

## **Why Believe The Bible?**

**Sunday Morning, May 15, 2011**

**2 Timothy 3:14-17, Psalm 19:7-11**

### **Introduction: Gallup Poll - Bible Belief Declines**

#### **1. The Bible is the word of God.**

##### **a. God produced the Bible.**

##### **i. God inspired His word.**

***2 Timothy 3:16***

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

- ***“inspiration” = God breathed***

##### **ii. God inspected His word.**

***2 Peter 1:20-21***

(20) Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

(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.

- ***“moved” = carried***
- ***Over 40 writers, over 1,500 years***
- ***Testament = covenant***
- ***Old Testament - Hebrew language, 39 books, Jewish***
- ***New Testament - Greek language, 27 books, Christian***

##### **b. God preserved the Bible.**

##### **i. God published His word.**

**Isaiah 55:11**

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

- ***It was started with hand written originals.***
- ***It was scribed with hand written copies. (Manuscripts)***
- ***It was selected with honest research and divine leadership. (Canon)***
- ***It was supplied by translation into many languages.***
- ***It was spread as the first book ever printed.***
- ***It is still the all time best seller.***

**ii. God protected His word.**

- ***The Bible is complete.***

Revelation 22:18-19

*(18) 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:*

*(19) 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.*

- ***The Bible is confirmed.***

Psalms 119:89

*For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.*

Matthew 24:35

*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*

**2. The Bible is holy and true.**

**a. The Bible is pure and without error.**

***Proverbs 30:5***

Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

***Psalms 19:7-10***

***Romans 7:12***

Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

**b. The Bible is accurate in history and science.**

- i. History: creation, fall, flood, start of civilization, empires, battles, kings, places, dates**
- ii. Science: round earth (Isaiah 40:22), blood essential to life (Leviticus 17:14), stars innumerable (Jeremiah 33:22), ocean currents (Psalm 8:8)**
- iii. Miraculous Seasons: creation, flood, through Moses, through Elijah & Elisha, through Jesus, through early church.**

**c. All biblical prophecies have been or will be fulfilled.**

***1 Kings 8:56***

Blessed be the LORD, that hath 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.

***Matthew 5:18***

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.

- Jesus Fulfills Prophecies – more than 100**

**d. All biblical promises are true through time and eternity.**

***Deuteronomy 7:9***

Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

***Matthew 24:35***

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

- **The Bible Promise Book**

**e. The Bible answers all the inescapable questions of life.**

***Romans 15:4***

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

***1 Peter 3:15***

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

- i. How did the universe come to be? (Genesis 1)**
- ii. Where did we come from? (Genesis 2)**
- iii. Why is there evil, suffering, and death in the world? (Genesis 3)**
- iv. Is there a God? If so, what is God like? (Exodus 34:6-7)**
- v. What is the meaning and purpose of our lives? (Romans 15:4)**
- vi. Is there life after death? If so, what is that like? (John 5:25-29)**

**3. The Bible is powerful and purposeful.**

**a. Through the Bible, God speaks to our hearts.**

***Hebrews 4:12***

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

**b. Through the Bible, God explains, names, warns, judges, and punishes sin.**

***Romans 3:19-20***

(19) Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

(20) Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

***1 John 3:4***

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

**Ten Commandments Exodus 20:1-17**

**c. Through the Bible, God saves the lost.**

***2 Timothy 3:15***

And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

***John 5:39***

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

***John 20:31***

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.

***1 John 5:13***

These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

**d. Through the Bible, God purifies believers.**

***Psalms 119:9***

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

***Psalms 119:11***

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

***John 17:17***

Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

**e. Through the Bible, God grows new believers.**

***1 Peter 2:2***

As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

**f. Through the Bible, God matures believers.**

***2 Timothy 3:16-17***

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

(17) That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

**g. Through the Bible, God shares His presence and love with believers.**

***John 14:23***

Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

***1 John 2:5***

But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

***John 8:31-32, 47***

(31) Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

(32) And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

(47) He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.

**h. Through the Bible, God comforts believers.**

***Romans 15:4***

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

**i. Through the Bible, God proves what is really valuable.**

***Psalms 19:7-11***

(7) The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

(8) The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

(9) The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

(10) More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

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

**j. Through the Bible, God will judge our lives.**

***John 12:48***

He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

**Conclusion:**

**Bring the Bible to your life, and your life to the Bible.**