

The Bible is Outdated

Isaiah 40:6-8

"The grass wither, the flowers fade, but the word of our God remains forever." - Isaiah 40:8

Main Point: The Bible, God's Word, stands the test of time

Introduction: Use the following questions to introduce the topic of discussion -

What's the most outdated piece of clothing you wear or that is still in your wardrobe?

When have you taken someone's word recently that they would do something? How did it pan out?

Our lives here on earth aren't going to last forever. And that means it's vitally important we choose to place our trust in that which will last for an eternity - in those things that will stand the test of time. The Bible does that, but unfortunately there are a lot of people who view Scripture as being outdated and not relevant for 21st century living. How in the world could a 2,000 year old book have anything to say to modern man? Values change. People have more knowledge than ever before. We like to think we're much more sophisticated. And because of that a lot of people view the Bible as antiquated. But is it? Can we still trust its wisdom and promises today?

There are only 3 places we can put our trust:

1) **THE STRENGTH OF MAN. Read Isaiah 40:6-7.**

When has your strength failed you recently? In other words, when have you felt old?

Who does Isaiah imply is effected by the loss of strength? (the "grass") Why is this significant?

What situations in your life right now are you relying on your own strength? How can you turn it over to God this week?

Read **Isaiah 40:28-31** for reassurance. What does it suggest we do to renew our strength?

2) **THE IDEAS OF MAN. Read Isaiah 40:6-7 again.**

What ideas of modern man have we adopted to extend our life and health? Why are these ultimately futile?

Isaiah was bringing comfort to the people of Israel who had been displaced by the Babylonian captivity. God was assuring the people that even the strength and power of the great Babylonians would weaken and crumble. Continue reading in **Isaiah 40:9-11**. What was the Lord's solution then, and even now?

What ideas have you been holding onto that are contrary to the Word of God? Read **Isaiah 55:8-9** and discuss how you can you realign your ideas with God's and place your trust more fully in Him.

3) **THE WORDS OF GOD. Read Isaiah 40:8.**

What does God promise in this verse? What does it mean that His word "stands forever?"

Scholars have determined there are over 3000 promises in the Bible. Not one of them have been proven untrue. Why does that make a difference in today's world? Why does it make a difference in your life?

Psalm 18:30 says, "God's way is perfect, all the Lord's promises prove true. He is a shield to all who look to him for protection." How have his promises proven true in your life? How have God and His word been a shield of protection over you?

Apply It:

Where do you place your trust? Have you been navigating this world under your own strength or under the ideas of man? When those things pass away, what will be left to trust in? Will you be able to stand and say "It is Well with my soul?"

Pray:

Lord, may we trust solely in your Word and stand on its promises. You have given us the Bible to guide and direct our lives. May we lean on its truth through all time. Forgive us when we depend on ourselves and the ways of this world instead of depending on you. Help us move forward in your strength and grace.

Coming up at VillageChurch:

Nov. 19th - The Lord's Supper

Nov 29th - Operation Christmas Child Packing Party

Dec. 3rd - VillageKids Happy Birthday Jesus

Dec. 10th - A Village Christmas