

SUBJECT: The Bible.

TITLE: You Can Trust Your Bible.

PROPOSITION: To begin a series of lessons on trusting your Bible.

OBJECTIVE: So we can know that we can trust our Bible.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Read the text.
2. Regarding the text.
 - (1) It is a fact that we don't have the original manuscripts of the Bible.
 - A. We don't have the original paper that David wrote our text on.
 - B. We don't have the original letters, articles, etc., that the Bible writers wrote on.
 - (2) This has led people off into two different extremes--
 - A. The most common extreme is that we cannot trust the Bible and cannot know what God had to say (Jno. 4:24).
 - B. The KJV is an inspired translation, and that God kept the translators from error just as he did the original writers (Acts 12:4).
 - (3) As usual the truth is some where between the two extremes.
3. Reference To S.T.P.O.

DISCUSSION: WE CAN TRUST OUR BIBLE--

I. Even Though All We Have Are Translations.

1. All Jesus had was copies and translations.
 - (1) He read the law in Nazareth (Lk. 4:16).
 - (2) He asked the Sadducees if they had never read in the book of Moses (Mk. 12:26).
2. No one else had any thing other than a translation.
 - (1) The Ethiopian Eunuch (Acts 8:28).
 - (2) Timothy had been taught the holy scriptures from a child (2 Tim. 3:15)
3. Jesus called the translations of his day, scriptures, and the Bible called them scriptures, so we can call them scriptures today.

II. Because Of All Of The Evidence That We Have For The Bible.

1. There is a tremendous amount of manuscript evidence for the Bible (Mt. 28:20).
 - (1) Breakdown of numbers of surviving manuscripts {[Chart 1](#)} (Prov. 30:5).
 - (2) Even though all we have are translations God's word is true from beginning to end (Psa. 119:160).
2. The Bible was originally given, and then it was copied down ([Chart 2](#)).
 - (1) These copies are still called Moses and the prophets (Lk. 16:29).
 - (2) Paul reasoned with people out of the scriptures, translations (Acts 17:2).
3. When the Spirit quoted the Old Testament He did NOT use the Septuagint, he didn't need to, he was able to translate from Hebrew to Greek, but when Paul read from the Septuagint, he recognized it as scripture.

III. Because God Would Want Us To Know What His Mind Was.

1. Unless God informed us what was on his mind there was no way that we could know (1 Cor. 2:11).
 - (1) God has revealed his will unto us by his Spirit (1 Cor. 2:12-14).
 - (2) Paul said that what he preached came by revelation (Gal. 1:11,12).
2. God is a loving God and does not want any to perish (2 Pet. 3:9).
 - (1) Those who do not obey will be lost (2 Thess. 1:7-9).
 - (2) The gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Rom. 1:16).
3. Even though we don't have the originals, God would make sure that we have enough evidence to have his word.

SUMMARY: We can trust our Bible--

1. Even though all we have are translations.
2. Because of all of the evidence that we have for the Bible.
3. Because God would want us to know what his mind was.

APPEAL: Let us always remember that we can trust our Bible.
Preached at Belle, MO on February 22, 2009, Morning Lesson.

SUBJECT: Philemon.

TITLE: Being Fellow Laborers.

PROPOSITION: To look at what being fellow laborers is about.

OBJECTIVE: So we can learn what it means to work together.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Read the text.
2. Regarding the text.
 - (1) Paul called Philemon his fellow laborer.
 - A. He was a fellow laborer because he labored with Paul in the gospel.
 - B. He one who went with Paul to preach the gospel.
 - (2) Today we are fellow laborers in the gospel.
 - A. We are workers together, in that we work together.
 - B. We work for a common cause and towards a common goal.
 - (3) Let us look at what is meant by being a fellow laborer in the gospel.
3. Reference To S.T.P.O.

DISCUSSION: WE ARE FELLOW LABORERS OF THE GOSPEL--

- I. Because We Work Together For A Common **Cause**.
 1. Our cause is the salvation of man through Jesus Christ our Lord.
 - (1) People are lost in sin (Rom. 3:23; Jno. 3:19).
 - (2) The gospel is the only thing that will save them (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 1:16).
 2. Our cause is the maintenance of the purity of the church.
 - (1) We have to keep the church pure from reproach (1 Cor. 5:1-5).
 - (2) We have to keep the church pure from false doctrine (Rom. 16:17; 2 Jno. 9-11).
- II. Because We Work Together For A Common **Goal**.
 1. Our goal is to get to heaven and take as many people with as we can (Prov. 11:30).
 - (1) We do this by spreading the gospel throughout the world (Acts 8:4)
 - A. We are supporting U. John in Prakasam, India.
 - B. We will be supporting Jeremy Desjarlais in Sydney, Australia.
 - C. We are now hunting a new preacher student to support.
 - D. We have "Back To The Bible" in print, on the internet and a video program.
 - (2) Even though we do these things, we still are to take care of the area right here (Mk. 16:15,16; Mt. 28:19,20).
 - A. We have our door knocking Campaign coming up in May.
 - B. We can use this for good and help bring others to Christ (John 1:40,41).
 2. Our goal is to be ready for the judgment day and never hear someone say that we never told them about Christ.
 - (1) The Song "You Never Mentioned Him To Me" (Ezk. 3:18,19).

(2) We want to be able to face Christ with a clear conscience on that day (Acts 23:1; 2 Tim. 4:6-8).

III. Because We Work Together For A Common **Good**.

1. That good is the proclamation of the gospel of Christ.
 - (1) The proclamation of the gospel glorifies God, not man (1 Cor. 4:7).
 - (2) That proclamation shows the eternal purpose of God (Eph. 3:10,11).
2. That good is for the good of all of man-kind.
 - (1) The wisdom of the world does not have the answers to life, we do (1 Cor. 1:18-21).
 - (2) The wisdom of the world is earthly, while the wisdom of God is heavenly (Jno. 3:31).

CONCLUSION:

SUMMARY: We have seen that we are fellow laborers--

1. Because we work together for a common cause.
2. Because we work together for a common goal.
3. Because we work together for a common good.

APPEAL: Let us be fellow laborers in the Lord.

Preached at Belle, MO on February 22, 2009, Evening Service.