

GOD I HAVE QUESTIONS

GOD, CAN I REALLY TRUST THE BIBLE?

Dr. Norman Geisler, PhD – June 26, 2016

1. Why do you think the Bible has so many critics?
 - a. Read Mark 7:8, 13
 - b. In what ways is this passage true in our culture today?
 - c. In what ways is this passage true in the Church today?

There are three reasons why the Bible can't have any errors.

2. REASON 1: God the Father
 - a. Read the following passages and discuss the questions below.
 - John 17:17, 2 Timothy 3:16
 - Additional scriptures for reference: Psalm 119:160, Titus 1:2, Hebrews 6:18
 - b. What Scripture says, God says and what God says, Scripture says.
 - God says, "Now the Lord said to Abram." Genesis 12:3
 - Scripture says, "The scripture preached to Abraham saying..." Galatians 3:8
 - Additional scriptures for reference: Exodus 9:16, Romans 9:17, Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:4-5, Psalm 2:1, Acts 4:24-25
 - c. The Bible is the Word of God, and God cannot err, hence, the Bible cannot err.
 - Based on the above passages, discuss the following questions.
 - How have these passages challenged your thinking?
 - How have they encouraged your faith in God and in Scripture?

3. REASON 2: God the Son
"...to Christ the Old Testament was true, authoritative, inspired...to Him, what Scripture said, God said." - John Wenham

- a. Read John 14:26
 - In this passage, who is the source of comfort?
 - Who says this?
 - Why or how does this passage bring you comfort when it comes to knowing God and His Word?
- b. Jesus was without sin or defect and is righteous and pure.
 - Read Hebrews 4:15 and 2 Corinthians 5:21
 - Additional scriptures for reference: 1 John 3:3, 1 John 2:1, 1 Peter 1:19
- c. Bible critics make the argument that the Bible was written by humans and humans always err so the Bible must have errors.
 - What are your thoughts about this argument?
 - Read 2 Peter 1:20-21
 - How would you talk with someone who believed the above argument?

4. REASON 3: God the Holy Spirit
"The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me and His word was on my tongue." 2 Samuel 23:2

- The Bible is a Spirit-uttered book.
 - a. Read John 16:13 and 1 Corinthians 2:13
 - b. In what ways do these passages encourage or build your confidence to read God's Word?

The Bible is the inspired Word of God.

5. TC's first value is a High and Lofty View of God. It says, "We are committed, through the Spirit's enabling power, to teach a high and lofty view of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. All our actions, teaching, prayer, mission, and spiritual transformation will be driven by our view of God."

a. Because we have a high and lofty view of God we also believe that the Bible is the inspired, inerrant Word of God.

b. The Old and New Testament are verbally inspired by God, the only written revelation from God to man. The Bible is infallible and the authoritative rule of faith and conduct for mankind (2 Timothy 3:15-17; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:21).

6. Read Hebrews 4:12 and Psalm 139:23-24

a. At TC, part of our vision is Upward (Love God completely), Inward (Love ourselves correctly), Outward (Love our neighbors compassionately).

b. How can searching the scriptures and allowing the scriptures to search us lead to growing Upward, Inward, and Outward?

Soul-tattoo: Grow Upward, Inward, Outward through God's Word.

Close in prayer. God, thank You for Your Word that is alive. Thank You that we can trust You to be true and we can trust Your Word to be true. Thank You for Your Holy Spirit that guides us in reading and understanding Your Word. We pray that Your Word will be more and more alive in us and as a result the world will see and know that Your Word can be trusted and that You are faithful! In Jesus' name, amen!