

The Authority Of The Bible

The Holy Bible, The Word Of God, The Holy Scriptures Of Old Testament And New Testament

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This document relates to his personal art of religious music composition by the composer.

The theological study by the composer and the art of music study by the composer go hand in hand.

As a student who knows how to investigate and as a teacher who knows how to analyze a book and teach it, the composer entered religious studies as young adult when the obviously conflicting theological arguments were God is dead, or believe only what seems right to you about the Bible, or believe the Bible and use it.

When the problems of life came to the composer, using the Bible correctly and investigating the Book became necessary.

This is some theology study results that the composer found.
Thank you for taking the time to read this document.

Introduction

Before we get started, let's see where we are going. The Bible record about Jesus Christ is based on accounts of eyewitnesses. Let's see what some of these eyewitnesses have to say.

The Apostle Peter said, "For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to Him from the excellent glory, 'This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.' And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with Him in the holy mount."

The Apostle John said, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

In John's Bible biography of Jesus Christ, he wrote things for people of all worldviews concerning what he saw of Jesus and what he learned from Jesus. At the death of Jesus, John took the Mother of Jesus to live with him and be his Mother as Jesus asked him to do from the cross. This gave John a unique access to an eyewitness of Jesus. John the Apostle also gave the eyewitness account of John the Baptizer, "And John {the baptizer} bare record, saying, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon Him. And I knew Him not: but He that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, 'Upon Whom you shall see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, the same is He which baptizes with the Holy Ghost.' And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God.'"

Paul, whom Jesus called to be His messenger, He {Paul} gave this eyewitness account, "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures: And that He was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: After that, He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. After that, He was seen of James; then of all the apostles. And last of all He was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. For I am the least of the apostles, that am not appropriate to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God."

A man called Luke was an associate of Paul we know from comments of Paul in his Bible letters such as: "Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you." And "Only Luke is with me." And "Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas {Luke}, my fellowlabourers." Luke was on the inner circle of events. Luke gave us one of the biggest body of historical records about the Biblical Jesus Christ in the Bible.

Luke was an intellectual, scholar, and historian who worked a lot with Paul who Jesus chose to be His messenger. Luke states his orderly scholarship in this way: "Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us, Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word; It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, That you might know the certainty of those things, wherein you have been instructed." In another place in the Bible Luke states: "The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: To whom also he showed Himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:"

Luke records the following phenomenal account of "good tidings of great joy" and "on earth peace, good will toward men" through "a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" if you want it! Hear Luke's account of this phenomenal happening. "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round

about them: and they were very afraid. {Who wouldn't have chills of fear running up and down their spines being in the presence of such a heavenly event.} And the angel said unto them, 'Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; You shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.' And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord has made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. {It shouldn't be hard to find the only newborn baby in Bethlehem who was in a stable's manger.} And when they had seen this Child, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this Child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them." {Mary and the shepherds give us this account which Luke recorded.}

So now we see where we are going. We have eyewitnesses telling us about "good tidings of great joy" - - sounds nice. And is it available to us? It "shall be to all people". Of course, this implies that we accept this Savior and do the changes that need to be done concerning our sins that Christ died for in our place so that we can live with God forever. The angels concluded, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men!" Peace on earth, good will toward all people. God's peace does not mean no tribulation. Jesus said that in this world you will have tribulations but be of good cheer - - I have overcome the world. It is said that God's peace passes all understanding and it shall keep the hearts and minds of believers through Christ Jesus.

On another note, the Apostle Matthew records that Jesus shall save His people from their sins. And they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. The Psalmist has said, "*O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusts in Him.*"

Prologue

- When the Church or individuals consider the Bible support or non-support for various ways to act on a subject, the various positions on that subject need to consider several issues. **Most important to the various ways to act on a subject is their undergirding theory of the Bible.**
- First is to pray. {Bible Proverbs:} "Trust in the Lord with all your heart; and lean not to your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Be not wise in your

own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil. It shall be health to your navel, and marrow to your bones.” {Jesus speaking these next words:} “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can you, except you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches: He that abides in Me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without Me you can do nothing.”

- Be sure to work out all of the Bible support or non-support for various ways to act on a subject. Use all of the Bible that applies. {From The Bible Scriptures:} “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man {meaning man or woman} of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”
- We need to remember our Christian Biblical heritage as we proceed. Churches and individual Christians need to review themselves with the comments of Jesus to the Churches in the first three chapters of the Bible book of Revelation. [In reading the next statement note that in our fulfilled era of human history repenting means acknowledging and turning from our sins, looking to God for forgiveness, and accepting His way of cleansing us.] “Nevertheless I have somewhat against you, because you have left your first love. Remember therefore from whence you are fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto you quickly, and will remove your candlestick {your Church} out of his place, except you repent.” {This is our first love:} “And she shall bring forth a son, and you shall call His name, “Jesus”: for He shall save His people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name, “Emmanuel”, which being interpreted is, “God with us”.” Jesus, God’s only begotten Son, came into the world to save the world, not to condemn it. We need to keep in mind that Jesus died on the cross in our place to take our sins so that we can live in the presence of a holy God forever for those who believe and follow.
- But sin can block our walk with and our following God and Jesus Christ {the Apostle Peter tells us that even how we treat our wife can hinder our prayers}. There are several lists of sins in the Bible that say we will not inherit the kingdom of God if we cling to those sins in thought, word, or deed. If we have any one of those sin conditions or any other sin condition, God and Jesus Christ can help us get out of those sin conditions. For we know from the Bible that “For with God nothing shall

