

WHY I LOVE THE BIBLE

PRAISE GOD FOR THE BOOK OF BOOKS

"I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil."

~ Psalms 119:162

1. We Should Love the Bible

- a. We are a Bible fellowship, study, read, seek to understand the Bible.
- b. It has not always been the case, but now I love the Bible.
- c. A common objection: "love Jesus, not a book" "don't be a Bibliolater"
 - i. Nowhere does the Bible condemn glorifying God's words.
 - ii. The Bible encourages it - Ps 138:2, Job 23:12, Deu 6:8-9, Neh 9:3
 - iii. Ps 119 - "I love" 60x "thy word" 39x, awe, rejoice - 161-164, 56:10
 - iv. Jesus encouraged it - Matt 4:4, John 5:39, 17:17, Acts 13:48, 2 Thess 3:1
 - v. Idolatry occurs when we don't glorify his words as we ought, not when we do.
- d. We *should* love the Bible; we cannot worship the Lord Jesus Christ without it.
 - i. You will submit and sacrifice to that which you love - Rom 6:16

2. Why I Love the Bible

- a. Some things are unassuming, but their value appears when you list their virtues.
- b. This is a book of books, a book above books, a glorious book.
- c. It is about God, historical, instructive, spiritual, prophetic, beautiful, boundless, holy.
- d. God: It is filled with knowledge of God - you can find God in it - Acts 17:27
 - i. It speaks of Jesus throughout
- e. Historical: authored 1400 yrs, begin to end, across ages, empires, kings, past/future
- f. Instructive: 2 Tim 3:16, Ps 119:100, lamp 105, right 128, true 160, wisdom - Ps 19:7
 - i. Teaches us prayer, obedience, atonement, law, family, government.
- g. Spiritual: Quickens, saves the soul, heart, mind - Ro 7:14, 1Co 2:13, 2Co 10:4, Heb 4:12
 - i. It gives peace, teaches love, directs to joy, gentleness, strength.
- h. Prophetic: messianic prophecies (100s), national, names, types, world to come hope.
 - i. Prophets describe heaven, angels, death, glory - Isa 45:1
- i. Beautiful: music, song, psalms, language, poetry, creation - Ps 90:17, 96:6, Ecc 3:11
- j. Tasty & delicious - Jer 15:16 sweet, water, bread, milk, meat Ps 119:103, Heb 5:12
- k. Boundless: 2 Tim 2:9, perfect 2 Tim 3:17, pure Ps 119:140, holy - Rom 11:33
- l. The Bible is the words of God revealed with human instrumentation... and Jesus.
- m. I love the Bible, because I love Jesus - they have much in common (see back)
- n. *Want to love the Bible?*
 - i. Love can be learned - love God because of his words.
 - ii. Get engaged with it, trust it, learn from it, use it.

Similarities between the Bible and Jesus (The words of God and the Word of God)

1. Both called the word of God – John 1:1, Luke 4:4
2. Both speak of each other – John 5:39, Luke 24:27
3. Both will judge men – John 5:22, 12:48
4. Both are the power of God – Mark 12:24, Rom 1:16
5. Both give eternal life – John 3:15, John 5:39
6. Both preached – Gal 3:8, Mark 1:14
7. Both able to save men – James 1:21, 1 Tim 4:10
8. Both are pure – Prov 30:4, John 1:29
9. Both a source of faith – Rom 10:17, Heb 12:2
10. Both must be believed – John 2:22, Rom 3:26
11. Both discern the thoughts and intents of the hearts of men – Heb 4:12, Matt 9:4
12. Both proceed from God – Matt 4:4, John 8:42
13. Both are the revelation of God – John 14:7-9, 2 Tim 3:16
14. Both are inspired by God – John 5:19, 5:30; 2 Tim 3:16
15. Both are called truth – John 14:6, John 17:17
16. Both are of God and of man – 2 Pet 1:21, Col 2:9
17. Both in heaven and in earth – Ps 119:89, Eph 1:20, Rom 10:6
18. Both rejected by men – Isaiah 53:3, Jer 8:9
19. Both endure forever – 1 Pet 2:23, 1 Pet 2:25, Heb 1:8
20. Both magnified above all names – Ps 138:2, Eph 1:21, Phil 2:9