

Evidences & Understanding That God IS

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Table of Contents

I. Understanding God And His Creation

- A. God's Character and Essence
- B. God's Creation: The Origination of Evil, Sin and its Consequences
 - Evil as a Result of Disobedient Behavior of Angel's
 - Sin is the Result of Evil's Influence and Man's Disobedience:
 - The Global Flood as a Result of Wicked and Evil Men
 - Pain & Suffering, as a Result of Man's Disobedience
 - Environmental Consequences
 - Eternal Consequences in the Judgment to Come

II. Some Convicting Evidences That God IS

- A. Some Invisible Things That Are Made, From the Creation of the World, That Are Clearly Seen and Understood
- B. Word of God in Contrast to the Book of Morman
- C. Son of God in Contrast with Muhammed of the Islam Religion
- D. Author and Finisher of Our Faith in Contrast with Those That Did NOT Write the Bible

III. God So Loved The World

- A. He Gave His Son by His Mercy and Grace
- B. He Gave Us His Soul Saving, Eternal & Powerful Word
- C. Through His Word, He Gave A Plan: To Overcome Sin and Prepare For The Judgment
- D. Result or Consequences of Obedience
 - Remission of Past Sins
 - New Man or Newness of Life
 - Member of a New Spiritual Family:
 - Love of Spiritual Family or Brethren
 - Privilege and Power of Prayer
 - Joy & Peace
 - Hope
 - Heavenly Reward

It is sad that mankind,

- ...wants to play the devil's advocate, with endless questions, in opposing the existence of God, And thereby through opposing God, gives the devil the benefit of doubt, but not God.
- ...like Eve ([Gen.3:1-6](#)), will believe the devil's lies ([Jn.8:44](#)), over and above God's Truth ([Jn.14:6](#)).
- ...will quickly blame God, rather than the devil, for all of mankind's problems.

Our hope, is that the honest individual will discover that sin, evil and suffering, is not God's fault!

It is God who, "...**IS a rewarder of them that diligently SEEK Him.**" ([Heb.11:6](#)), not the devil.

I. Understanding God and His Creation

A. God's Character and Essence

- God is **ALL**-Powerful or Omnipotent and is solely responsible for creation and life ([Gen.1:1](#); [Psalm 8:3](#); [Gen.2:7](#); [Job 12:10](#); [Isa.42:5](#)).
- God is **ALL**-Knowing or Omniscient and knows all about what **HE** has done ([Isa.40:26](#); [Psalm 139:1-6](#)).
- God is **ALL**-Present or Omnipresent ([Psalm 139:7-12](#)) and unlimited by time and or space ([1Kings 8:27](#)).
- God has a fierce attitude toward evil ([Ez.18:20](#)).
- God has a saving attitude toward righteousness ([Gen.6:7-9](#); [2Pet.3:9](#)).

B. God's Creation: The Origination of Evil, Sin and its Consequences: After God created the universe and everything in it, including the Earth and mankind, He

- "saw every thing that He had made, and, behold, *it was very good.*" ([Gen.1:31](#))

a) Evil as a Result of Disobedient Behavior of Angel's

- Some Angels fell ([Job 38:7](#); [2Pet.2:4](#); [Jude 6](#); [Rev.12:7-9](#); [Rev.20:2-3](#))
- The devil is the father or leader of those fallen angels ([1Kings 22:19-22](#); [Jn.8:44](#))

b) Sin as a Result of Evil's Influence and Man's Disobedience:

- God gave man a responsibility regarding his creation. ([Gen.2:16-17](#))
- Sadly man did not adhere to God's instruction, because of evil influence. ([Gen.3:1-6](#))

c) The Global Flood ([Gen.6:5-7](#); [Matt.24:36-39](#); [1Pet.3:18-22](#); [Heb.11:7](#); [2Pet.3:3-7](#)) and a Cursed Earth ([Gen.3:17](#)), as a Result of Sinful and Evil Men

- "Pain" and "Sorrow" did not exist prior to man's sin in the garden of eden ([Gen.3:16-17](#))
- "Thornes and Thistles" didn't exist prior to man's sin, in the garden of eden ([Gen.3:18](#)).
- [Gen.3:19](#) reads, "in the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread", which implies that man had to work hard to receive his food and if he wasn't, or if weather conditions were not right, starvation; all as a result of man's sin!
- The current meteorological conditions, wind, rain and probably volcanic eruptions and natural disasters, were all unknown prior to the global flood.

