

Title: Jesus Respect for God's word

Text: (II Tim 3:15-16)

Introduction:

- 1- It's a worthless book! Filled with contradictions, it is so old that its relevancy no longer exists.
 - a- It is a book about ancient Jewish people filled with fables and superstition.
 - b- This book is no better than other religious book of religions of the past!!
- 2- These are the words spoken by so many today who have no respect for and no regard for the Bible.
 - a- In fact a great percentage of people believe that the Bible, Book of Mormon and the Koran are simply different expressions of the same spiritual truths.
 - b- Truth is that we now live in a land where the Bible, the foundation of faith, is no longer widely accepted nor respected.
- 3- Amongst even religious people, the same attitude is prevalent.
 - a- Instead of honest Bible study, they have simply accepted and brought into the popular beliefs of our day.

Transition: Let me ask a question: Is this view of the Bible right? How shall we decide? I suggest to you that that the answer, in my mind, lies in examining the attitude Jesus had towards the Bible. If you and I can look at this book as Jesus, we cannot go wrong.

Discussion:

- I- **Notice first: Jesus respect for the Historical accuracy of the Bible.**
 - A- Is the Bible trustworthy as a historical document? When one reads those amazing stories from its pages, can those stories be actual events? Or are they simply cunningly devised fables that have little basis in facts? To answer these questions, we look at how Jesus regarded these ancient writings.
 - 1- I want to suggest to you this morning that, yes, Jesus absolutely believed in the historical accuracy of the Bible.
 - a- **Jesus believed in the account of creation.** The answer He gave when He was asked about marriage and divorce shows His acceptance of the Biblical account of origin. Notice His words, ***“Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning made them ‘male and female,’ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’” (Matt. 19:4-5).***

- b- His answer gives great insight into how He looked at the Bible. There was a beginning. It began with just two people made by God. The concept of “one flesh” and the words to express it had been written 1,500 years prior to His day, but they were true! Jesus believed that the account in Genesis was not a fable, it actually happened.
- c- **Jesus accepted the events associated with Moses.** Jesus believed that Moses was a real person who actually wrote the book of Exodus (Mark 12:26). He believed there was that day when Moses stood before the burning bush (Luke 20:37) and that God actually spoke to him the exact words recorded by Moses (Matt. 22:31-32). He believed that the children of Israel were actually in the wilderness (John 6:49) and that manna was fed to them (John 6:58). Jesus’ respect for the Old Testament was such that if the Bible said it happened, He believed it!
- d- **Jesus believed what the Old Testament said about Elijah, Elisha and other prophets.** The Bible told of the famine and Jesus believed every detail. He believed the famine lasted exactly 42 months—not 41 or 43—simply because the Bible said it was 42. He believed that Elijah received the food from the widow in Zarephath (Luke 4:26). Some may question whether Elisha ever lived or whether the waters of Jordan cleansed Naaman the leper, **but Jesus believed it happened (Luke 4:27).**
- e- **Jesus believed the most “unbelievable” story of the Old Testament.** Who has not heard of Jonah, the great fish that swallowed him and the repentance of the ungodly men in Nineveh? It is this story, more than any other that is treated with disdain by men in our day. Yet Jesus believed it happened. (Matt. 12:41 Luke 11:30)
 - 1- (Jesus’ use of the word “sign” in this passage has reference to the miraculous aspects of the story.
 - 2- Jonah was not just a preacher to Nineveh, he was a sign!

B- Jesus believed in the historical accuracy of the Bible, do you?

- 1- Take just a moment and consider all that you have read.
- 2- Understand that not *one time* did Jesus ever give reason to doubt even *one event* in the Old Testament. How can anyone who accepts the deity of Jesus ever have any doubt about the trustworthiness of the Bible?

II- JESUS RESPECTED THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE

- A- The attitude manifested by Jesus in using the Bible to find the answers to life’s questions shows that He believed they were authoritative.

- 1- The very fact that Jesus pointed men to the Bible to find answers is proof that He believed they could find them.
- 2- This also proves that He believed that they were understandable by those who read them.

B- Jesus believed that the Bible settles the question about how to deal with sin.

- 1- Jesus believed that the Scriptures gave men power over Satan and temptation. Forty days after the baptism of Jesus, Satan came to tempt Him at His weakest moment. Three times Satan tried to get Him to do wrong and three times Jesus gave the same answer. He said, "It is written" (Matt. 4:4, 7, 10).
- 2- This use of the Scriptures destroyed the power Satan had to lead Him astray. What a great lesson for each of us to learn about dealing with temptation. Arm yourself with the sword of the Spirit (the Word of God), and shield your soul with faith grounded in what God said, "with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one" (Eph. 6:16-17). Satan is powerless before one who has the same respect for the authority of the Bible that Jesus had, and uses the Scriptures as He did.

C- Jesus believed that the Bible settles the question about eternal life.

- 1- The greatest question any man faces is the one that concerns his salvation and eternal destiny. How can one find God and reconcile with Him? Jesus really believed that the answer to this question was to be found in the Bible, and that by studying it one could find the path to heaven. He looked to the Scriptures and the Scriptures alone to find the answer.
- 2- Jesus said to the Jews of His day, "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me" (John 5:39).
- 3- While it is true that they had not yet found Jesus, the fault did not lie in the Bible but in the way they approached it. His words imply that if you search the Scriptures, you will find me (Jesus) and the path to heaven.

III- JESUS RESPECTED THE BIBLE AND SUBMITTED TO IT.

A- One cannot properly understand the attitude Jesus had toward the Bible without looking at His devotion to doing the will of God.

- 1- One might have a high regard for the Bible and never obey it, and such will never lead one to heaven.
- 2- Jesus longed to do the will of God and His respect for the Bible becomes the model attitude each of us should have.

B- Hebrews 10 gives a vivid picture of Jesus' devotion to doing the will of God.

- 1- He knew the inability of animal sacrifices to remove sins and said, “In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin you had no pleasure” (Heb. 10:6), thus it was necessary for the Lord to become flesh.
- 2- Hear His words which describe His attitude in coming: “Sacrifices and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for Me...Behold I have come—In the volume of the book it is written of Me—To do Your will, O God” (Heb. 10:5, 7).
- 3- He came into the world in a body prepared by God to do, to accomplish the Father’s will.
- 4- He said, “For I always do those things that please Him” (John 8:29). Think of how this world would be changed if it *always* sought to do the will of the Father. Think of how your life would be changed if you *always* sought to do His will.

Conclusion;

- 1- We began this study by saying that the only attitude any of us should have is the precise attitude Jesus had toward the Bible. He knew it came from God. He knew *every* event recorded in it actually happened.
- 2- He knew that it was eternal and *every* word was preserved by the providence of God. He knew that this ancient book spoke to modern man.
- 3- He knew that it was the *only* source to finding answers to religious questions. He knew that it was infallible *even down to the smallest detail*.
- 4- He knew that it was the will of God and that it must be obeyed by His children.
- 5- The real question is, how do you regard the Bible? Do you believe that it is from God and that every event in it actually happened? Do you believe that this ancient book speaks to modern man? Do you believe that this infallible book is the only source to finding answers to every religious question? Do you believe that it is the will of God and must be obeyed by His children?
- 6- An even more important question is, does your life show that you believe all these things?

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Nply Cong 7/09