be impossible.”, “Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear.”, “And the Lord said unto Moses, ‘Is the Lord’s hand waxed short? you shall see now whether My word shall come to pass unto you or not.’”, {God said:} “Behold, I have graven you upon the palms of My hands; your walls are continually before Me.”, “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us”, “Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”, and, “So shall My Word be that goes 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.”

- Some people accept the Bible on faith even though they cannot articulate their position about their theory of the Bible but they may well be living by the position presented in presentation. Also, some people have not seen the theory of the Bible in this presentation articulated or articulated correctly even in seminary. Study this and other presentations thoroughly and investigate the basis of explanations. For example, some statements used to discredit the theory of the Bible in this presentation is of the logic type error as was the “Jesus is not the Christ because He was from Nazareth” error. But that explanation did not study enough to get the real explanation that Jesus of Nazareth by a strange twist of events was born in Bethlehem. We should study and grow until we start getting a theory of the Bible that Jesus Christ supports. We are told that we will all have to stand before Christ regardless of our worldview.
- Various ways to act on a subject can cause splits in Church congregations and some people even leave. Some do not like decisions made but stay around as missionaries. We are told in the Bible “to speak the truth in love” and that would include doing this to all sides. Regardless of disagreements, we should still be able to speak to anyone when we pass them on the sidewalk.

- The Bible tells us that there may well be persecution which could even come from peer pressure. Jesus tells us that we need to forgive to be forgiven but that does not negate the fact that sometimes people that we have forgiven still need to be turned over to agencies of the law. We are told to “Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not.” And “Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing you shall heap coals of fire on his head.”
- We need to realize the time of human history in which we live. The world in many ways is getting worse and worse as the time of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ approaches. Christians and their property are being attacked worldwide. In some places like the United States they are even using the government to attack Christians.
- This document that you are reading is a strict interpretation of the Bible meaning that it is a schoolteacher look for what the Bible says, and what the Bible says about the Bible, and how the Bible needs to be and can be obeyed in faith. This analysis of the Bible does not start with any preconceived assumptions and it finds that in today’s age of human history you need to start from Jesus Christ.
- Some approaches to the Bible leave doubt about the Bible in the minds of some people and these people then don’t know just what they can believe. The approach to the Bible in this document that you are reading is based on Jesus Christ with a rationale that supports the Bible even though we will not have complete understanding until we get to heaven.
- **This document that you are reading is an invitation to use the Bible like Jesus interprets and supports the Bible.** Note that Jesus, the risen Son of God, interprets any verse in the Bible in terms of the whole Bible and in light of other material in the Bible that is related to the verse under consideration.
- For any Bible position on a subject: now let’s consider the undergirding theory of the Bible as articulated in the document that you are reading.

The Authority Of The Bible

Who is our ultimate authority on earth and why?

There has only been one Person in the history of the world that has predicted that He would rise from the dead, never to die again, as a sign of Who He is and as a sign for the authority of what He is doing. This Person is Jesus of Nazareth Who is Jesus the Christ, the long-awaited Messiah, Savior of the world, the only begotten {in the sense of not made like we are made} Son of God being both God and human, Who died for our sins so that we can be fit to live forever with our holy God, our Creator. Jesus was sinless and thus worthy to substitute for us and take our sin. Not wanting us to be lost forever from His loving presence, God gave us, who could not erase our sins, a way to be in the presence of our holy God forever. Jesus is the fulfillment of the Bible Old Testament Old Covenant plan God used until He sent Jesus to earth in a New Covenant plan in the Bible New Testament. God does not want us to be lost from our God, our God Who wants to dwell with us, so He gave us a plan so that being lost would not happen for those who believe. And the plan He gave us is Jesus Christ.

Jesus said this about His power to raise Himself from death, “Therefore does My Father {meaning God} love Me, because I lay down My life, that I might take it again. No man takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of My Father.” Later when Jesus was speaking about another commandment, Jesus spoke about the source of His words, “For I have not spoken of Myself; but the Father {meaning God} which sent Me, He gave Me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak. And I know that His commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto Me, so I speak.

