

Track Course

D1: Doctrine Level 1

The Bible is God's Word to man. It is the greatest book in history. It is needed to know who God is and His redemptive work. Without God's Word we cannot grow in our faith. The normal response when someone is saved is to _____ for more knowledge of God's Word (1 Peter 2:2).

“As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.” -Isaiah 55:10-11

Significance of the Bible

#1: It is the necessary _____ for Truth, ***“...for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.” -Acts 17:11b***

#2: It is necessary for _____, ***“Now I commit you to God and to the word of His grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified” -Acts 20:32***

#3: It is necessary for _____, ***“Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light unto my path.” - Psalm 119:105***

Structure of the Bible

- _____ total books (39 OT and 27 NT); over _____ writers over _____ years and in _____ different languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek)

Old Testament: Pentateuch (5), History (12), Poetry (5), Major Prophets (5), Minor Prophets (12)

New Testament: History (5), Paul's Letters (13), General Letters (8), Prophecy (1)

Special Revelation

Revelation means “_____”, or, “_____”. Man cannot find God and know Him on his

own. God must choose to disclose Himself to man, or, to remain in secret from man.

God reveals Himself in 2 Ways:

First: _____ Revelation: the created world around us. In looking at creation we can learn things about God:

His _____ to create and cause things to be,

His _____ to create order and complexity,

His _____ as our needs are met and we can exist because of creation;

His _____ as things He made appeal to our senses and are not just functional;

His _____ – seasons come and go as always, sun rises and sets as always, stars in their courses, rivers run, rain falls on our fields, creation is faithful so the Creator must be faithful;

He _____, all we need to exist is provided for us in this world.

Romans 1:20 says: ***“For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.”***

Second: _____ Revelation: Jesus Christ and the Bible. This is God actually _____ to mankind. Through Jesus Christ and through the Bible God has made known what otherwise could not be known (Hebrews 1:1, ***“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways [the Bible], but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son [Jesus Christ]...”***). Natural revelation is the evidence of God in the works He has done (Someone must be behind all this!), whereas special revelation is that very God speaking to His creation personally.

What cannot be known of God in creation that requires other revelation? (Origin of evil, God’s holiness, God’s redemptive plan for mankind, many of God’s attributes, Jesus Christ)

Spoken by Inspiration

The Bible is _____ by God. Inspired literally means “_____” (2 Timothy 3:16 – ***“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.”***)

This means that God is the Ultimate Source of what is in the Bible. It is not a book

written only by men. The content was written by men but came from God (2 Pet. 1:21 – ***“For prophecy never came by the will of a man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by _____.”***)

Because the Bible is inspired by God it is:

Infallible – incapable of having _____

Inerrant – the absence of _____

If the Bible has errors, then we face 3 problems:

First: God makes _____ and He is not what the Bible tells us He is. The logical question is: *What other ways does God make mistakes?* You can see how this erodes our faith when we deny the infallibility and the inerrancy of Scripture.

Second: It also puts man as the _____ over the Bible because now he judges which parts are true and which parts are not true. The problem then becomes: *what* parts in the Bible are errors, and, *who* decides?

Third: Man begins to look _____ of Scripture for truth. This leads to apostasy.

The Bible is **Authoritative**. God’s Word is the ultimate, final, and binding authority in all areas it speaks to, and, to Christian living. It has ultimate charge over us to _____ our lives. God’s Word determines for us what is right and wrong, truth and error, good and evil. We are to submit and subject ourselves to God’s Word.

When reading the Bible we need **Illumination**. Illumination is the ability to _____ God’s Word. The Holy Spirit “shed’s light” on (illuminates) God’s Word to help us “get” what it says (***“We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.”*** -1 Cor. 2:12).

Illumination is different than **Revelation**. Revelation is when God discloses truth that was not disclosed before in time. Illumination is the ability to **understand** that truth. Revelation was finished in the past. Illumination is **ongoing** as we prayerfully study revelation (God’s Word) and seek the Holy Spirit’s help.

Approaching the Bible

Come _____ to know God. Because man is not the ultimate author, but God is, come to His Word seeking to know more of Him ("***Like newborn babies crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation.***" -1 Pet. 2:2)

Come _____. Pride will blind you to spiritual truth ("***He guides the humble in what is right, and teaches them his way.***" -Ps. 25:9)

Come _____ what you read. Be ready to obey and live out what God's Word says. *Come to God's Word to find His will to live in His ways.* Greater knowledge doesn't necessarily mean greater obedience to God. But, greater obedience always means greater knowledge of God. ("***Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.***" -James 1:22)

Go Further:

1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 1:20-21; 3:15-16; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:15-17; Acts 20:32; Romans 15:4; 16:25-26; John 5:39; Matthew 4:4, 7, 10; 5:18; Hebrews 4:12; Isaiah 55:11

ANSWERS

Introduction: "Hunger"

Significance of the Bible: Source & Standard; Spiritual Growth; Spiritual Guidance

Structure of the Bible: 66; 40; 1500; 3

Special Revelation: Disclose; Make known; General; power; wisdom; goodness; beauty; faithfulness; provision; Special; speaking

Spoken by Inspiration: Inspired; God-breathed; the Holy Spirit; errors; errors, mistakes; authority; outside; govern; understand;

Approaching the Bible: hungry; humble; heeding