- d) **Suffering, as a Result of Man's Disobedience:** Peter speaks of suffering consequences, as a result of one's bad decisions.
- "But let none of you **SUFFER** as a murderer, or *as* a thief, or *as* an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters." ([1Pet.4:15](#)) "...the **WAY** of **TRANSGRESSORS** is **HARD**." ([Prov.13:15](#))
- Parents are not the cause of a two year old falling and hurting their knee, but parents are there to pick up the child, help heal their wounds and comfort them. In the same way, God did not cause mankind to fall or sin, but is there to help us in time of need. When we do fall or sin, we usually learn from that mistake and it makes us stronger!
- "Before I was **AFFLICTED** I went astray: but now have I kept thy word." ([Psalm 119:67](#))
 - "It is good for me that I have been **AFFLICTED**; that I might learn thy statutes."([Psalm 119:71](#))
 - "but we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:" ([2Cor.1:9](#))
 - "though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he **SUFFERED**;" ([Heb.5:8](#))
- e) **Environmental Consequences:** Chemical, pesticides, improper disposal of sewage, drunkenness and the such like, all contribute to genetic defects, which are one of the many consequences in this life, because of sinful man
- f) **Eternal Consequences in the Judgment to Come** ([2Jn.9](#); [2Thess.1:7-9](#); [1Pet.4:17](#); [2Pet.3:10](#); [Matt.12:36-37](#); [Rom.14:12](#); [Acts 17:30-31](#))

II. Some Convicting Evidences That God IS

A. Some Invisible Things That Are Made, From the Creation of the World, That Are Clearly Seen and Understood

- "For the **INVISIBLE** things **OF** Him (that is God), **FROM** the creation of the **WORLD**, are **CLEARLY** seen, being **UNDERSTOOD**, **BY** the things that are **MADE**, even his **ETERNAL** power and Godhead; so that they are without **EXCUSE**:" ([Rom.1:20](#))

We are **ALL** without an excuse, in **ACKNOWLEDGING** that there **IS** a God, by **OBSERVING** the invisible things that are **MADE**.

When we think about the things that are **CLEARLY** seen AND understood, **BY** the things that are **MADE**, so that one is with**OUT** excuse, We might think of such things as, when a **HOUSE** is constructed, it has a **DESIGNER** and **BUILDER** – it **DIDN'T** happen by accident.

The same is true, with regard to the **CREATION** of the world and the **ENTIRE** universe. The Bible says,

- "For **EVERY** house is builded by **SOME** man; but **HE** that built **ALL** things, **IS** God." ([Heb.3:4](#)).

So specifically, what are some **INVISIBLE** things that are **MADE**, from the **CREATION** of the world That are **CLEARLY** seen and understood?

- **What about the Earth being a circle** – and NOT flat ([Isa.40:22](#))? Recorded history tells us, that society in general, at one point in time, thought that the Earth was flat. Had they only known AND trusted in the Word of God, they would have known otherwise. Man didn't discover this until sometime in the 15th Century.
- **What about the Earth HANGING on nothing** – rather than being suspended by the FICTIONAL Greek god, atlas ([Job 26:7](#))? The Bible confirms this truth, long before mythical Greek culture, came into existence. Man didn't figure out that invisible forces hold the Earth in place, until around the year 1650.

- **The stars ARE innumerable** – BEFORE man knew it ([Jer.33:22](#); [Gen.15:5](#)). Man didn't figure this out until 1940.
- **The Blood of man IS all the same** – BEFORE man knew it ([Acts 17:26](#)). There was a time, when **PRIOR** to modern medicine, that we didn't know that "**O negative**" blood type (for example), was the **SAME** regardless of race. A black man's "**O negative**" blood, is the **SAME** as a white man's "**O negative**" blood. But God **REVEALED** this in the **FIRST** century, **BEFORE** modern medicine figured it out in 1900.
- The Paths of the Sea **EXISTED** – long **BEFORE** the science of oceanography was discovered in 1854 ([Psalm 8:8](#)).

These are but a few of the things, that we can **CLEARLY** see and understand, **BY** the things that are **MADE**, so that we are with**OUT** excuse in **ACKNOWLEDGING** that,

- "God **IS**, and that He's a **REWARDER** of them that diligently **SEEK** Him" ([Heb.11:6](#)).

So we should,

- "**TRUST** in the **LORD**, with **ALL** thine **HEART**; and lean **NOT** unto thine **OWN** understanding. In **ALL** thy ways, **ACKNOWLEDGE** Him, and He shall **DIRECT** thy paths." ([Prov.3:5-6](#)).

STUDYING is necessary ([2Tim.2:15](#)), that we might

- "**PROVE** all things, and hold **FAST**, to that which is **GOOD**" ([1Thess.5:21](#)).

Otherwise, to those that

- "received **NOT** the love of the **TRUTH**, that they **MIGHT** be saved"

...God says that He'll

- "send them strong **DELUSION**, that they should, believe a **LIE**: That they **ALL** might be damned, who believed **NOT** the **TRUTH**, but had **PLEASURE**, in **UNrighteousness**" ([2Thess.2:10-12](#))

We have motivation for **PROVIING** that God **IS**.

We have motivation for **PROVING** what is right and acceptable before God.

We have motivation for **EXAMINING** our views, however difficult it may be.

Jesus said:

- "He that **REJECTETH** Me, and receiveth **NOT** my Words, hath one that **JUDGETH** him: The **WORD** that I have **SPOKEN**, the same shall **JUDGE** him, **IN** the last day" ([Jn.12:48](#)).

And so, there is an urgent **NEED** in determining and **KNOWING**, that God **IS**.

