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Proverbs 22:20-21>> ²⁰Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge, ²¹That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?

Matthew 24:35>> ³⁵Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Proverbs 13:13>> ¹³Whoso despiseth the word shall be destroyed: but he that feareth the commandment shall be rewarded.

John 6:63>> ⁶³It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

John 14:23,26>> ²³Jesus answered and said unto him, if a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him... ²⁶But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Isaiah 8:20>> ²⁰To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

2 Timothy 3:15-17>> ¹⁵And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Luke 11:28>> ²⁸But [Jesus] said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.

Friend, we know you would have seen that **the Bible, though maligned by some, is God's primary agency for communicating the plan of salvation to humanity.** You would have seen that a deeper study of it removes many myths and prejudices. **Will you then, dear one, accept this salvation? Will you accept God's Word?** We pray this may be your desire.

May God bless you...



CAN YOU TRUST THE BIBLE? (PART 2)



What are the FACTS and what are the MYTHS about this age-surviving Book?

❖ *WAS NOT THE BIBLE USED TO ENSLAVE, ABUSE, DESTROY, REPRESS, DIVIDE VARIOUS CLASSES OF PEOPLE OVER THE CENTURIES? ISN'T THIS TRUE?*

Friend, ironically we can find suitable response to this with an adage from the age-old secular page: **"The devil can cite Scripture for his purpose."**—William Shakespeare, *The Merchant of Venice*. Indeed over the centuries, many devils of men have misused the Bible for the grossest of agendas. But such has been the work of devils and not the Bible. Men have also committed wrongs in the name of Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist texts, the writings of Communism, Capitalism, Race Supremacy, and a great many other ideologies. Have not men of all ages, and even our present age likewise been unjust in the very administration of justice? Have known murderers and criminals gotten free? Yes. Do we then throw out the law which says, "Thou shalt not murder", because a murderer got off? No! We realize that evil men (or a lack of good men) can cause a system of good laws to be abused. Same with the Bible. If it be ignorant to throw out "Thou shalt not murder", it is likewise ignorant to throw out the Bible, because evil men have abused the Good Book.

And why can we say it is the "Good Book"? Because for all of the societal ills it has been accused – slavery, oppression of women, racial supremacy etc. – not one of these have been sanctioned by the Bible. A careful, unprejudiced read of Scripture would dispel many of these assertions. As this pamphlet format limits how much detail can be shed, we at least suffice some verses of the Bible which should cause you to ask yourself: Does the Bible actually support the evils some people ascribe to it?

Slavery

Firstly, would it be shocking to tell you that in the entire Bible there is only one proper mention of "slave"? And guess what? It is in condemnation of the practice, speaking of the sins of Babylon and its judgment. **Revelation 18:10-11-13>>** ¹⁰Standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come. ¹¹And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their

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merchandise any more: ¹²The merchandise of gold, and silver... ¹³...and **slaves**, and souls of men.

Another reference analogous to the aforementioned is found in **Ezekiel 27:13**. Yet again it is in condemnation, toward the government of the nation of Tyrus, whose merchants, traded the persons of men, in a market. Friend, **the Bible has never furnished a single passage in support of slavery!** The Bible narrative rather reveals a God who seeks to liberate His people from bondage. **The cruel institutionalized practice as we know it from recent history has no endorsement in Scripture. Slavery is condemned by the Bible!**

In the Bible, servants and slaves are two different things. Many misconstrue the two, and such is why they say the Bible supports slavery. But we ask, do people work for people today? Do some employees live in their employer's home, sometimes for years on end? Is that slavery? Do you call that cruelty? Well, this is the servanthood of the Bible. A verse by verse, detailed study is needed to cover this issue more fully, but we pray at least this introduction would have cleared up some assumptions on this topic.

For the categories following, we ask you to suffice with the thought that, these verses undeniably reveal a different reality than what the Bible critics care to admit.

Oppression of Women

Rebekah had a choice in going to marry Isaac: **Genesis 24:57-58>>** ⁵⁷And they said, 'We will call the damsel, and **enquire at her mouth.** ⁵⁸And they called Rebekah, and said unto her, Wilt thou go with this man? And she said, I will go.

Ephesians 5:25,28>> ²⁵Husbands, **love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it...** ²⁸So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

Malachi 2:14-15>> ¹⁴...the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant... ¹⁵Therefore take heed to your spirit, and **let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.**

Race, Class, Gender Supremacy

Deuteronomy 10:17-19>> ¹⁷For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, **which regardeth not persons,** nor taketh reward: ¹⁸He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and **loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment.** ¹⁹**Love ye therefore the stranger:** for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Acts 10:34-35>> ³⁴Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that **God is no respecter of persons:** ³⁵**But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.**

Galatians 3:28>> ²⁸There is **neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female:** for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

Acts 17:24-26>> ²⁴God that made the world and all things therein...²⁵...**giveth to all life, and breath, and all things...** ²⁶And hath **made of one blood all nations of men** for to dwell on all the face of the earth...

✧ **FINE. THE BIBLE ISN'T REALLY EVIL AT ALL. BUT I STILL DON'T NEED TO FOLLOW THE LETTER OF THE BIBLE, WHEN I HAVE THE SPIRIT. I ALREADY HAVE JESUS IN MY HEART. GOD CAN TALK TO ME HIMSELF.**

Well, friend, by this we would have consensus that the Bible, at the very least, is a legitimate source of faith for the Christian. Though we can accept this, some may think that though the written Word exists, it need not instruct us. But think about this. How will we determine what is the voice of God from what is not? What is the function of the Spirit and how will we properly recognize it? From what unalterable source alone can we find the gospel of Christianity properly explained? How could all people ever truly gain a witness to the fact that a Saviour called Christ came to this earth to save us?

Friend, the truth is, without the Bible, nothing of what we call Christianity is a certainty. God infinitely knew that in order for man to understand the plan of salvation offered to all, a fully inspired, age-enduring record of His dealings with humanity was absolutely necessary. Hence He gave us the Bible, the Word – an ever-abiding, tangible transcript between God and man, that is yet able to transform the heart. If you would have Christ, you would have the Bible; if you would have the Spirit, you would have the Bible. And in this day and age – when access to this Word is virtually ubiquitous - if you would have salvation, you would definitely need the Bible.

From henceforth we shall let the Bible - Holy Scripture - itself speak of its own necessity regarding all aspects of the Christian faith:

I Corinthians 15:3-4>> ³For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that **Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;** ⁴And that he was buried, and that **he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.**

Psalms 138:2>> ²I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: **for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.**

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