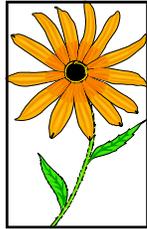


“The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever”.

Isaiah 40:6-8



Not only does the Word of God stand forever, but it also accomplishes its purposes.

All of the promises that have been made in the scriptures will

come to pass. Many of them have already been fulfilled, and none of them will be forgotten.

Isaiah tells us: “For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

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”

One of the impressive things about the Word of God is its ability to endure. Critics have constantly attempted to belittle the Bible for centuries. Men have burned many copies to destroy its witness against them.

Like the proverbial tools of the blacksmith, the hammers are all worn, but the anvil remains. God’s Word is still here.

Isaiah uses the grass and the flower of the field to show that man’s life is only a temporary thing that soon passes. He compares the withering flesh of man to the endurance of the Bible.

Can we believe the Bible?

The Bible claims to be the word of God. How do we know that this is true? How can we increase our faith and enhance our belief in this amazing book? We are told that the Bible is a collection of writings. There were several authors and the writings took place over a period of 1500 years. This fact alone is actually one of the ways that the Bible is proven to be true.

Only by divine design could all of these writers, over such a long period of time, provide us with a consistent message. These men had no way to perpetuate their intentions. They “spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit”, and often they did not even understand what they were writing (see 1 Pet 1:10-11).

The words of scripture do not glorify man as the stories of men are inclined to do. The Bible reveals that man is sinful and in need of salvation. If we compare the scriptures to other writings of man, we will understand and believe that the

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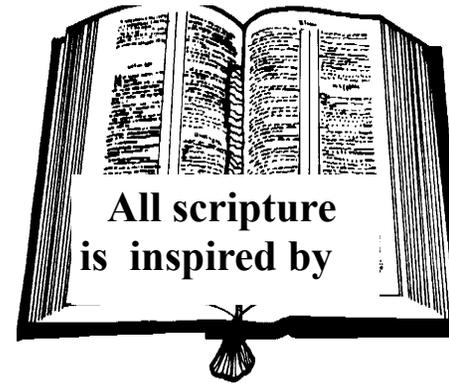
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Things Concerning

The Kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ

Volume 2 No 1

A1-99



The Bible, as it was originally written, is the inspired word of God. It is the only reliable source of information concerning the salvation that is available to men and women through faith in Christ Jesus.

“Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent” (John 17:3 NIV).

The Bible contains all of the necessary truths concerning God’s wonderful plan and purpose for filling this earth with his glory in the coming age.

Many religions use the same words of God to support a variety of claims concerning how God intends to reward man with salvation.

The Bible was not intended to be used for private interpretations. There is only one faith, and just one hope. It is God’s way, not

ours.

“No prophecy of the scripture is of any **private interpretation**. 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 Spirit”(2 Pet 1:20-21 KJV).

Deductive Study

The Bible must be studied with an open mind. We should ask God for his blessing that our eyes may be opened to His ways.

Our faith must be based entirely on the words of scripture. Our conclusions must be consistent with the whole counsel of God, and not grounded in a few selected portions of the Bible taken out of context.

All scripture inspired

The Bible is the inspired Word of the Creator of this entire universe. His words must be honored as the entire truth. We must never alter or change the words of God in any way.

The scriptures are able to make us wise unto salvation. They will benefit us in many ways if we show respect for their Author and are obedient to His instructions. We are told plainly that: **“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is**

Hope and Comfort from the Scriptures



The Word of God is filled with the power to influence our lives in many ways. By providing light in the darkness of this world, it is a comfort to us. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105 KJV).

Light is a comfort

Consider how terrifying it is to be in a strange place when the power fails. Total darkness in unfamiliar surroundings places us at a serious disadvantage. Suddenly, we have more appreciation for the gift of sight, and we understand the difficulties facing the blind.

The Word of God provides spiritual light in a world that has been darkened by sin. Those who love God have the opportunity to walk in the light, after the example of the son of God, who was called "the light of the world".

Satisfaction from Hunger

The Word of God is said to be sweeter than honey. It is our spiritual food. Jesus told us that: "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matt 4:4 NIV).

The natural food that we eat will only satisfy us for a brief time. If we hunger and thirst after righteousness and are filled with nourishment from God, we may never hunger again.

It Quenches our Thirst

The Word of God is also likened to water. We know how important water is to our life. Jesus told the woman at the well that if she only

drank of the natural water, she would thirst again.

He added this promise: "Whoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:14 KJV).

The Word made flesh

The most comforting aspect of the Word of God is that Jesus himself was the Word of God manifested in human flesh. He fulfilled all of the OT promises including:

1. The promised descendent of Eve that would destroy sin (the seed of the serpent).
2. The promised Savior.
3. The anti-typical Passover lamb (the lamb of God that would take away sin).
4. The Jewish Messiah (anointed one).
5. The promised Heir to David's Throne
6. The promised descendent of Abraham through whom all nations would be blessed.

Jesus was made in all points as we are. He was born of a woman as prophesied in the Word of God. His life and sacrifice were in exact fulfillment of the promises in the Word. The written Word of God was fulfilled

"So then Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God "(Rom

Faith From the Word

Without faith it is impossible to please God. The Word of God has been provided to strengthen our faith. The evidence of the things that we hope for in the Bible, is found abundantly by those who seek for it.



Help my Unbelief

How do we find the faith that we desire through a study of the Word? The first thing that we must do is to ask. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you"(Matt 7:7).

We should always begin our study of the Bible with a Prayer. "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law" (Psalm 119:18).

Internal Evidence

Since the Bible was written over a long period of time, we find that many things promised during the earlier periods have actually been fulfilled within the pages of scripture.

An excellent example of this is the life and sacrifice of Christ. He

fulfilled every jot and tittle of those things that were written about him in the OT. Jesus was living proof that the promises of God are always accomplished in accordance with His will.

Jesus also verified many of the

events of the OT. He spoke of Adam and Eve and the Flood.

If we believe in Christ, we will also believe in the accuracy of the scriptures in which he trusted.

Historical Evidence

In addition to those events that are supported internally, there are many words of prophesy in the Bible that have been fulfilled during the course of world history.

The prophesies of Daniel are an accurate prediction of the entire outline of the Kingdoms of men from Babylon, to Rome and even to our own day.

Several of the Hebrew prophets foretold of the miraculous modern day rebirth of the Nation of Israel in it's own land.

Archeology

Archeological discoveries are another independent source of evidence that consistently supports the Bible record.

Modern Israel has been instrumental in the promotion of Archeological research. They have helped to uncover many additional bits of compelling evidence to verify the Bible. **

The Signs of the Times

These are perilous times. The earth is corrupt and filled with violence. The current conditions in the world are all exactly as predicted in the Word of God. They provide further evidence that: "Thy Word is Truth".

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