B. The Word of God in Contrast to the Book of Mormon

In 1830, the book of Mormon was penned by a man named Joseph Smith. Mr. Smith claimed that God sent unto him an angel, and **supposedly** that angel gave him **golden tablets** of a new revelation.

Briefly, let's notice a few **Bible** passages, and then we can draw some **inescapable** conclusions.

The Bible says,

- “**ALL** scripture is given by **INSPIRATION** of God (literally, all scripture is God-breathed), and is **PROFITABLE** for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be **PERFECT** (that is, complete), **THOROUGHLY furnished** unto **ALL** good works.” (2Tim.3:16-17) **NOT** just some good works, but is **PROFITABLE** unto **ALL** good works.

In [2Pet.1:3](#), we can read this Truth:

- “According as his **DIVINE** power, hath **GIVEN** unto us, **ALL** things that pertain unto **LIFE** and godliness, through the **KNOWLEDGE** of Him, that hath **CALLED** us to glory and virtue.”

In [Gal.1:6-9](#), the apostle Paul, by inspiration said,

- “I **MARVEL**, that ye are so **SOON**, removed from Him, that **CALLED** you, into the **GRACE** of Christ, unto **ANOTHER** gospel: Which is **NOT** another; but there be some that **TROUBLE** you, and would **PERVERT** the gospel of Christ.

But though **WE** (that is, the apostles of Christ in the first century), or an **ANGEL** from heaven, preach **ANY** other gospel unto you, than that which we have **PREACHED** unto you, let him be **ACCURSED**.

As we said before, so say I now again, if any **MAN**, preach **ANY** other gospel unto you, than that ye have **RECEIVED**, let him be **ACCURSED**.” ([Gal.1:6-9](#)).

In [Jude vs.3-7](#), we find these thoughts,

- “Beloved, when I gave **ALL** diligence, to **WRITE** unto you, of the **COMMON** salvation, it was **NEEDFUL** for me to write unto you, and **EXHORT** you, that ye should earnestly **CONTEND** for **THE** faith, which was **ONCE** delivered unto the saints.

For there are certain men **CREPT** in unawares, who were before of old, **ORDAINED** to this condemnation,

- **UNGODLY** men,
- turning the **GRACE** of our God into lasciviousness,
- and **DENYING** the ONLY Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.

I will therefore put you in **REMEMBRANCE**, though ye once **KNEW** this, how that the Lord, having **SAVED** the people **OUT** of the land of Egypt, afterward **DESTROYED** them, that believed **NOT**.

And the angels which kept **NOT** their first estate, but **LEFT** their **OWN** habitation, He hath reserved in **EVERLASTING** chains, under **DARKNESS**, unto the **JUDGMENT** of the **GREAT** day.

EVEN as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities **ABOUT** them in **LIKE** manner, **GIVING** themselves **OVER** to fornication, and **GOING AFTER** strange flesh, are **SET** forth for an **EXAMPLE**, suffering the **VENGEANCE** of eternal **FIRE**.”

From these passages, we can **CONCLUDE**, that Joseph Smith apparently **NEVER** read

- that the gospel would only be delivered **ONCE** ([Jude vs.3](#)),
- that one who teaches another gospel is **ACCURSED** ([Gal.1:8-9](#)),
- that God **SAVED** the Israelites from Pharaoh of Egypt, but later **DESTROYED** them that believed **NOT**. Mr. Smith's actions would imply that he "believed NOT" the existing revealed Word of God.

Joseph Smith never read, **OR** he entirely disregarded,

- That God's Word was **ALREADY** "Complete", "profitable" and "**THOROUGHLY** furnishes" unto **ALL** good works [2Tim.3:16](#),

Joseph Smith **NEVER** showed the supposed golden tablets and **NO** miracles were ever performed to **CONFIRM** that those teachings were from God. But the contradictions between the book of Mormon and the Word of God are evident enough of its falsehood.

Knowledge is **POWER!**

When one knows what the Word of God says,

- it gives **FAITH** ([Rom.10:17](#)),
- **KNOWLEDGE** of the **Word**, gives **LIFE** ([2Pet.1:3](#)),
- and shed's **LIGHT** ([Psalm 119:105](#)) on the **FALSE** religions of men, and that **CONTRAST** brings great **CONVICTION** and **CONFIDENCE**, that the Bible **IS** the Word of God.

C. The Son of God in Contrast with Muhammed of the Islam Religion

In [Acts 20:28](#), we read that Jesus

- "...**PURCHASED**,the church of God, ...with His **OWN** blood."
- "Christ **DIED** for our sins, **ACCORDING** to the scriptures; And that He was **BURIED**, and that He **ROSE** again the third day, **ACCORDING** to the scriptures:" ([1Cor.15:1-4](#))

In fact, [1Tim.2:6](#); [Matt.20:28](#) and [Mark 10:45](#) says that Jesus

- "**GAVE** Himself, a **RANSOM** for all."
- In **WHOM** we have redemption, **THROUGH** His blood, the **FORGIVENESS** of sins, according to the riches **OF** His grace; ([Eph.1:7](#))

[Heb.2:9](#) says,

- "we see Jesus, who was **MADE** a little lower than the angels, **FOR** the suffering of **DEATH**, **CROWNED** with glory and honour; that **HE**, by the **GRACE** of God, should taste **DEATH**, for **EVERY** man."