The resurrection of Jesus from the dead is the ultimate sign of the authority of Jesus. Jesus was asked, “What sign do You show us, seeing that You do these things?” He was continually asked about His authority, “By what authority do You do these things? and who gave You this authority?” “Tell us, by what authority You do these things? or who is he that gave You this authority?”

The sign that Jesus gave for His authority is His power to raise Himself from the dead as He predicted. Once when Jesus was involved in a controversy in the temple and then He was asked for a sign of His authority, Jesus said, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” Those who ask for a sign thought that this answer was ridiculous and said, “Forty and six years was this temple in building, and will You rear it up in three

days?” “But Jesus spoke of the temple of His body. When therefore Jesus was risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.”

Jesus also illustrated His resurrection sign of His authority using the Bible prophet Jonah who was sent to Nineveh to preach: “For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” For example: “Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, ‘Master, we would see a sign from You.’ But He answered and said to them, ‘An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonah: For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and, behold, a greater than Jonah is here. The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.’” And another example: “The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired Him that He would show them a sign from heaven. He answered and said to them, ‘When it is evening, you say, ‘It will be fair weather: for the sky is red.’ And in the morning, ‘It will be foul weather today: for the sky is red and lowering.’ O you hypocrites, you can discern the face of the sky; but can you not discern the signs of the times? A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonah.’ And He left them, and departed.” And yet another example: “And when the people were gathered thick together, He began to say, ‘This is an evil generation: they seek a sign; and there shall no sign be given it, but the sign of Jonah the prophet. For as Jonah was a sign unto the Ninevites, so shall also the Son of man be to this generation. The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation, and condemn them: for she came from the utmost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here. The men of Nineveh shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and, behold, a greater than Jonah is here.’”

Thus we see that Jesus gave one ultimate sign of His authority which is His unique, predicted resurrection. But there are other things to support Jesus: we have His works, His words, His fulfillment of the Old Covenant Old Testament Bible Scriptures, the attested witness of John the Baptizer, the attested witness of the eleven close disciples of Jesus, and the great cloud of witnesses down through the ages. And, then, we have the resurrection. Lazarus was resurrected by Jesus but died again at a later time. Enoch in the Old Testament never died but was translated into heaven. But the resurrection of Jesus is

different. We have the unique, predicted resurrection of Jesus never to die again to support the fact that Jesus is the long awaited Messiah, the Christ, the only begotten, unique, very Son of God! There is no other person in human history worthy and capable to die for our wrongful sins so that we can live in the presence of our holy God. There is no other one in human history that has risen from the dead never to die again! Jesus Christ is the ultimate human authority!

The ultimate authority of the Bible in our human history age of the Bible New Covenant in the Bible New Testament comes from the authority of the Jesus Christ.

But before we examine the authority of the Bible coming from Jesus Christ, let's look at someone rising from the dead being a sign to be used as a basis for belief. When Jesus described how at death the angels carry our souls to one of two separate places. {What happens to the body and when is described elsewhere in the Bible.} In discussing death, one person in the story went to a Paradise place called Abraham's bosom and another person who did not have works to evidence a proper faith went to a place called Hell and was in torments. The person in Hell being in torments asked for that someone in the Paradise place {Heaven} to go back to earth to warn his five brothers lest they also come into this place of torment. He was told that the brothers "have Moses and the prophets {a major part of the Bible Old Testament}; let them hear them". The person in Hell replied that "if one went to them from the dead, they will repent". He was told that, "If they hear not Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead".

What we have just discussed the fact that even someone rising from the dead will not persuade people about heavenly matters without some knowledge of and some understanding of the Bible. The Bible teaches that "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God {meaning the Bible}." God wants people of any kind of thinking or of any worldview to hearing His plan of Jesus Christ Who died for our sins so that we can live with our holy God forever. "And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. You go therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.'" Many people who tell others about Jesus Christ use words from the Bible such as: "If You, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with You" and "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:" and also these "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." "But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, long

suffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.” and especially “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.”. The Apostle Paul was the greatest evangelist in the Bible who converted many to faith in Jesus Christ. Paul quoted a lot of the Bible Old Testament in his discussions. The greatest evangelist since the Apostle Paul was given to our generation and this evangelist quoted lots of Bible Scriptures in his presentations.

Now let’s return to the authority of the Bible.

