

Peter Answers Questions About The Bible

(Zeke Flores From outline by Terry Benton)

Intro *What claims did the writers of the Bible make concerning the work they were doing?*

- A. Did they know they were writing something that would endure as long as it has?
 - 1. What would they say if they could if they could answer some of the questions people ask today regarding the Bible?
- B. All the Bible writers have something to say concerning what they wrote.
 - 1. Today, we'll look specifically at how Peter would answer some modern day questions.

I. Peter's Answers To Bible Questions

A. *"Is the Bible Really ALL We Need?"*

- 1. Some would say no, must have the Bible and tradition, or the Bible and a burning in the bosom, or the Bible and _____. (Fill in the blank)
- 2. Peter says, **2 Peter 1:3-4**
 - a. We have everything pertaining to life (eternal and earthly) and godliness.
 - b. We have precious & magnificent promises.
 - (1) Remember, God is faithful, reliable.
 - c. We have the means to be partakers of Divine Nature.

B. *"How Dependable Is The Bible?"*

- 1. The evidence for the integrity of God's word can be proven in multiple ways.
 - a. Manuscript evidence
 - (1) 1,000s of manuscripts - ALL agree!
 - b. Archeological evidence
 - (1) Time after time, the archeologist's spade reproves the skeptic.
 - c. Prophetic evidence
 - (1) Prophecy after prophecy has come to pass.
 - d. Statistical evidence
 - (1) Statistically impossible that even a small number of prophecies, especially concerning the Christ, would prove true.
 - e. Salvation evidence
 - (1) It is the ONLY book with the consistent theme of man's salvation running through it.
- 2. Peter says simply, **2 Peter 1:16-21**
 - a. It's not a product of men though men held the pens.
 - b. Men's words are not always dependable.
 - (1) Holy men are more dependable
 - (2) Holy men moved by the Holy Spirit are MOST dependable.
 - (a) Why? Because they've been given insight into the mind of God.
 - i) **1 Cor 2:12-13, 16**

C. *"How Can The Bible Be Interpreted?"*

- 1. Some would say it can't be given the wide range of teaching by those claiming to hold to the Bible.
- 2. See again **2 Pet 1:20-21**
 - a. Is not an interpretation of the knowledge and feelings of the prophet, but of the will of God. Vs 21 shows that this is the meaning. (People's NT)
- 3. Peter and others encouraged careful comparing of interpretation.
 - a. **2 Pet 3:15-16, 1 John 4:1, 6**

D. *"Hasn't the Bible Been Corrupted Through Time?"*

- 1. Manuscript evidence says otherwise as does the archeological evidence.
- 2. Peter says, **1 Peter 1:23-25**
 - a. It is imperishable (incorruptible, can't destroy it)

- b. It endures FOREVER
 - c. Men may pervert it and alter it for their own use, but God has preserved it so that reliable manuscripts abound - more than any other ancient work.
- E. *“Isn’t The Bible A Dead Letter, No Longer Relevant For Our Time?”*
- 1. It’s true that the Bible addresses situations unique to ancient cultures.
 - a. But it does it with principles and concepts that transcend culture and era.
 - 2. Look again at **1 Pet 1:23**
 - a. People’s lives change because they put the word into practice.
 - (1) **Heb 4:12**
 - b. Some people may be spiritually dead to it, but it itself is never dead, whether written or spoken.
 - (1) Wherever an honest heart takes it in, it will bear fruit - That’s a promise from Jesus
 - (a) **Luke 8:15**
- F. *“What Should I Do With The Bible?”*
- 1. Desire it - **1 Peter 2:1-3**
 - 2. Obey it - **1 Peter 1:22**
 - a. Gain a good conscience thru baptism - **1 Pet 3:21**
 - 3. Grow in it - **2 Peter 3:18**
 - 4. Use it to defend against false teachers
 - a. **2 Peter 3:1-3, 17**

Conc *The Bible is God’s gift to us.*

- A. With it we can learn about Jesus and His work on our behalf.
- B. We can know everything God wants us to know about this life and the life to come.
 - 1. *“If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed. For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.”* 1 Tim 4:6, 8
- C. INV