Truly Paul said, for all of us ,

- "**THANKS** be unto God, for his **UNSPEAKABLE** gift." ([2Cor.9:15](#)),
- "Who **GAVE** Himself, for **OUR** sins, that he might **DELIVER** us, **FROM** this present **EVIL** world, according to the **WILL** of God **AND** our Father:" ([Gal.1:4](#)).
- "This is a **FAITHFUL** saying, and **WORTHY** of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus **CAME** into the world, to **SAVE** sinners; **OF** whom, I am **CHIEF**." ([1Tim.1:15](#)).

In comparison **AND** in contrast, Muhammed of the Muslim faith, did **NOT** and could **NOT** accomplish what Jesus, the Son of God accomplished!

History tells us that,

- Like Joseph Smith, Muhammed didn't perform any miracles to confirm his teachings were sent from God, but rather he **BULLIED** and **FORCED** people into submission.
- Muhammed did many self serving, ungodly things, such as rape and murder.
- Muhammed was readily willing to satisfy his fleshly desires, at the **EXPENSE** of others.
- Muhammed wanted to **BE served**,
Jesus the Son of God came, **TO SERVE** ([Matt.20:28](#)).
- Muhammed was **NEVER** willing to sacrifice his life for others, BUT rather **TOOK** the lives of others.
- Like a parent toward their children,
Only the **TRUE** God and **creator** of us all, would demonstrate such a loving sacrifice,
...Because we are HIS – He made us!

Such Love, should **IMPRESS** upon us, that God **IS**.

Man would **NEVER** sacrifice themselves or their only begotten son, as God did.

D. The Author and Finisher of Our Faith, in Contrast with those that Did NOT Write the Bible

Sometimes those that don't believe in God, might say something like:

- *"The Bible was simply written by men"*.
- When we contrast the **TRUE Author** of the Bible, with those that obviously did **NOT** write the Bible, Great **EVIDENCE**, **CONFIDENCE** and **FAITH**, is the end result.

Consider some, who did **NOT** write the Bible.

- a) For example, **SATAN** the devil, surely is **NOT** the originator of the Bible,
As the Bible tells us where he is heading...

On the day of **JUDGEMENT**, Jesus will **DIVIDE** those, that **DON'T** obey Him, on the **LEFT**,
from those that **DO**, on the **RIGHT**. **JESUS** will say **UNTO THOSE**, on the **LEFT** Hand:

- **"DEPART from me, ye cursed, INTO everlasting fire, PREPARED for the devil AND his angels:"**
([Matt.25:41](#)).

The Bible discourages our following him, for we are admonished to:

- **"Be SOBER, be VIGILANT; because your adversary the DEVIL, as a roaring lion, walketh about, SEEKING whom he may DEVOUR:"** ([1Pet.5:8-9](#)).

- b) Likewise, the **ATHIEST** didn't write the Bible, as we are told,

- **"IN the BEGINNING, God CREATED the heaven and the earth"** ([Gen.1:1](#)).

And [Psalms 14:1](#) says:

- **"The FOOL hath said in his heart, There IS no God..."**

And so, one can conclude, that the **ATHIEST**, didn't have anything to do, with writing the Bible.

c) **LOVERS** of the **WORLD**, would have been too **ASHAMED** to write the Bible.

For their practices, are **DENOUNCED** strongly, with such passages as [Gal.5:19-21](#)

- “Now the **WORKS** of the flesh are manifest, which are these; adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, AND such like: **Of** the which I tell you before, **AS** I have **ALSO** told you in time past, that they which **DO** such things, shall **NOT inherit**, the kingdom of God.”

Lovers of the World, would **NOT** have written [Psalm 1:vs 6](#), which says:

- “For the **LORD knoweth**, the **WAY** of the righteous: but the **WAY** of the ungodly, shall **PERISH**.”

A warning is given to lovers of the world in [Rev.21:8](#), which reads,

- “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and **ALL liars**, shall **HAVE** their part, **IN** the lake, which **BURNETH** with fire and brimstone: which **IS** the second DEATH.”

d) **SECTARIANS** (that is, sects of christianity) or **DENOMINATIONALISTS** (that is, parts of christianity), would **NOT** have been **INTERESTED** enough, to write the Bible.

They say:

- “**One** church, is as good as another”,
- “No **difference**, what one believes”;
- “**Unity** in Diversity”, they plead;
- “**Choose** the Church of your Choice”, they proclaim.

But New Testament writers taught only **ONE**,

- “There is **ONE** body, and **ONE** Spirit, even as ye are called in **ONE** hope, of your **CALLING**. **One** Lord, **One** Faith, **One** Baptism” ([Eph.4:4-5](#)).

And lest there be any doubt about it, We are **CALLED** by the gospel ([2Thess.2:14](#)).