The authority of the Bible comes from Jesus Christ in our age of human history. As we have discussed, we can have no better human authority than Jesus Christ. Jesus endorsed the correctly interpreted message of the Apostles in the Bible New Testament including the Apostle Paul and Jesus endorsed the correctly interpreted message of the Bible Old Testament Prophets. The Bible New Testament sums up the authority of the Bible by saying, “And {believers} are built upon the foundation of the Apostles {Bible New Testament} and Prophets {Bible Old Testament}, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone”. For one example, Jesus accepts the Old Testament down to the “jot and tittle”. “Think not that I am come to destroy the Law, or the Prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, ‘Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the Law, till all be fulfilled.’” Jesus supports the message of His eleven close disciple Apostles in the New Testament by saying such things as that he that receives you receives Me, and he that receives Me receives Him that sent Me. And Jesus told His eleven close disciples Apostles, “And you also shall bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning”. The Bible says that Jesus has prayed for those who believe in the Biblical Christ through the word of the Apostles. Jesus supports the message of Paul when He called Paul to be an Apostle to speak for Him and the Apostle Peter includes Paul as Scripture in his writings.

It should be noted that the Bible New Testament interprets the Bible Old Testament in a fulfilled sense in places like Acts 15 and the book of Hebrews.

The words of Jesus have authority in the Bible because He is the Son of God. However this does not mean that the rest of the Bible has no authority because the rest of the words in the Bible are not the words of Jesus. Jesus endorses the rest of the Bible as we have discussed thus giving the rest of the Bible authority (remember the “he that receives you receives Me, and he that receives Me receives Him that sent Me” statement for example).

The Bible is not an optional book for those who follow Jesus. In the Bible book of Judges the nation of Israel lived incorrectly regarding the Bible of their time in human history: “In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.”. In our time of human history Jesus made it clear that the Bible is not optional: “If you love Me, keep My commandments.” “If a person loves Me, he will keep My words: and My Father will love Him, and We will come to him, and make Our home with him. He that loves Me not keeps not My sayings: and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father's which sent Me.”. We do not do what is right in our own eyes to get the blessings of Jesus Christ.

Since Jesus endorses the Bible, He stands behind the statements that the Bible says about itself. “For ever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven.” “So shall My Word {God’s Word} be that goes 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.” “For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” These statements also show that the power of the Bible itself shows the authority of the Bible.

Jesus Christ Himself had some very strong things to say about Bible Word of God Scriptures: “Blessed are they that hear the Word of God, and keep it.” “Scripture cannot be broken (or false)”. “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.” “Search the Scriptures; for in them you think you have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me.”

Since all of the Bible is about Jesus Christ, it makes it even more imperative that any verse in the Bible be interpreted in terms of the whole Bible and certainly in light of other material in the Bible that is related to the verse under consideration. And, obviously interpreting a verse in the context of the text that surrounds it using prayerful, thoughtful logic is assumed if one is to arrive at the wisdom God and Christ provide in the verse. Context may need to include a whole book in the Bible. The first two chapters of the Bible book of Esther give the setting in which God is going to act and it does not imply that this setting is God’s ways. Likewise, the end of the Bible book of Job gives the way that the whole book should be interpreted; it does not accept some of the things characters said earlier in the book. The book of John strengthens believers but the end of John points out that everything in the book of John is written for unbelievers: “But these are written, that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you might have life through his name.”

This issue of interpreting the Bible gets confused in a statement in II Corinthians 3:6 that talks about the letter and the spirit (as well as in the book of Romans, chapter 7). But the verses that follow in the II Corinthians statement show that the “letter” is being used in the sense of the Old Covenant Law and the “spirit” is being used in the sense of the New Covenant life in the Holy Spirit of Christ. This statement is not talking about ignoring what letters of the Bible are obviously saying and then making some kind of spiritualized, unwarranted poetic interpretation from the words which can lead to strange interpretations.

Also note that it is logically and eternally pointless to try to pray in faith for something that is contrary to the Bible. Also, we cannot vote on what should be in the Bible. That is fruitless.

Jesus and the Bible do make some interpretation exceptions at times. These will not be examined here but be careful.

Incomplete Bible interpretations and wrong interpretations of a Bible passage and even discussions that do not use the Bible can be fertile for logically leading us astray. In Matthew 4:1-17 and Luke 4:1-13 at the temptation of Jesus by Satan the Devil, the clever Devil used Bible Scripture itself to tempt Jesus. Jesus saw through these incorrect uses of Scripture by knowing and quoting other Scripture. Satan the Devil has been trying to get people to not believe and obey the Word of God since the Garden of Eden!

Without the Bible we really cannot know all that God wants us to know and we may not know whether some questionable things are good or bad by God’s holy standards so these things are revealed to us through His Bible messengers:

.....We are told: “The secret things belong to the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the Words of this Law.”

..... After we accept Jesus Christ who died for our sins we need to consider our position in reality and with God. We are told: “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

..... “And be not conformed to this world: but you be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

..... [Jesus speaking:] If you were of the world, the world would love his own: but because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.”

..... “And you has He quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein in time past you walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air {Satan the Devil}, the spirit that now works in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, Who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, has quickened us together with Christ, (by grace you are saved;)”

..... “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that you should show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy. Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;”

..... There are several lists of things that will not inherit the Kingdom of God. Things on these lists are to save us not to condemn us. “Do you not now know that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: ... And such were some of you: but you are washed, but you are sanctified, but you are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.” [I Corinthians 6:9-11; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:3-8] No matter what we have done in the past, God and Jesus Christ do not avoid us. But they do want us to avoid things that will do us no eternal good.

