

THE BIBLE (The Word of God)

The Bible is the sacred book accepted by the Christian Church as uniquely inspired by God, which provides guidelines for belief and behavior.

Throughout the Bible, the terms, scriptures, the law, commandments and statutes are also used in describing God's word and can be used interchangeably.

The Bible contains two major sections known as the Old Testament and the New Testament.

The books of the Old Testament were written over a period of about 1,000 years in the Hebrew language. The Old Testament tells of the preparation that was made for Christ's coming.

The New Testament was written over a period of about 100 years. The original language in which it was written was Greek.

THE BIBLE IS DIVINELY INSPIRED:

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. (II Timothy 3:16)

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. (II Peter 1:21)

TO WHAT DEGREE WERE WRITERS INSPIRED?

(1). Some parts of scripture give the exact words of God. (Exodus 32:16, Deuteronomy 5:24, Matthew 3:17).

(2). Some words were put into the mouths of the speakers who spoke as the Spirit inspired them. (Exodus 4:12, Numbers 23:5, Ezekiel 2:17, 3: 10-11, Acts 3:21).

(3). Some words were written as the Spirit moved men. (Exodus 34:27, II Peter 1:21)

The Spirit used the faculties and abilities of the writers to record things, past, present and future. He gave direct revelations, guided them to choose records of men, and superintended the writers in all their work until we now have a perfect and infallible record of the origin and destiny of all creation.

WE SHOULD STRIVE TO ALWAYS KEEP GOD'S WORD IN OUR HEARTS:

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart. (Deuteronomy 6:6)

Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. (Deuteronomy 11:18)

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. (Psalm 119:1).

But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach. (Romans 10:8).

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. (Colossians 3:16).

THE WORD OF GOD IS LOVED BY THE SAINTS:

And I will delight myself in thy commandments, which I have loved. (Psalm 119:47).

The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver. (Psalm 119:72).

O how I love thy law. It is my meditation all the day. (Psalm 119:97)

Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it. (Psalm 119:140).

Thy words were found, and I did eat them and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart; for I am called by thy name. O Lord God of hosts. (Jeremiah 15:16).

THE BIBLE (Word of God) IS MIGHTY IN IT'S INFLUENCE:

A Devouring Flame:

Wherefore thus saith the Lord Hosts, because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them. (Jeremiah 514)

A Life-giving force:

So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone. (Ezekiel 37:7).

A Saving Power:

For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth, to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. (Romans 1:16)

A Defensive weapon:

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. (Ephesians 6:17)

A probing instrument:

For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)

THE BIBLE IS A BLESSING TO THOSE WHO REVERENCE IT:

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous and then thou shalt have good success. (Joshua 1:8).

Moreover by them is thy servant warned; and in keeping of them there is great reward (Psalm 19:11).

PURIFIES THE LIFE:

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. (Psalm 119:9).

Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. (John 15:3).

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. (John 17:17).

That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. (Ephesians 5:26).

THE WORD OF GOD WAS WRITTEN WITH A PURPOSE:

To authenticate the divinity of Christ

But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name. (I John 20:31).

To give hope to men:

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. (Romans 15:4).

To give knowledge of eternal life:

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God: that ye may know ye have eternal life, and that ye might believe on the name of the Son of God. (I John 5:13).

To relate human experiences as a warning:

Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples; and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. (I Corinthians 10:11).

God's word furnishes a light in darkness:

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. (Psalm 119:105).

The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple. (Psalm 119:30).

For thy commandment is a lamp; and thy law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life. (Proverbs 6:23).

THE WORD OF OF GOD IS SACRED AND NOT TO BE ALTERED:

Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you. (Deuteronomy 4:12).

Add thou not to his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar. (Proverbs 30:6).

For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, if any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. (Revelation 22: 18-19).

CHRISTIANS ARE ADMONISHED TO STUDY GOD'S WORD:

And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them. (Deuteronomy 17:19)

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. (St. John 5:39).

These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily whether those things were so. (Acts 17:11).

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (II Timothy 2:15).

THE WORD OF GOD IS ABSOLUTELY TRUSTWORTHY:

Blessed be the Lord, that have given rest unto his people Israel, according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised by the hand of Moses his servant. (I Kings 8:56)

For I am the Lord: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; it shall be no more prolonged: for in your days, O rebellious house, will I say the word, and will perform it, saith the Lord God. (Ezekiel 12:25).

For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. (St. Matthew 5:18).

Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. (St. Luke 21:33).

TRIBUTE TO THE BIBLE

The Bible (Word of God) is the **BOOK OF ALL BOOKS**. Everything thing that we need to know in life; can be found within the pages of God's word. It is a book of literature, prophecy, laws, parables, love, poetry, hymns, letters, and so much more. No matter how much one may read God's word, or preach/teach from God's word, there is an inexhaustible supply of revelation. It is absolutely trustworthy because it is eternal and **NEVER** changes. No one can master it simply because it is the word of the infinite and sovereign God.

God's word is sustaining and transforming. As we read and meditate upon his precious word consistently and prayerfully, we will find words of instruction, comfort, healing and peace.

THE WORD OF GOD – Good enough to live by, and to die by.

