the Reasons why I love the Bible. It just works.
- F. Not everyone who goes to church is a hypocrite.
 - 1. The devil likes for People to believe that.
 - 2. Hypocrites are in the church and out of the church. The church does not have a monopoly on hypocrites.
 - 3. Rev. 21:8 says that whether hypocrites are in or out of the church it will not be too good for them on the judgment day.

CONCLUSION

- 1. If we love the Bible let us obey it. - Jn. 14:23
- 2. The Alien needs the Bible so he can learn the plan of salvation:
 - a. Hear - Rm. 10:17
 - b. Faith - Heb. 11:6
 - c. Repent - Lk.13:3
 - d. Confess - Mt.10:32
 - e. Baptized - Acts 2:38
- 3. The erring Christian needs to repent of his sins, confess them, and pray unto God for forgiveness - Acts 8:13-23 - I Jn. 1:9
- 4. I love the Bible because it tells me how to get to heaven!!!

Sources

FHC LECTURES 1988 - Dowell Flatt

"THE HAMMER AND THE ANVIL"

"Last eve I passed a blacksmith's door
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
When looking in, I saw upon the floor,
Old hammers worn with beating years of time.

" 'How many anvils have you had,' said I
'To wear and batter all these hammers so?'
'Just one,' said he, then said with twinkling eye,
'The anvil wears the hammers out you know.'

"And so, I thought, the anvil of God's word
For ages skeptics blows have beat upon;
Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unharmed--the hammers gone!"

By John Clifford

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