..... Heed the warnings of the Bible. Proverbs chapters 1 and 2 are an example of someone giving out bad information and lying likely mixed with flattery.

..... New teachings about the Bible support the “all we need is love” theology. This theology presents the concept that if something is done in love then that makes it right. The “all we need is love” theology can produce a pretty sermon that makes everything end rosy and great with plenty of warm fuzzies if everybody would only do things in love. But the problem is that we are too sinful and selfish to always act in love. And, the “all we need is love” theology does not deal with the sin issue which makes us not fit to live in the presence of a holy God forever. But someone may say if we are loving even part of the time that God will provide a way to deal with our sin so that we can live with a

holy God. But God has provided a way. It is called “Jesus Christ” who died for our sins on the cross in our place fulfilling the Old Testament Old Covenant giving us the New Testament New Covenant for our age in human history. And, this Jesus supports the Bible. We cannot cleanse ourselves of sin nor can we tell God how He should do it nor can we do anything to earn it. But God loves us and wants to dwell with us and He did provide a way which we have unearned and cannot earn. We need to repent, accept Christ, and do works that are right for repentance to be open to any blessings, rewards, etc. that the Bible tells us about.

..... There are both Bible theological teachings and non-Bible theological teachings; walk as children of light: “Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things comes the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be you not therefore partakers with them. For you were sometimes darkness, but now you are light in the Lord: walk as children of light:”

..... Jesus defeated Satan and can help us do the same in His way: “Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world {Satan the Devil} be cast out.”

..... The Bible discussion about the full armor of God tells more about being prepare to deal with Satan the Devil as we depend on Christ. “Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” [A list of the full armor of God then follows in the Bible in Ephesians 6:10-18.]

..... THE BIBLE AS THE WORD OF GOD: EXAMPLE: [Jesus speaking to God concerning His believing followers:] “I have given them Your Word; and the world has hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. I pray not that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. Sanctify them through Your Truth: Your Word is Truth!”

Many Bible unfortunate prophecies of things to happen before the Seconding Coming of Jesus Christ are now happening. We need to be careful that we are not doing anything to fulfill these unfortunate prophecies. In regards to these unfortunate prophecies, let's don't participate.

When a council in the book of Acts was preparing to take action against the apostles spreading the message of Jesus Christ, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law who had in reputation among all the people made a recommendation about the apostles spreading the message of Jesus. Gamaliel made this recommendation, “But if it be of God, you cannot overthrow it; lest haply you be found even to fight against God.”. We need to be careful in handling the apostle’s Bible message that we are not fighting against God. The Bible tells us that we all will have to stand before Jesus Christ in the next life regardless of our worldview. We do not want Jesus to tell us that we were fighting against God. But we do not have to wait until we stand before Jesus Christ to see if we were fighting against God. We can ask Him right now. However, He may not give us an answer if He has already answered in the Bible through His messengers.

I do not understand why someone would want to join a Church when that person has a major irresolvable theological teachings conflict with that Church. If Jesus did not support non-Biblical theological teachings, then why should a Church do no less? Scripture records that a group of guys brought to Jesus a woman who was caught in adultery. They wanted to throw rocks at her. Jesus told them to let the man with no sin throw the first stone. They left. Jesus told the woman that her accusers did not accuse her and neither did He condemn her. Then He said to her, “Go, and stop sinning.” Jesus said to us that we need to forgive to be forgiven. Of course, repenting of sins may not excuse suffering the penalties of society’s laws. But when some people repent of certain sins, it is tempting for Church members to remember the past. You are Welcome to join a Church. But first the burden to resolve any irresolvable theological teachings conflict lies on you. And then may the members of that Church follow the example of Jesus and figuratively say to you, “We do not point a finger. We stick out a hand.”

When we stray from the Bible, God can very active in guiding us to correctly use the Bible: “Behold, happy is the man whom God corrects: therefore despise not you the chastening of the Almighty:” and “My son, despise not the chastening of the Lord; neither be weary of His correction: For whom the Lord loves He corrects; even as a father the son in whom he delights.”

But there are times that God needs spiritual leadership to keep Bible principles followed within His peoples.

Disobedience without repentance cannot be greatly blessed. The Old Testament part of the Bible has history in it that is related to disobedience without repentance cannot be greatly blessed.

In the record about Joseph, when his brothers repented of their sinful disobedience, Joseph said, “But as for you, you thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive. Now therefore you all fear not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spoke kindly unto them.”

