

Is The Bible The Word Of God?

Introduction:

- A. The question of whether or not the Bible is the word of God is one of the most important questions that each person must answer.
- B. The Bible claims to be the word of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17).
- C. There can only be one correct answer to the question of the origin of the Bible.
- D. The existence of God makes it necessary for us to investigate the claims of the Bible.
 - 1. If there is a God, then we must decide whether or not he has revealed himself to mankind.
 - 2. In other words, has God made himself and his will known to his creation?
 - 3. We must decide between two possibilities.
 - a. God has created us, but he has not revealed his will to us.
 - b. Or, God has revealed his will to us.
 - 4. Which one of these two possibilities makes more sense?

Body:

I. There Is A Need For A Revelation From God.

- A. Man is very limited.
 - 1. We are limited in our knowledge.
 - 2. We are also limited with reference to time (James 4:14).
- B. God is not limited.
 - 1. Unlike man, God is all-knowing (Hebrews 4:13).
 - 2. God is all-powerful (Mark 10:27).
 - 3. Also unlike man, God is eternal (Psalm 90:2).
- C. Man can only know God's will if God chooses to reveal his will to man.

II. The Possibility And Probability Of A Revelation From God.

- A. There is a God who created the world and man (Genesis 1:1, 26).
 - 1. Would it be possible for an all-powerful creator to reveal his will to his creation?
 - 2. Would it be probable that God would reveal his will to his creation?
- B. It is both possible and probable that God would reveal his will to his creation.
 - 1. He has the power to reveal his will to us.
 - 2. And, it makes perfect sense that he would reveal his will to us.

III. How Has God Revealed His Will To Man?

- A. Can we know God's will through nature (Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:20-23)?
- B. Can we know God's will through human intuition?
 - 1. Obviously, we cannot learn God's will through intuition (Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 14:12).
- C. Can we know God's will through human wisdom (1 Corinthians 1:21; 3:19).
- D. Can we know God's will through words from God?
 - 1. This is the only possible way that man can learn the will of God.

2. God would have to communicate his thoughts to man in words in order for man to know the will of God (1 Corinthians 2:11-13).
3. The only possible way for man to know the will of God is for God to reveal his will to man through words!

IV. Can We Understand God's Revelation?

- A. If God has revealed his will to us in the Bible, is it possible for us to understand the Bible?
- B. Many religious leaders claim that man cannot understand the Bible.
- C. Why would God reveal his will to man in a way that man cannot understand?
- D. The Bible claims that it can be understood by the common man.
 1. Jesus expected his words to be understood (John 8:31-32).
 2. The apostles expected their words to be understood (Ephesians 3:3-4; 5:17).
- E. The Bible claims to be the product of the mind of God.
 1. The phrase, "Thus says the LORD" is found over 400 times in the Bible.
 2. The consistent claim is that the words of the Bible were given to men by God (2 Peter 1:20-21).
 3. Is this claim true?

V. Evidence That The Bible Is The Word Of God.

- A. The unity of the Bible.
- B. The fulfilled prophecies of the Bible.
 1. The prophecy of the fall of Babylon (Isaiah 13:19-22).
 2. The prophecy against three cities of Galilee (Matthew 11:20-24).
 3. The prophecies fulfilled by Jesus.
 4. The prophecies of the Bible never fail!
 5. Would it be possible for men to accomplish this without being guided by God?
- C. Archaeology supports the Bible.
 1. Archaeology is the study of the people, life, and customs of ancient times.
 2. Archaeological discoveries always support the Bible.
 3. How is it possible for the Bible to be so accurate when it comes to archaeological discoveries?
- D. Scientific accuracy of the Bible.
 1. The bible is over 1900 years old.
 2. Yet it doesn't contain any geographical, historical, or scientific errors commonly found in other books.
 3. Notice some examples.
 - a. The earth is round (Isaiah 40:22).
 - b. The earth is suspended in space (Job 26:7).
 - c. There are channels and paths in the seas (Psalm 8).
 - d. The life of the flesh is in its blood (Leviticus 17:10-16).
 - e. The stars cannot be numbered (Jeremiah 33:22).
 - f. The process of rain, evaporation, and condensation (Job 36:27-28).
 4. How did the writers of the Bible know these things?

- E. The moral standard of the Bible.
 - 1. Morals are principles of right or wrong conduct.
 - 2. The writers of the New Testament were surrounded by the immorality, corruption, and pagan religion of the Roman Empire.
 - 3. Yet the New Testament standard of morality is the highest standard man has ever seen.
 - 4. Compare the Bible's standard of morality with the standards created by men (Ephesians 4:25; Luke 6:31; Matthew 5:44; Ephesians 5:22, 28).
- F. The evidence that the Bible is from God is overwhelming.

Conclusion:

- A. But, each of us must make a decision about whether the Bible is from God or man.
- B. We have only 2 choices:
 - 1. Is it the product of an all-knowing, all-powerful God?
 - a. If so, all of the evidence makes sense.
 - b. This explanation fits the evidence.
 - 2. Is it the product of mere men?
 - a. These men would be liars.
 - b. These men would be self-condemned.
 - c. These self-condemned liars would have managed to devise the highest moral standard.
 - d. A logical explanation would have to be given for the evidence.
- C. Each of us must decide which conclusion makes the most sense.