- **NOT** by, our own “**THINK so’s**” ([Isa.55:8-9](#)),
- And **NOT** by, what **SEEMS** right, either ([Prov.14:12](#)).

e) What about the **INNOVATORS**? They would NOT have, **DARED** write the Bible.

They do not hesitate to add, diminish or modify. No bother, if no scripture --- they’ll just fix it anyway.

Innovators would **NOT** have written such things as:

- “Ye shall **NOT** add unto the word, which I command you, **NEITHER** shall ye diminish **OUGHT** from it, That ye may **KEEP** the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you” ([Deut.4:2](#)).

Innovators would **NOT** have written [2Jn.9](#) **NEITHER**, which reads:

- “**WHOSOEVER** transgresseth, and abideth **NOT** in the doctrine of Christ, hath **NOT** God. He that abideth **IN** the doctrine of Christ, he hath **BOTH** the Father **AND** the Son.”

So, **NO** sir and **NO** MA’am.... **INNOVATORS** would **NOT** have written such passages.

f) **REBELLIOUS** sinners would have been too **UNGRATEFUL** to write the Bible.

They don't recognize **ANY** dependence and are "unthankful"

The Bible says this about some...

- "For men shall be **LOVERS** of their **OWN** selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, **DISOBEDIENT** to parents, **UNTHANKFUL**, unholy." ([2Tim.3:2](#))

Rebellious Sinners, live for **SELF** and the **PRESENT** time – for the right **HERE** and the right **NOW** moment.

But God warns us:

- "the **TIMES** of this ignorance, God **WINKED** at; but **NOW** commandeth **ALL** men, every where to **REPENT**: Because he hath **APPOINTED** a day, in the which he will **JUDGE** the world, **IN** righteousness, **BY** that man whom, He hath **ORDAINED**; whereof he hath **GIVEN** assurance, unto **ALL** men, in that he hath **RAISED** Him from the dead." ([Acts 17:30-31](#)).

g) **Lukewarm Christians** would have been **AFRAID**, to write the Bible.

They would have written comforting passages, such as:

- "No need to participate in the work & worship"; "Don't have to meet with sound brethren";
- "It's all right to compromise and not take a strong stand for Bible Truth";
- "Sacrifice of self is **NOT** essential"; "Don't bother others; just **LEAVE** it alone"

But the Bible gives **NO** such comfort!

Let's consider just a few passages:

- "Wherefore let him that **THINKETH** he standeth, take **HEED**, lest he **FALL**." ([1Cor.10:12](#)).
- "Therefore, my **BELOVED** brethren, be ye **STEDFAST**, **UNMOVEABLE**, always **ABOUNDING**, in the work of the Lord, Forasmuch as ye **KNOW**, that your labour is **NOT** in vain, **IN** the Lord." ([1Cor.15:58](#)).
- "Therefore, we **OUGHT** to give, the more earnest **HEED** to the things, which we have **HEARD**, lest at **ANY** time, we should **LET** them slip.

For **IF**, the word **SPOKEN** by angels, was **STEDFAST**, and every **TRANSGRESSION** and **DISOBEDIENCE** received a **JUST** recompence of **REWARD**;

HOW shall **WE** escape, if we **NEGLECT**, so **GREAT** salvation; which at the **FIRST**, began to be spoken **BY** the Lord, and was **CONFIRMED** unto us, by them that **HEARD** Him;" ([Heb.2:1-3](#)).

- "Therefore, to him that **KNOWETH** to do good, and doeth it **NOT**, to him, it **IS** sin." ([James 4:17](#)). We can't **compromise** or go against our Bible based convictions **AND** responsibilities. Nor can we **PARTICIPATE** with sins of others (read [2Jn.vs.10-11](#); [Eph.5:7-17](#)) We **MUST** meet with sound brethren. ...with those of a like precious faith.

Jesus warns us:

- "So then because thou art **LUKEWARM**, and neither cold **NOR** hot, I will spue thee **OUT** of my mouth." ([Rev.3:16](#)).

We are **NOT** to be,

- "**SLOTHFUL** in business; (**BUT**), **FERVENT** in spirit; **SERVING** the Lord;" ([Rom.12:11](#)).

New Testament, first century christians,

- “**CONTINUED** stedfastly, **IN** the apostles’ doctrine **AND** fellowship, **AND** in breaking of break, **AND** in prayers.” ([Acts 2:42](#)).
- “And the things, that thou has **HEARD** of me, among **MANY** witnesses, the same **COMMIT** thou to **FAITHFUL** men, Who shall be **ABLE**, to teach **OTHERS** also” ([2Tim.2:2](#)).

This passage **CLEARLY** emphasizes that christians are to be about **TEACHING** others.

We **MUST** bother others; we can **NOT**, leave it alone.

We must love God **FIRST** ([Matt.22:37-38](#));

- and **MORE** than even the closet of family members ([Matt.10:37](#)),
- **INCLUDING**, more than self [Lk.14:26](#)).

Christians **MUST**

- “seek ye **FIRST** the kingdom of God, and **His** righteousness;” ([Matt.6:33](#)), and some times that way is **UNCOMFORTABLE**, but necessary.

h) Notice also that **GOOD PEOPLE**, Did Not Write The Bible either.