In the record about Eli the priest, Eli’s sinful disobedience cost him things that repentance could not replace even though Eli still needed repentance. God’s spiritual leader Samuel lived with Eli but Samuel was fearful to, in his own way, to call Eli to repentance but God has His spiritual leaders call for repentance. The record states that one night: And the Lord said to Samuel, “Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that hears it shall tingle. In that day I will perform against Eli all things which I have spoken concerning his house: when I begin, I will also make an end. For I have told him that I will judge his house for ever for the iniquity which he knows; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not. And therefore I have sworn unto the house of Eli, that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be purged with sacrifice nor offering for ever.” And Samuel lay until the morning, and opened the doors of the house of the Lord. And Samuel feared to show Eli the vision. Then Eli called Samuel, and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he answered, “Here am I.” And he said, “What is the thing that the Lord has said unto you? I pray you hide it not from me: God do so to you, and more also, if you hide any thing from me of all the things that He said to you.” And Samuel told him every whit, and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the Lord: let Him do what seems Him good.” And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

In the record about Saul the king, God has His spiritual leader Samuel call Saul for repentance. The record states: Samuel also said to Saul, “The Lord sent me to anoint you to be king over His people, over Israel: now therefore you hearken unto the voice of the Words of the Lord. Thus says the Lord of hosts, ‘I remember that which Amalek did to Israel, how he laid wait for him in the way, when he came up from Egypt. Now go and smite Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both man and woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.’” And Saul gathered the people together, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand footmen, and ten thousand men of Judah. And Saul came to a city of Amalek, and laid wait in the valley. And Saul said unto the Kenites, “Go, depart, get you down from among the Amalekites, lest I destroy you with them: for you showed kindness to all the children of Israel, when they came up out of Egypt.” So the Kenites departed from among the Amalekites. And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah until you come to Shur, that is over against Egypt. And he took Agag the king of the Amalekites alive, and utterly destroyed all the people with the edge of the sword. But Saul and the people

spared Agag, and the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good, and would not utterly destroy them: but every thing that was vile and refuse, that they destroyed utterly. Then came the Word of the Lord unto Samuel, saying, "It grieves Me that I have set up Saul to be king: for he is turned back from following Me, and has not performed My commandments. And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the Lord all night. And when Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning, it was told Samuel, saying, "Saul came to Carmel, and, behold, he set him up a place, and is gone about, and passed on, and gone down to Gilgal." And Samuel came to Saul: and Saul said to him, "Blessed be you of the Lord: I have performed the commandment of the Lord." And Samuel said, "What means then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears, and the lowing of the oxen which I hear?" And Saul said, "They have brought them from the Amalekites: for the people spared the best of the sheep and of the oxen, to sacrifice unto the Lord thy God; and the rest we have utterly destroyed." Then Samuel said to Saul, "Stay, and I will tell you what the Lord has said to me this night." And Saul said to him, "Say on." And Samuel said, "When you were little in your own sight, were you not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the Lord anointed you king over Israel? And the Lord sent you on a journey, and said, 'Go and utterly destroy the sinners the Amalekites, and fight against them until they be consumed.' Wherefore then did you not obey the voice of the Lord, but did fly upon the spoil, and did evil in the sight of the Lord?" And Saul said to Samuel, "Yes, I have obeyed the voice of the Lord, and have gone the way which the Lord sent me, and have brought Agag the king of Amalek, and have utterly destroyed the Amalekites. But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the Lord your God in Gilgal." And Samuel said, "Has the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the Word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from being king." And Saul said to Samuel, "I have sinned: for I have transgressed the commandment of the Lord, and your words: because I feared the people, and obeyed their voice. Now therefore, I pray you, pardon my sin, and turn again with me, that I may worship the Lord." And Samuel said to Saul, "I will not return with you: for you have rejected the Word of the Lord, and the Lord has rejected you from being king over Israel." And as Samuel turned about to go away, Saul laid hold upon the skirt of Samuel's mantle, and it rent. And Samuel said to him, "The Lord has rent the kingdom of Israel from you this day, and has given it to a neighbor of yours, that is better than you. And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for He is not a man, that He should repent." Then Saul said, "I have sinned: yet honor me now, I pray you, before the elders of my people, and before Israel, and turn again with me, that I may worship the Lord your God." So Samuel turned again after Saul; and Saul worshipped the Lord.

