

Lesson #2 - Can The Bible Be Trusted?



Many persons have looked upon the Bible as a book with many object lessons and principles that will help to govern one's life. In various religious circles it is looked upon as "God's book" but a work that consists of many fables that cannot be excepted as truth but merely as allegories. Yet, others claim that "only the words of Jesus are inspired" and the rest is a good approach to commonsense living.

"The expressions, "the word of the Lord came," "thus saith the Lord," "the Lord said," or their equivalent appear more than 3,800 times in the Old Testament. Ezekiel alone uses such terms more than three hundred times. Thus the prophets claimed that the messages that they bore were not directed by themselves but by God. In more than 3,000 places, the Bible declares itself to be inspired and although written by 44 men covering a period of 1,500 years - it does not contradict itself - even once!

1. Are human beings the authors of the Scriptures? 2 Peter 1:19-21

2. Whose word was in David's mouth and in Jeremiah's bosom? 2 Sam. 23:2; Jer. 20:9

3. What portions of the Scriptures are inspired by God? 2 Tim. 3:14-17

Note: The "Scriptures" that Timothy studied were what we call the "Old Testament". "The Bible points to God as its author; yet it was written by human hands; and in the varied style of its different books it presents the characteristics of the several writers." *Great Controversy*, p. vi.

4. Is the "New Testament" or Paul's writings also part of the "Scriptures" 2 Peter 3:16?

Note: The phrase "given by inspiration" literally means "God-breathed". Scripture is God's thinking communicated to men by prophets. Thus God's word is profitable for "doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Peter 3:16, 17.

5. How long will the word of God last for? Isa. 40:8; Ps. 12:6, 7; Mt. 24:35

6. What is the best way to study the Bible? Isa. 28:10

Note: Although we might naturally possess the ability to read and comprehend, in the arena of God's word these gifts are fruitless unless attended to by God's Spirit; for "the natural man receiveth not the things of the spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them." 1 Cor. 2:14.

7. Is it possible to honour God and choose to remain in ignorance of his will? Hosea 4:6

Note: "The truth and the glory of God are inseparable; it is impossible for us, with the Bible within our reach, to honor God by erroneous opinions. Many claim that it matters not what one believes, if his life is only right. But the life is molded by the faith. If light and truth is within our reach, and we neglect to improve the privilege of hearing and seeing it, we virtually reject it; we are choosing darkness rather than light." *Ibid*, p. 597.

8. All human ideas and opinions should be tested by what? Isa. 8:20; 1 Thes. 5:21

9. In the last days, what would men desire instead of God's word? 2 Tim. 4:1-5



10. What is God's word to us? Ps. 119:105

11. How is the path of the righteous described? Pr. 4:18

12. How is the path of the wicked described? Pr. 4:19

13. Our way can be cleansed by heeding what? Ps. 119:9, 11

14. What will prayerful, daily study of the Bible help us to understand? John 7:17

- I understand that the entire Bible is the word of God and I commit to myself to learning and applying its precepts.
- I desire to diligently study the word of God and allow it to direct every aspect of my life.

Next Lesson: #3 - How will the One-World Government affect me?

Supplement: Which Bible is the best version?