

THE KNOW SERIES

Who, What, When, Where, Why, How of the Christian Experience

CLASS # 3

“The Bible: God’s Word, Part 1”

OBJECTIVE: This week we will look at what the Bible says about itself and begin to explore why it is reasonable to believe the Bible and to believe that it is God’s Word. We’ll look at some Bible passages and fascinating facts about the Bible as well as look at the structure of the Bible.

(I) WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT ITSELF

SOMEBODY READ THIS SCRIPTURES FOR US:

2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting And training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

1 Peter 1:24

²⁴ For, "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall,

2 Peter 1:20-21

²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

(II) THE BIBLE ANSWERS LIFE'S BASIC QUESTIONS

- A. Where did I come from? (Origins)
- B. Who am I? (Identity)
- C. Why am I here? (Purpose)
- D. What happens when I die? (Destiny)

(III) WHY WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE

- A) Witness of the prophets/fulfilled prophecy.



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B) Witness of the Apostles

Would you die for a lie? Here is a listing of how the original Apostles died still claiming that they had witnessed the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy.

- 1) Peter - Crucified upside down
- 2) Andrew - Crucified
- 3) Matthew - The Sword
- 4) John - Natural, put in burning oil for his faith, banished to the island of Patmos.
- 5) James, son of Alphaeus - Crucified
- 6) Philip - Crucified
- 7) Simon - Crucified
- 8) Thaddaeus - Killed by arrows
- 9) James, brother of Jesus - Stoned to death
- 10) Thomas - Spear thrust
- 11) Bartholomew - Crucified
- 12) James, son of Zebedee - The sword

The Apostles were witnesses of the resurrection:

SOMEBODY READ THIS SCRIPTURE FOR US:

Acts 4:33

³³ With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all.

(IV) SOME FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE

- A. Written over a period of 1600 years.
- B. Over 40 authors (written by kings, prisoners, shepherds, doctors, Rabbi, tax collector, military, generals, fisherman, politician.)
- C. Written in different places.
- D. Written in three languages: Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic.
- E. The Bible deals with every major issue in life and speaks of many controversial issues; yet always without contradiction!
- F. The Bible contains history, law, medical information, poetry, songs, biographies, correspondence.



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- G. No book has been published more than the Bible. The Bible is translated into well over 3,000 languages.
- H. No book has ever survived through more persecution and criticism than the Bible.
- I. The Bible has been the inspiration for more music, art, stories, plays, than any book in history.
- J. The Bible is the accurate historical document of its time.
- K. The Bible is the accurate archeological book of its time.
- L. The Bible is a book of prophecy. Three hundred concerning Christs' first coming, and 300 concerning His second coming, and hundreds concerning history.
 - 1. The Bible says that it may be discarded if the prophecies it contains fail: Deut. 18:20-22; 13:1-4; Matt. 7:15-20.

SOMEBODY READ THESE SCRIPTURES FOR US

Deuteronomy 18:20-21

²⁰ But a prophet who presumes to speak in my name anything I have not commanded him to say, or a prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, must be put to death." ²¹ You may say to yourselves, "How can we know when a message has not been spoken by the LORD?"

Deuteronomy 13:1-4

¹ If a prophet, or one who foretells by dreams, appears among you and announces to you a miraculous sign or wonder, ² and if the sign or wonder of which he has spoken takes place, and he says, "Let us follow other gods" (gods you have not known) "and let us worship them," ³ you must not listen to the words of that prophet or dreamer. The LORD your God is testing you to find out whether you love him with all your heart and with all your soul. ⁴ It is the LORD your God you must follow, and him you must revere. Keep his commands and obey him; serve him and hold fast to him.

Matthew 7:15-20 (NIV)

¹⁵ "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. ¹⁶ By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ Likewise every good tree bears good fruit, but



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a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

(V) The Bible has changed the lives of millions even though criticized by hundreds.

(V) BASIC REVIEW OF THE BIBLE

(A) What is the Bible?

(1) The Bible is God's Word revealed to us.

(a) Heb.1:1-2

(2) The Bible has many writers but only one author.

(b) II Timothy 3:16

(3) The Bible is broken into two major sections.

(a) Old Testament 39 Books

(2) New Testament 27 Books

(3) 66 Total Books

(D) The Bible has one single unifying theme.

(1) Jesus Christ

(E) The Old Testament is an account of a nation. (Israel)

(F) The New Testament is an account of a Man. (Jesus Christ)

(G) The Nation was founded and nurtured of God to bring the Man into the world.

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