Good men don’t lie. But If good men wrote the Bible, they **HAD** to have lied, as the Bible says:

- “Knowing this first, that **NO** prophecy of the scripture, is of **ANY** private interpretation. For the prophecy came **NOT** in old time, **BY** the will of **MAN**: **BUT** holy men of God **SPAKE**, as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” ([2Pet.1:20-21](#)).

Good men only **MOVED** the pen. The apostle was told to:

- “**WRITE** the things which thou hast **SEEN**, and the things which **ARE**, and the things which shall **BE hereafter**” ([Rev.1:19](#)).

The Bible says,

- “Howbeit when **HE**, the Spirit of Truth is come, He will guide you into ALL Truth: For He shall **NOT** speak of himself; **BUT** whatsoever He shall **HEAR**, **THAT** shall he speak: and He will **SHEW** you, things to come.” ([Jn.16:13](#)).

In the first century, we had inspired MEN. Today, we have the inspired BOOK.

In the first century, God gave miraculous gifts to men, so they could perform miracles to confirm or prove, that **WHAT** they were teaching, was indeed **FROM** God.

- “they **WENT** forth, and **PREACHED** everywhere, the **Lord** working **WITH** them, and **CONFIRMING** the word with **SIGNS** following (that is, with **MIRACULOUS** signs following)” ([Mark.16:20](#)).

Utilizing the process of elimination – Since the Bible did **NOT** originate from satan or men, then surely the conclusive evidence, points to this Book’s **TRUE** author as **God Himself**, by the revealing of His Mind to men, who wrote those things down for us.

We have it today, in a volume known as the **B.I.B.L.E.**, And so we,

- “**LOOK...** unto **JESUS**, the **AUTHOR** and **FINISHER** of *our* **FAITH**; who for the **JOY**, that was **SET** before Him, **ENDURED** the cross, **DESPISING** the shame, and is **SET down**, at the **RIGHT hand**, of the **THRONE** of God.” ([Heb.12:2](#)).

We are indeed **ACCOUNTABLE** to this Book’s **TRUE** Author!

III. God So Loved The World

A. He Gave His Son by His Mercy and Grace ([Eph.1:7](#); [1Pet.1:18-20](#); [Rev.1:5](#)):

- “forasmuch as ye know that ye were not **REDEEMED** with corruptible things, *as silver and gold*, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹but **WITH** the precious **BLOOD** of **Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: ²⁰who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times **FOR YOU**,” ([1Pet.1:18-20](#))
- “Jesus Christ, *who is* the faithful witness, *and* the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto Him that **LOVED US**, and **WASHED US** from **OUR SINS** in **HIS** own **BLOOD**” ([Rev.1:5](#))
- “the kindness and **LOVE** of God our Saviour toward man appeared, ⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his **MERCY** He **SAVED** us, by the **WASHING** of regeneration (baptism), and renewing of the Holy Ghost; (knowledge through the Word)” ([Titus 3:4-5](#))
- “we have **REDEMPTION** through His **BLOOD**, the **FORGIVENESS** of sins, according to the riches of **HIS GRACE**” ([Eph.1:7](#))
- “For **GOD** so **LOVED** the world, that He **GAVE His only begotten Son**, that whosoever **BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT** perish, but have everlasting life.” ([Jn.3:16](#))
- “For by **GRACE** are ye **SAVED** through **FAITH**; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the **GIFT** of **GOD**.” ([Eph.2:8](#))
- “we believe that through the **GRACE** of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be **SAVED**, even as they” ([Acts 15:11](#))
- “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **NOT WILLING** that any **should perish**, but that all **should come to REPENTANCE**.” ([2Pet.3:9](#))
- “but if we **WALK** in the light (gospel truth), as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the **BLOOD** of Jesus Christ his Son **CLEANSETH** us from all sin.” ([1Jn.1:7](#))

B. He Gave Us His Soul Saving, Eternal & Powerful Word ([Rom.1:16](#); [1Cor.15:1-2](#); [James 1:21](#)),

- “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the **GOSPEL** which I preached unto you, which also ye have **RECEIVED**, and wherein ye **STAND**; ²by which also ye are **SAVED**, **IF** ye **KEEP** in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain (?). ³For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ **DIED** (death) for our sins according to the **SCRIPTURES**; ⁴and that He was **BURIED** (burial), and that He **ROSE** (resurrection) again the third day according to the **SCRIPTURES**.” ([1Cor.15:1-4](#))
- “Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and **RECEIVE** with meekness the engrafted **WORD**, which is able to **SAVE** your **SOULS**.” ([James 1:21](#))
- “For the **WORD** of God *is* quick, and **POWERFUL**, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of **SOUL** and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” ([Heb.4:12](#))
- “For I am not ashamed of the **GOSPEL** of Christ: for it is the **POWER** of God unto **SALVATION** to every one that **BELIEVETH**; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” ([Rom.1:16](#))

