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The Bible (Sermon Outlines)

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JUST HOW DID WE GET OUR BIBLE-
THE WORD OF GOD?

I. Somewhere did God present a leather-bound book, 66 volumes in our language? Of course not.

II. God revealed himself in a non-verbal way: creation, providence conscious.

Acts 14:17 "He did not leave himself without witness..."

Rom. 1:18-20
Ps. 19:1-4
Ps. 29:1-5
Ps. 119:89-91
Isa. 40:12
Rom. 2:14-15

A. Yet the disclosure is limited.
   1. Who is he?
   2. How does he want us to live?
   3. How can I have a relationship with him?

B. There were special spoken revelations.
   1. Adam
   2. Noah
   3. Abraham
   4. Prophets
   5. His Son

C. Spoke via inspiration with the Holy Spirit guiding.

2 Peter 1:21
2 Tim. 3:16
John 14:26
1. Thus a written record.
Jer. 1:9
I Cor. 2:13

D. Old Testament
1. Stones
2. Clay tablets
3. Animal skins
4. Written 1500-400 B.C.
5. Hebrew - 22 letters, all consonants
   a) Read back to front
   b) Lines R to L
   c) No vowels
   d) Added vowel point
   e) Some Aramaic

E. New Testament
1. Greek
2. Papyrus cut in strips crossways.
3. Large capital letters. (Uncials)
4. No breaks, punctuations
5. No original autographs

III. Preserved
A. Copies made by hand.
B. Printing press 1450
C. Scrolls
D. Second century code and book forms
E. Copy word for word from
F. Reader abound to many who copied.
1. Some error possible.
2. Some with scribes editing it to make it say what he wanted it to.
3. Some variants unintentional alternate spelling, substitution of a synonym, repeat or omit.
4. Rules developed 100-400 A.D. for copying.
5. Maronites added Hebrew point vowels.

IV. Preservation
A. Leningrad Codex oldest Hebrew Bible A 1008
B. Copied 2,000 years after written.
C. 1947 Dead Sea Scrolls
   250 B.C. - 60 A.D.
   1. Every OT book except Esther
   2. Great compared to Maronite text.
D. New Testament on papyrus
   1. Philom - 1 sheet
   2. Matthew - roll 30' long
   3. 118 papyrus MMS at least one or more passages.
   4. Some within 30 yrs. of NT original.
"FOR WHAT PURPOSE EXISTS THE BIBLE?"
Romans 15:4-7

I. Some questions startle me and some new ages bring.
   A. At Sikeston a lady asked "guess what my little girl said when she saw your picture 'there's the robber!'"
   B. Do you plan to go to the moon? Fly faster than sound?
      1. Few years ago this was a silly question
   C. "For what purpose exists the Bible?" question didn't arise a long time ago.
      1. It was an amulet
      2. It was a source for winning arguments
      3. It was a symbol of puritanical life
      4. Why is it really here?

II. Have you ever thought what man can do to the word of God?
   A. Wrest it
      2 Pet. 3:16-"They that are unlearned & un
   1. Peter said he & Paul teach the same thing.
   2. God is long suffering - yet no license to sin
   3. Note Paul's letters were collected & circulated then regarded as Scripture
   4. Some things hard to grasp - twist to our ruin
   a) Grace = an excuse to sin
   b) Freedom = licenses to sin
   c) Faith makes work unnecessary (are examples of doing the twist)
B. Handle deceitfully
2 Cor. 4:17 - "But have renounced the Lord
1. Paul never lost heart in his great task. He knew what it was to thank God for gift of mercy.
2. Enemies said (a) used unscrupulous cleverness to get way of Adulterated message of God.
C. Corrupt
2 Cor. 2:17 - "For we are not as many
1. When we listen to self & stop listening to God our message is corrupted.
2. Test your ideas by God's will.
3. Was Paul guilty of lining his pockets by gospel.
4. His motives will stand the test.
5. He knew what God that of him.
D. Make void
Mk. 7:13 - "Making the word of God of
1. Does Korban mean "gift" like one already on altar to God.
2. Completely set apart - Could put on altar & not help Jesus et al's system that puts rules above human needs. Rules that prevent man giving help are wrong.
E. Pervert
Gal. 1:6-9 = "I marvel that ye are so
1. Paul taught grace - Judicious circumcision
2. They felt ye got credit entries.
3. "taught must earn grace.
4. Said he made it too easy.
5. Not satisfy claims of law but rather meet obligations of love. Can't give enough to ones you love.
6. He wore brand of Christ-scars of battle.
F. Add to
Deut. 4:2-"Ye shall not add unto the Deut. 12:32="What thing soever I command you Prov 30:5-6 Add thou not... lest shed a lion.