There is more of God's directed leadership by those in charge to deal with disobedience as God has His spiritual leader Nathan call the great King David for repentance. Nathan did not try to pass off his duty to others like some did in the Bible and he was he not slack in calling David to repentance and did it in a dramatic way. David is a distance Granddaddy of Jesus the Christ. David had committed adultery in privacy and gotten the woman pregnant. A cover-up did not work. Then David had her husband killed by what amounted to a kind of murder for hire. David made plans to take the woman for himself and he thought that what he had done would now not be known. But God saw and told His spiritual leader Nathan. The record states: And the Lord sent Nathan unto David. And he came to him, and said to him, "There were two men in one city; the one rich, and the other poor. The rich man had exceeding many flocks and herds: But the poor man had nothing, save one little ewe lamb, which he had bought and nourished up: and it grew up together with him, and with his children; it did eat of his own meat, and drank of his own cup, and lay in his bosom, and was unto him as a daughter. And there came a traveler unto the rich man, and he spared to take of his own flock and of his own herd, to dress for the wayfaring man that was come unto him; but took the poor man's lamb, and dressed it for the man that was come to him." And David's anger was greatly kindled against the man; and he said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man that has done this thing shall surely die: And he shall restore the lamb fourfold, because he did this thing, and because he had no pity." And Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord God of Israel, 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you out of the hand of Saul; And I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would moreover have given unto you such and such things. Wherefore have you despised the Commandment of the Lord, to do evil in his sight? You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and have taken his wife to be your wife, and have slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon. Now therefore the sword shall never depart from your house; because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.' Thus says the Lord, 'Behold, I will raise up evil against you out of your own house, and I will take your wives before your eyes, and give them unto your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. For you did it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.'" And David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." And Nathan said to David, "The Lord also has put away your sin; you shalt not die. Howbeit, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the Lord to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto you shall surely die." [Then David wrote the greatest statement of repentance and confession in human history. We have it as Psalm 51. Much of that statement of repentance and confession is stated here:] *Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of Your tender mercies blot out my*

transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight: that You might be justified when You speak, and be clear when You judge. Behold, I was shaped in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part You shall make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which You have broken may rejoice. Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence; and take not Your holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Your salvation; and uphold me with Your free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors Your ways; and sinners shall be converted unto You. Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, You God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of Your righteousness. O Lord, You open my lips; and my mouth shall show forth Your praise. For You desire not sacrifice; else would I give it: You delight not in burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

In conclusion, the authority of the correctly interpreted message of any Bible writer comes from Jesus Christ. Thus we see that the authority of the Bible in our age of human history comes from Jesus Christ. And the authority of Jesus Christ comes from God with the resurrection being the ultimate sign of the authority of Jesus Christ!

Some of the events around the resurrection of Jesus Christ summarizes much about the Bible. Hear these events.

It was the third day after the crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth, crucified with His hands and feet nailed to a wooden cross. When Jesus died, there was an earthquake and also seeing the special manner in which Jesus died, a centurion at the cross said, "Truly this Man was the Son of God." At the same time the veil covering the opening to the room of God's presence in the Temple was ripped from top to bottom ending theology of the Old Covenant with God. Now all people have a New Covenant with God in which we can be in the presence of God forever by believing that Jesus Christ died for our sins on the cross in our place. At the death of Jesus a soldier pierced the side of Jesus to make sure that He was dead. Some of the officials remembered that Jesus said that He would rise from the dead in three days so a stone was placed over the door of the tomb {sepulchre} of the buried Jesus and they placed a seal and a watch at the tomb that was closed with a

large stone. Three days later after the Sabbath, some women left home with spices to go to the tomb to anoint the dead body of Jesus - - but they did not think how they would roll the stone aside to get into the tomb. Let's pick up events from this point as reported in the Bible record.

“Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they {the women} came to the sepulcher {tomb}, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, the men said to them, ‘Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how He spoke to you when He was yet in Galilee, Saying, ‘The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.’” And they remembered His words, And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things to the eleven, {disciple Apostles} and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things to the Apostles. And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not. Then arose Peter, and ran to the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass. And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. And they talked together of all these things which had happened. And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. But their eyes were held back from seeing Him clearly that they should not know Him. And He said to them, ‘What manner of communications are these that you have one to another, as you walk, and are sad?’ And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said to Him, ‘Are you only a stranger in Jerusalem, and have not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?’ And Jesus said to them, ‘What things?’ And they said to Him, ‘Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and have crucified Him. But we trusted that it had been He which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, today is the third day since these things were done. Yes, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre; And when they found not His body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that He was alive. And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but Him they saw not.’ Then He said to them, ‘O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the Prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to

enter into His glory?’ And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and He made as though He would have gone further. But they constrained Him, saying, ‘Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.’ And He went in to tarry with them. And it came to pass, as He sat at meat with them, He took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew Him; and He vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, ‘Did not our heart burn within us, while He talked with us by the way, and while He opened to us the Scriptures?’ And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, Saying, ‘The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon.’ And they told what things were done in the way, and how He was known of them in breaking of bread. And as they thus spoke, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, ‘Peace be unto you.’ But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, ‘Why are you troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself: handle Me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones, as you see Me have.’ And when He had thus spoken, He showed them His hands and His feet. And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, He said to them, ‘Have you here any meat?’ And they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And He took it, and did eat before them. And He said to them, ‘These are the words which I spoke unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the Law of Moses, and in the Prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning Me.’ Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures, And said to them, ‘Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance {being sorry for our wrongful sins} and remission of sins should be preached in His Name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And you are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you: but you tarry in the city of Jerusalem, until you be endued with power from on high.’ And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and He lifted up His hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while He blessed them, He was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.”