C. Through His Word, He Gave A Plan: To Overcome Sin and Prepare For The Judgment

- Faith or **Belief** in Christ **SAVES** ([Acts 16:31](#); [Jn.8:24](#); [Heb.11:6](#); [Jn.3:16,18](#)),
- **Repentance SAVES** ([Lk.13:3](#); [Acts 11:18](#); [Acts 17:30](#)),
 - Definition: A change of mind that leads to a change in action ([Matt.21:28-30](#)).
 - Examples: “Let him that stole, steal no more” ([Eph.4:28](#)); “Go and sin no more” ([Jn.8:11](#)).
- **Confession SAVES** ([Matt.10:32-33](#); [Rom.10:9-10](#); [Acts 8:37](#)),
- **Baptism SAVES** ([1Pet.3:21](#); [Mk.16:16](#); [Acts 22:16](#)),
- **Works of God SAVES**, as we’ll be judged by them ([Rev. 20:12](#) & [22:12](#)):
 - “What *doth it* profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? **can faith save him?**” ([Jms.2:14](#)) ...The implication is, can faith only save and as you’ll see in the following Bible passages, faith alone cannot save.
 - “Even so faith, if it hath not works, is **DEAD**, being **alone**.” ([Jms.2:17](#))
 - ¹⁹Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: **the devils also believe, and tremble**. The devils don’t have an obedient faith. The devils don’t DO what God says.
 - ²⁰But wilt thou know, O vain man, that **faith without works is DEAD?** ²¹Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? (Bible belief is an obedient belief or obedient faith: Abraham was not a hearer only - [Jms.1:22](#)) ²²Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? ²³And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God ([Jn.15:14](#); [Jn.14:15](#)). ²⁴Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and **NOT by faith ONLY.**” ([Jms.2:19-24](#))
- **Hope SAVES** ([Rom.8:24](#)),
- **Endurance SAVES** ([Matt.10:22](#)) or remaining faithful until death ([Rev.2:10](#)).

Contrary to popular belief, most religions of men teach that all one has to do is **BELIEVE**. Such a teaching and practice misses 90% of the true facts on this particular subject. Or they miss it 100% when they teach that all one has to do is “accept Jesus into your heart as your personal savior”, as there is **NOT** a single Bible passage that can be found pertaining to this idea.

If the inspired apostle Paul did

- “not shun(ed) to **DECLARE** unto you **ALL** the counsel of God.” ([Acts 20:27](#)), then shouldn’t we **ACCEPT ALL** the counsel of God, instead of picking and choosing what we like and don’t like? The obvious answer is **YES!**

So why not,

- “be ye **DOERS** of the word, and **NOT hearers only**, deceiving your own selves” ([James 1:22](#)).
- “Purify your soul” by “**OBEYING** the truth” ([1Pet.1:22](#)),
- “being **BORN** again” ([Jn.3:5](#)), “by the **WORD** of God, which liveth and abideth for ever” ([1Pet.1:23](#))

Being born again, has to do with a new birth.

- “**IF** any man be **IN** Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” ([2Cor.5:17](#)).

To be a new creature, one has to be **IN** Christ. There are only two Bible passages in the entire Word of God that tells one how to get **INTO** Christ, where all spiritual blessings exist ([Eph.1:3](#)) and if all spiritual blessings are **IN** Christ – not one of those blessings exist outside of Christ.

- “For as many of you as have been baptized **INTO** Christ have put **ON** Christ.” ([Gal.3:27](#)).
- “Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized **INTO** Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?” ([Rom.6:3](#)).

But remember, one has to **REPENT** or “Go and sin no more” ([Jn.8:11](#)), **BEFORE** one can get **INTO** Christ through water immersion or baptism ([Acts 8:35-39](#)). One cannot continue in sin and expect to maintain a relationship with God, as [Isa.59:2](#) says: “Your iniquities” (that is your sins), “have **SEPARATED** between **YOU** and your **GOD**, And your sins have **HID** his face **FROM** you, that he will **NOT** hear.”

In [Romans 6:17](#), the inspired apostle Paul acknowledged,

- “ye have **OBEYED** from the heart, that **FORM** of doctrine, which was **delivered** you”

One preacher of the past, Richard Fox, would explain [Rom.6:17](#) by asking, “What form of doctrine was he speaking of?” and answering “A form of the Death, Burial & Resurrecton” and then explaining:

- Coupled with Repentance, one **DIE’s** to sin through a watery grave of Baptism, which is a form of Christ’s death.
- One is **BURIED** with Him, by Baptism, which is a form of Christ’s burial.
- One is **RAISED** in newness of **LIFE** , after baptism, which is a form of Christ’s resurrection and a form of **salvation** or eternal life ([Rom.6:1-9](#); [Col.2:12-13](#)).

Notice two parallel Truths between what man **MUST** do, to activate what Jesus has already done **FOR** us:

The Bible says that Jesus

- “loved us, and **WASHED** us from our sins in his own blood,” ([Rev.1:5](#)).

The Bible says that baptism

- “**WASH**(es) away thy sins,” ([Acts 22:16](#))

So, the blood of Christ washes away sins, but only if we submit to His teachings ([2Jn.9](#)), including being baptized.

Jesus said,

- “For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many, for the **REMISSION** of sins.” ([Matt.26:28](#)).