G. Take From
Rev. 22:18-19-"If any man shall
1. Don't distort teachings of book

H. Go beyond
2 Jn. 9-"Whosoever transgresseth
1. From GK "to go out in advance"
2. What about progressive, adventurous minds
3. Anchor 2d to Jesus

III. What can he do with it?
A. Receive it
Mark 23:20-"Behold I have received James 1:21-Wherefore lay apart all f.
1. This word is from God, not discovery of man
2. Tells about God as man could not have discovered it himself
3. Spoken message - comes thru living personality
4. We must listen, take to ourselves, digest.
B. I can obey it.
Mark 23:26-"All that the Lord speaketh
Romans 6:17-18-"But God be thanked that

C. I can let it guide.
Isa. 8:20-"To the law and to the
I Pet. 4:11-"If any man speak, let
2 Cor. 5:7-"We walk by faith
Rom. 10:17-"Faith cometh by hearing
2 Tim. 3:15-17-"And that from a child
Heb. 8:5-"Make all things according to

D. I can study it and handle aright.
Acts 17:11-"Now these were more noble
2 Tim. 2:15

1. Do we know what we are & what we believe?
E. Judged by it
In 12:47-48-"And if any man hezr
Hearing brings c privilege a responsibility
Westind 3/10/68
HOW'D THE BIBLE GET HERE ANYHOW?

2 Pet. 1:19

I. The origin of books is interesting.
   A. Mood of author.
   B. Occasion for it.
   C. Compilation of material.

II. How'd we get our Bible?

A. Tell story of Transfiguration.
   Matt. 17:1-8   Lu. 9:30-31

1. It shows Christ the redemptive fulfillment of the OT prophets.

2. There is a continuity of God revealing Himself to man - Jesus had 3 c Him on Mt.

3. Luke talks of:
   a.) Glory - splendor.
   b.) Departure.
      (1) Exodus.
      (2) Going out.
      (3) He wins deliverance for his folks as Moses did via Exodus.
   c.) Accomplished.
      (1) To fill up to the full.
      (2) Complete, carry out.
      (3) In dark hour Christ is on the offensive.

   Lu. 23:46 "And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice..."
   Jn. 10:17-18 "Therefore doth my Father love me, bec...
   (4) His death is voluntary - I lay down.
   (5) It is vicarious (good shepherd lays down life for sheep (John 10:11).
   (6) It's victorious - (I lay it down that I may take it again (Jn. 10:17-18).
d.) Word is sure because Christ answered to it.

B. Now go to II Pet. 1:19.

1. We are invited above to "pay attention."
   a.) Inspired word has a transforming influence upon the believers.
   b.) "The proof of the inspiration of the Scriptures is their power to inspire."
   c.) The Bible is the invention of good men or angels, bad men or devils, or God—quote.

2. The Bible comes to us by the inspiration of God.

3. What does this verse mean?

II Pet. 1:20-21 "Knowing this first, that no prophecy
   a.) No prophecy came by the impulse of man (RSV)
   b.) "Know this" — Scriptures give us the mind & thought of God as revealed to man.
   c.) Man wants to supplant God.
   d.) He prejudges the divine revelation on the basis of inadequate factual knowledge.
   e.) R. Catholism exalts conciliar decisions & papal utterance to a position above the judgement of God as revealed will — makes God subservient to will of man. We judge God rather than submit.
   f.) Don't take Scripture out of context.
   g.) Private = one's own interpretation = loosening or untying a hard knot.
   h.) Give a contextual consideration.
IRREFUTABLE IS THE GUIDANCE BY THE BIBLE AS GOD'S INSPIRED WORD

I. I am one who stands in constant need.
   A. I've never lived this day before.
   B. I do not know how many more days I have nor where they will be spent.
   C. I see my compatriots fall & attend their burial--unmistakably such is the lot for me--where do I go?

II. I ask for help!
   A. But you haven't been here before either--Hanibal, Napoleon, Patton were here but not today!
   B. The only help I can get must be divine--where did God speak to me?--That's my quest & question.
   1. Does God exist?
   2. Is there a written record for me?

