

GOD'S Solution To Life's Problems

Lesson 1 – God's Word Has The Answers

INTRODUCTION

The Bible is God's Word. It is not like any other book. While it was written well over 2000 years ago, the truth it contains is able to speak to all of life's problems. This lesson seeks to teach what the Bible says about itself, its purpose, and how it is all that you need for the answers to life.

THE BIBLE AT A GLANCE					
2 Peter 1:20-21					
Old Testament (39 books)			New Testament (27 books)		
<i>History</i> (17 books)	<i>Poetry</i> (5 books)	<i>Prophecy</i> (17 books)	<i>History</i> (5 books)	<i>Letters</i> (21 books)	<i>Prophecy</i> (1 Book)
<u>The Law</u> Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy	Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon	<u>Major Prophets</u> Isaiah Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel	<u>Gospels</u> Matthew Mark Luke John	<u>Paul's Letters</u> Romans 1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians 1 Thessalonians 2 Thessalonians 1 Timothy 2 Timothy Titus Philemon	Revelation
<u>History & Governments</u> Joshua Judges Ruth 1 Samuel 2 Samuel 1 Kings 2 Kings 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah Esther		<u>Minor Prophets</u> Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zechariah	<u>History of Early Church</u> Acts	<u>General Letters</u> Hebrews James 1 Peter 2 Peter 1 John 2 John 3 John Jude	
God used 40 different men over a period of 1500 years (about 1400 B.C. to A.D 90) in writing the Bible. The Bible was written in three different languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek.					

1. Where did the Bible (or Scripture) come from?

2 Timothy 3:16 – “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,”

2 Peter 1:21 – “For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

Teacher Extras:

[John 14:26 – Jesus explained how his disciples would write the Bible in John 14:26 which says, “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.”

Exodus 24:4a - And Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord.

Joshua 24:26a - And Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God.

Isaiah 30:8 - And now, go, write it before them on a tablet and inscribe it in a book, that it may be for the time to come as a witness forever.

Jer. 30:2 - Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you.]

2. How is the Bible NOT like any other book? Who is needed for us to understand the Bible?

1 Corinthians 2:12-13 – “Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.”

1 John 2:27 – “But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything—and is true and is no lie, just as it has taught you—abide in him.” (Note: “the anointing” is a reference to the Holy Spirit of God (1 John 2:20))

3. In light of our need for the Spirit of God to reveal the Bible to us, how might we be led to pray?

Psalms 119:18 – “Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.”

4a. According to these verses, who is portrayed as the central figure in the Old & New Testament?

(Hint: Be sure to read the previous verses to understand who is “himself” and “me”. [Lk. 24:15; Jn. 5:19])

Luke 24:27– “And beginning with Moses (Pentateuch - first five books) and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself (Jesus Christ).”

John 5:39 – “You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me (Jesus Christ).”

4b. What did the Apostle John (Jesus’ disciple) say were the two reasons for writing his letter?

John 20:31 – “...but these are written so 1) that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing 2) you may have life in his name.”

5. What does the Bible say about itself?

Proverbs 30:5 – “Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.”

Psalms 12:6 – “The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.”

Matthew 24:35 – “Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.”

Teacher Extras: [John 17:17 - “Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.”]

6. What cautions does the Bible give to those who hear and read it?

1 Corinthians 14:37 – “If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord.”

Deuteronomy 12:32 – “Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it.”

Revelation 22:18-19 – “I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

7. According to the following verses, explain why God’s Word is important and beneficial to us.

2 Timothy 3:15-16 – “...and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness.”

Hebrews 4:12 – “For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

Romans 15:4 – “For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”

Psalms 19:7-8

- a. “The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
- b. the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;
- c. the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
- d. the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;”

8. What is the result of knowing the Bible and allowing its truth to direct our lives?

Revelation 1:3 – Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.

Joshua 1:8 – This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Psalms 1:1-3 – “Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.”

9. In light of the truths in this lesson, what might be our response toward God’s Word?

Acts 17:11 – “Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.”

Proverbs 2:4-5 – “if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God.”

Thinking Question

10. What is one answer that God gives in His Word for allowing suffering to occur in people’s lives?

Deuteronomy 8:3 – “And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.”

Suggested Reading

Psalm 119