The Bible instructs all to,

- “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name (or authority) of Jesus Christ for the **REMISSION** of sins,” ([Acts 2:38](#)).

So, the blood of Christ was shed for the “remission of sins”, in the same way that repenting, coupled with baptism, is for the “remission of sins”.

Do you now see why baptism is scriptural, important and necessary for one's salvation?

Question: IF when Biblically baptized or immersed in a watery grave, **YOU:**

- Have "remission of sins" ([Acts 2:38](#)),
- "wash away your sins" ([Acts 22:16](#)),
- "put on Christ" ([Gal.3:26-27](#)),
- Are added to or enter the body (or church) of Christ ([Acts 2:47](#); [1Cor.12:13](#); [Eph.1:22-23](#)),
- Are "save(d)" ([1Pet.3:21](#)),
- "Forgiven you all trespasses" ([Col.2:12-13](#))

Then, WHAT is your condition without Biblical baptism?

D. Result or Consequences of Obedience ([Eph.1:3](#))

- Remission of Past Sins** ([1Cor.6:9-11](#); [Acts 22:16](#); [Matt.16:16](#); [Rom.6:18](#))
- New Man** ([2Cor.5:17](#); [1Pet.1:13-16](#)) or **Newness of Life** ([Rom.6:3-5](#))
- Member of a new family** ([Acts 2:37-41](#), [47](#); [1Cor.12:13](#))
 - **Brother & Sisters**, In The Same Spiritual **Household** or **Family** ([Rom.8:17](#); [1Tim.3:15](#); [2Cor.6:17-8](#); ; [Eph.1:1-6](#); [Gal.3:26](#); [Eph.5:1](#); [Gal.6:10](#))
 - **Workers & Labourers**, In the Same Spiritual **Vinyard** ([Matt.9:37-38](#); [Matt.21:28-30](#); [1Cor.3:9](#); [2Cor.6:1](#))
 - **Soldiers**, Who Serve In The Same Spiritual **Army** ([2Tim.2:4](#); [Phil.2:25](#))
 - **Citizens**, Of The Same Spiritual **Kingdom** ([Eph.2:19](#))
 - **Members**, Of The Same Spiritual **Body** ([1Cor.12:25-26](#))
and as such, We **Have** The **Same** care, One For Another – We Are **ONE!**
- Love of Spiritual Family or Brethren** ([Gal.5:6](#); [1Cor.14:1](#); [1Cor.13:2](#); [1Cor.13:13](#); [Matt.22:37-38](#); [Eph.5:2](#); [1Pet.2:17](#); [Rom.12:10](#); [1Jn.3:23](#); [Jn.15:12](#); [1Pet.4:8](#); [1Jn.4:7-10](#); [1Jn.3:14](#); [Rom.14:7](#); [Phil.2:4](#); [Heb.10:24-25](#); [1Cor.13:4-7](#))
- Privilege and Power of Prayer** ([Heb.4:16](#); [Psalm 66:18](#); [Psalm 28:9](#); [1Thess.5:17](#); [1Tim.2:1-3](#); [James 5:16](#); [1Pet.3:10-11](#); [Lk.18:1](#); [Lk.18:7-8](#); [Matt.7:7-8](#))
- Joy & Peace** ([Phil.4:4-9](#); [1Pet.1:2-8](#); [Rom.14:17](#); [Col.1:20](#); [1Cor.14:33](#); [Isa.9:6](#); [Rom.10:15](#); [1Tim.1:2](#); [Jn.14:27](#); [Matt.28:20](#); [Mk.6:50](#); [Rom.8:31](#); [Col.3:15](#); [Heb.13:5](#))
- Hope** ([Rom.14:13](#); [Jn.16:33](#); [Rom.8:24](#); [Rom.5:2](#); [Rom.15:13](#); [1Cor.15:19](#))
- Heavenly Reward** ([Jn.14:2-3](#); [Acts 1:11](#); [Rev.1:7](#); [Jn.5:28-29](#); [Acts 24:15](#)); [Heb.11:10](#); [Phil.1:23](#); [Phil.3:20](#); [2Cor.5:1](#); [Heb.11:16](#); [1Pet.2:11](#); [Phil.3:14](#); [1Jn.3:2](#); [Titus 1:2](#); [Job 3:17](#); [Psalm 73:24](#); [2Tim.4:16-18](#); [2Pet.1:10-11](#);

As preachers of the past have stated, **HEAVEN** truly is a prepared **PLACE**, for a prepared **PEOPLE**.

- Christ is our **FORERUNNER** to Heaven ([Heb.6:20](#))
- He is now in **Heaven** **FOR** us ([Heb.9:24](#))
- This gives us **hope**, as an **ANCHOR** of the soul, **BOTH** sure and steadfast ([Heb.6:19](#))

Resources:

- “Some Who Did Not Write The Bible” sermon outline by Derrel Shaw
- “The Joy of Christianity” sermon by Johnny Ramsey
- “The Chain of Salvation” sermon by Johnny Ramsey
- Home Bible Study, by Richard Fox