III. I believe God unerringly has spoken.
   Heb. 1:1 "God who at sundry times
   A. What were those divers manners?
   5. I Sam. 3:4 - Voice "The Lord called S."
   6. Ps. 19:1 - Nature "The heavens declare
   B. How does He today?
   1. Ans. - By His word!
John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word
John 1:14 "And the word was made
Lu. 24:27 "And beginning at Moses & all
Lu. 24:44 "All things must be fulfilled
Matt. 5:17 "Think not that I am come
2. This Word He revealed to us.
Jn. 5:39 'Search the Scrp: for in them
IV. These Scriptures (Writings) make claims for themself.
A. 50 x called Scriptures.
2 Tim. 3:14-17 "But continue there in the
2. Able to make wise.
3. Inspired.
4. 4 fold usage.
5. Complete.
2 Pet. 1:3 "According as his divine
Jude 3 "Contend earnestly for the f.
B. 92 x in N. T. "It is written" with the ring of finality.
Matt. 4:4 "It is written man shall
7 "It is written thou shalt not
10 "It is written thou shalt worship
Matt. 21:13 "It is written my house shall
Matt. 26:24 "The Son of Man goeth as it
Lu. 10:26 "He saith unto him, 'What is
Jn. 6:45 "It is written in the pro. and
C. It has authority.
Rom. 15:4 "And whatsoever things were
Matt. 21:42 "Jesus...Did ye never read
Matt. 22:29 "Ye do err, not knowing
Jn. 10:35 "Script. cannot be broken
D. It has authority because it is word.
Heb. 4:12 "For the word of God is quick
Jn. 17:17 "Sanctify them thru thy tr.
Acts 18:11 "And he continued 1 1/2
Mk. 7:13 Making the word of God of
1. I have 3 choices for authority.
   (a) Tradition or authority of church.
   (b) Human reasoning.
   (c) Bible.
2. I take latter.
E. They claim supernatural quality.
1. Inspired.
   2 Tim. 3:16
2. Unbreakable.
   John 10:35
3. Imperishable.
   Matt. 5:18 "Till heaven & earth pass
   2 Pet. 1:19-21 "We have also a more
   Ps. 18:30 "The word of the Lord is tried
5. Oracles.
   Rom. 3:2 "Because unto them
6. Outline of purpose.
   Eph. 1:4-5 "According as he hath
7. Exist to be obeyed.
   Jn. 14:15 "If ye love me, keep my
   I Jn. 5:3 "For this is the love of God
8. Cleanses.
   Jn. 15:3 Now ye are clean thru
   Ps. 119:11 "Thy word have I hid
   Rom. 1:16
    Jn. 12:47-48 "And if any man
V. Some quibbles:
A. "It is true in spiritual matters but off historically."
   1. How can you be certain about Christ if you have an uncertain word about Him?
   2. How could Bethelehem be inaccurate and the Babe virgin born accurate?
   3. And an imperfect record give the perfect sound of a symphony?
      Jn. 3:12 "If I have told you earthly
B. "The Bible contains the word of God."
   1. It says it is by me if his word was in my mouth
      2 Sam. 23:2 "The Spirit of the Lord spak
      Acts 4:25 "Who by the mouth of thy
   2. Who knows which part is which?
   3. Granted, it does record opposing views as in Job but God unerringly set it forth
C. "It becomes the Word of God when you have existential encounter."
   1. It already is word - my TV is a TV whether it's turned on or not.
D. "There is a general air of inspiration that perfumes it all."

Exo. 20:1 "God spake all these words

Nu. 1:1 "And the Lord spake unto Moses

Deut. 4:2 "Ye shall not all unto the w.

1. Told the words to use.
   (a) A bar of music is made of notes--change one, you change the music.
   (b) So c word.

2. Men were men, not machines. They were not human typewriters God punched full personalities are there.

C. "Man told you which Books were inspired.

1. God bestowed canonicity Man discovered or recognized.

2. Earmarks.
   (a) Written by men of God?
   (b) Does it come c the authority of God.
   (c) Does it tell the truth about God?
   (d) Does it edify & purify.
   (e) Was it early accepted by peoples of God?
   (f) Was it the O. T. part confirmed by Jesus' quotes? (He quotes 15 of 22 O. T. books--covers same as our 39 some are combined. He never quotes one of 12 Apocraphical Books).
   (g) Were they apostolic or apostolic companionship (Mark & Luke) in origin?
VI. Conclusion.

A. God in the Bible has unerringly spoken.
B. It claims to be his writings, his word, authoritative, & supernatural.
C. Quibbles arise but my faith & hope is in this message not the mess of man's musings.

1. Like Christ, Bible is of dual origin.
   (a) Christ from God & man
       Bible Divine & human in origin.
   (b) Christ w/o sin; Bible w/o error.
   (c) Both are true, unchangeable & came thru Jewish nation.

West End 4-25-71
Karin Collins-Bapt.
Why We Believe The BIBLE    Rev 18:22-

1. Let it set awhile—gets heavy.
2. Importance of the subject.
3. Method of proving it:
   A. external.
   B. internal.
4. No God like the God of the Bible.
   A. We believe in God because Atheism, the only other alternative can't be prove
   B. We have right and wrong complex so there must be one to give it to us.
   C. Makes greatest claims:
      1. Is a father, creator, remember B. Franklin "You're joking."
      2. Is a spirit, can't imagine Him.
      3. Such display of love and fury.

D. Answer to our quest ions i.e. who hold the sea in place.

5. No Book like the Bible.
   A. Suffered the most attacks yet good anvil
   B. Intelligence of varied writers yet O.K.
   C. Geography of the Bible:
      1. go up.
      3. sea one bed.
   D. Prophesies fulfilled—Babylon Is.13:19-
   E. great men accept it—Lincoln, Adams, Kant Rousseau, Ruskin, Newton Scott (1 book)

   A. Buddah Moslem, must be a Christ.
   B. No one else claims to save you.
   C. Fulfilled prophesy(birth & coming and burial-rich in death.
7. No people like the people of the Bible.
   A. love for each other.
   B. strangers here.
   C. closest bond there is.
   D. happiest people there is.
   E. nothing like the church.

8. Invitation.