Here is a sampling of what the Psalmist has said about the Bible, The Holy Scriptures, The Word Of God - - Who is the Lord our God:

Blessed is the man that walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the Law of the Lord; and

in His Law does he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he does shall prosper.

The Law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the Testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. The Statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the Commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever: the Judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by Them is Your servant warned: and in keeping of Them there is great reward.

In God will I praise His Word: in the Lord will I praise His Word. In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do to me.

*Blessed are the undefiled in the Way, who walk in the Law of the Lord.
Blessed are they that keep His Testimonies, and that seek Him with the whole heart.
They also do no iniquity: they walk in His Ways.
You have commanded us to keep Your Precepts diligently.*

Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to Your Word.

*With my whole heart have I sought You: O let me not wander from Your Commandments.
Your Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against You.*

My soul melts for heaviness: strengthen You me according to Your Word.

Make me to understand the Way of Your Precepts: so shall I talk of Your wondrous works.

Give me understanding, and I shall keep You Law; yea, I shall observe It with my whole heart.

*Incline my heart unto Your Testimonies, and not to covetousness.
Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken You me in Your Way.*

This is my comfort in my affliction: for Your Word has quickened me.

The earth, O Lord, is full of Your mercy: teach me Your Statutes.

*It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn Your Statutes.
The Law of Your mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.*

For ever, O Lord, Your Word is settled in heaven.

Your faithfulness is unto all generations: You have established the earth, and it abides.

*Unless Your Law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction.
I will never forget Your Precepts: for with Them thou hast quickened me.*

*O how love I Your Law! It is my meditation all the day. You through Your
Commandments have made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.
I have more understanding than all my teachers: for Your Testimonies are my meditation.
I understand more than the ancients, because I keep Your Precepts.
I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep Your Word.
I have not departed from Your Judgments: for You have taught me.
How sweet are Your Words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
Through Your Precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.
Your Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

*Deal with Your servant according unto Your mercy, and teach me Your Statutes. I am
Your servant; give me understanding, that I may know Your Testimonies.*

The entrance of Your Words gives light; it gives understanding unto the simple.

Order my steps in Your Word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

The Bible is not an escape from this world. Regardless of whatever happens, we need to keep the faith instead of yielding to something of no eternal value rather than the Bible. The Bible prophet said, “Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places.” There are irreversible human heartaches in this life that leave a hole in our hearts. In spite of the hole remaining in our hearts, the Bible’s Psalmist King David said, “He {God} restores my soul.”

One more Bible unique attribute should be noticed. The Bible is not a secular intellectual philosophical system. The Bible is a message. Forgiven for our sins. **“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.”** This Savior Jesus Christ died for our sins on a cross - - crucified for our sins in our place so that we can live with God forever. “But God commended His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”

God in His wisdom made a salvation that can get through to anybody that understands the language of their nationality. The unlearned can comprehend the Bible message. People who find intellectual activity difficult can comprehend the Bible message. Satan the Devil cannot distort and corrupt this message to those who will read the Bible and listen. Churches getting mixed-up like the churches Jesus described in the Bible book of Revelation cannot stop this message to those who will read the Bible and listen.

The Bible is a message. The apostle John said, “And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you might have life through His Name.”

The Bible is a message. Hear Paul, the messenger of Jesus Christ, “For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel {the Bible message}: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, ‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world?’ For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. For you see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God has chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, has God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in His presence. But of Him are you in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, ‘He that glories, let him glory in the Lord.’”

Finally, Paul said that we should “not forsake the assembling of ourselves together”, of course, with like-minded people.

As the document that you are reading is being finished, it is Christmas Eve 2018 with our annual reminded of “good tidings of great joy” “which shall be to all people”. It is an evening of wonder and anticipation. “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward” “all people” who accept the “good tidings” and want the forgiveness of “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord”.

The preceding Christmas Eve message has been completed for us and is “built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone”. And “the apostles” includes Paul as Jesus said. The preceding Christmas Eve message is completed for us by God’s Holy Spirit guiding earthling to give us the Devine Book called The Bible, The Holy Bible, The Holy Scriptures of the Old Testament and the New Testament, The Word of God.

And what did Jesus say about the Bible Message?

Jesus said, *“Blessed are they that hear the Word of God, and keep It.”*

Read the Bible.

Have A Good Day!

(See the website danielhookemusic.com for a Bible reading plan and other documents containing rewards, blessings, promises, etc. from the Bible and further information on the Bible including the Second Coming. Check out the music, too.)