

“The Amazing Word of God!”
Psalm 33:1-12, page 553/496

Introduction:

1. The Bible is essential to our acceptance and understanding of God.
2. The Bible is the basis/truth upon which all theology rests.
3. There are thousands of questions concerning the Bible:
 - A. Is the Bible God’s inspired Word to us?
 - B. Is the Bible to be taken literally, or are the stories only myths?
 - C. Is the Bible God’s only Word to our world?
 - D. Does the Bible contradict itself?
 - E. Can I really believe and trust everything recorded in the Bible?
4. Only you can answer these questions, and the answer can only be found by an intense study of the Bible, historical books of events recorded in the Bible, and commentaries that help us understand this amazing book.
5. Today we will challenge you to begin an in-depth study of the Bible.

I. The Bible has an amazing history.

- A. It was written over a fifteen hundred year span.
- B. More than forty authors wrote it.
 1. Some were kings.
 2. Some were military leaders.
 3. Some were fisherman.
 4. Some were scholars.
- C. It was written in different places.
 1. The wilderness.
 2. Palaces.
 3. Prison.
 4. John was exiled to an island.
- D. It was written in three languages.
 1. “Hebrew,” the language of the Israelites.
 2. “Aramaic,” the language of the Middle East.
 3. “Greek,” the language of the people during the time of Jesus Christ.

II. The Bible has one central message.

- A. In spite of having a variety of authors:
 1. They did not know each other.
 2. They could not compare notes.
- B. Even though hundreds of years were required to complete the Bible, the Bible has one message that is visible from the beginning to the end:
 1. The law of the Old Testament provides the foundation for Christ.
 2. The historical books show the preparation for Christ.
 3. The poetical books relate to Christ.

4. Prophecies show an expectation of Christ.
 5. The Gospels record the manifestation of Christ.
 6. Acts relate the propagation of Christ.
 7. The epistles give the interpretation of Christ.
 8. Revelation reveals the consummation of Christ.
- C. Josh McDowell: “From cover to cover, the Bible is Christocentric.”
- D. The Bible is unified in its message.

III. The Bible is the world’s most amazing book.

- A. The Bible has been published by the billions.
- B. According to the United Bible Society, the Bible/portions of the Bible have been translated into more than 2,200 languages.
 1. This is about 1/3 of the world’s 6,500 languages.
 2. These 2,200 languages, however, represent about 90% of the world’s population.
 3. The Bible remains the #1 best selling book in the world.
- C. Today prophecy is being fulfilled in the events taking place in the Middle East.

IV. The Bible is the only book that correctly records prophecy of future events.

- A. When Israel became a state in 1948, Old Testament prophecy was fulfilled.
- B. This is only one example of the hundreds of Old Testament prophecies that have been fulfilled in recent times.

V. The Bible reveals the total spectrum of life.

- A. Josh McDowell: “The Bible as a book focuses on reality, not fantasy. It presents the good and bad, the right and wrong, the best and worst, the hope and despair, the joy and pain of life.”
- B. The Bible tells us how to overcome the sin and evil of our time!
- C. The Bible shows us how to find a personal relationship with God!
- D. The Bible encourages and assists us in finding and living a life of righteousness!

Conclusion:

1. It is very dangerous to compromise the teachings of the Bible.
 - A. Some is truth/fact, and some is myth.
 - B. We must be extremely careful not to throw the baby out with the wash.
2. It is true that some of the specific teaching to the Jews was intended to guide them in a certain time in history.
 - A. The commands and life principles taught are relevant today.
 - B. The path that leads to salvation has not changed.
 - C. Life is still life, and sin is still sin.
 - D. There is nothing new under the sun.
3. The eternal teachings of God’s Word remain the foundation upon which quality civilizations rest.
4. The affirmation of our faith/apostles creed is an empty exercise without a firm belief and acceptance of the eternal Word of God, the Bible!
5. Be careful that a lack of study, understanding, and knowledge may lead you to make a wrong conclusion concerning the credibility of the Bible.