**What Do You Mean**

**When You Say…
“God’s Word”**

An Introduction to Why the Bible is Holy

**What Many Think About the Bible**

People in the world have a lot to say about the bible. Worldly perspectives and faithless positions creep into the church and cause us to have messed up ideas.

* The bible is NOT **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* The bible is NOT a series of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* The bible is NOT **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**
* The bible is NOT **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*“It is shallow enough so that the most timid swimmer may enjoy it’s waters without fear, and yet deep enough for the most expert swimmer to enjoy it without touching the bottom”*

*-* John Watson

**What is the Bible?**

* The Bible was written by **\_\_\_\_** different authors over a period of 1600 years.
* They came from **\_\_\_\_\_** different occupations and lived in ten different countries
* They were separated by **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** miles while writing in **\_\_\_\_** different languages
* There are **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** characters in the Bible that lived in **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** places
* The Bible, in whole or in part, has been translated into over **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**languages and dialects

**Main Point for Bible Training Camp – Hosea 4:6**

If you do not know where to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_**the words of God, you do not know where to find God, and if you do not KNOW the word of God you don’t know God, and when you do not know God you do not know how to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** for GOD

**What Does The Bible Say About How Itself**

**Stage 1: God's Words Revealed (Revelation)**

• God speaks with **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**(Gen 1:3; Mark 4:39-41)

*Gen 1:3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.*

*Mark 4:39-41 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?*

• God speaks directly to people (Jeremiah 36:1)

• God speaks through Jesus' testimony (John 12:47-50)

• God speaks through **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** testimonies (1 John 1:1-5)

***1 John 1:5-7***

*This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.****6****If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:****7****But if we walk in the light, 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.*

**Stage 2: God's Words Inspired (Inspiration)**

• God places His word in man (Isa. 59:21)

• God's words are direct and clear (Jeremiah 36:1-3)

• God's words are living (Hebrews 4:12)

• God inspires **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:19-21)

*2 Tim 3:16-17* *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.*

**Stage 3: God's Words Written Down (Inscripturation)**

• God writes down His words directly (Exodus 32:15-16)

• God records history (1 Corinthians 10:11)

• God writes down His words through **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (Jeremiah 36:4)

*Jeremiah 36:4 Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah: and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD, which he had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book.*

**Stage 4: God's Words Copied and Distributed (Transmission)**

• God's words are **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** from medium to medium (Luke 16:27-31)

***Luke 16:27-31*** *Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house:****28****For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment.****29****Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.****30****And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent.****31****And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.*

• God's words are distributed through locality and culture (Romans 3:1-2)

• God's words are distributed through time (Romans 15:4)

• God's words are **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (2 Timothy 2:15)

*2 Timothy 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth*

**Stage 5: God's Words Established (Canonization)**

• God has founded His word from the beginning and settled it **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (Psalm 119:89, 152, 160; John 10:35)

*Psalm 119:89 LAMED. For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.*

*Psalm 119:152 Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.*

*John 10:35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken;*

• God commands for His words to not be added to or **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**from (Deuteronomy 4:2; Proverbs 30:6; Matthew 15:8-9; Revelation 22:18-19)

*Revelation 22:18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*

**Stage 6: God's Words Translated (Translation)**

• God's words can be declared in multiple languages simultaneously (Genesis 31:47; Luke 23:38; Acts 2:4-11; Revelation 9:11;)

• God translates His words (Daniel 5:25-28; Matthew 27:46 / Mark 15:34; John 1:41; Revelation 16:16)

• God's words will be received of every kindred, tongue, people and nation (Revelation 5:9; 14:6)

• Jesus commands His church to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** all His commandments to all nations (Matthew 28:18-20)

*Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

**Stage 7: God's Words Preserved (Preservation)**

• God **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**His words, even when physically destroyed (Exodus 32:19; 34:1, 4; Jeremiah 36:27-32)

***Jeremiah 36:27****Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying,****28****Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned.****29****And thou shalt say to Jehoiakim king of Judah, Thus saith theLord; Thou hast burned this roll, saying, Why hast thou written therein, saying, The king of Babylon shall certainly come and destroy this land, and shall cause to cease from thence man and beast?****30****Therefore thus saith the Lord of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David: and his dead body shall be cast out in the day to the heat, and in the night to the frost.****31****And I will punish him and his seed and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring upon them, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and upon the men of Judah, all the evil that I have pronounced against them; but they hearkened not.****32****Then took Jeremiah another roll, and gave it to Baruch the scribe, the son of Neriah; who wrote therein from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the book which Jehoiakim king of Judah had burned in the fire: and there were added besides unto them many like words.*

• God keeps His words forever (Psalms 12:6-7; Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 24:35 / Mark 13:31; 1 Peter 1:24-25)

• God keeps His words in His children forever (Isaiah 59:21)

• God preserves the power of His words (Luke 16:17)

• God punishes those who attack His word (Revelation 22:18-19)

**After all that God has done to protect his words and deliver them to your hands…what is necessary for you to understand it? You must have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*1 Cor 2:14 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.*

**1. We can not *\_\_\_\_\_*, *\_\_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_* Gods word for all that it is through our flesh.**

**2. God has *prepared* to *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* certain deep truths by his Spirit to those that love Him.**

**3. Our *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* cannot know the things of God.**

**4. At salvation we received the *\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_*. The *\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* teaches us the things freely given to us of God.**

**5. The Holy Ghost teacheth by *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* spiritual things with spiritual.**

**6. If you study the things of God like a natural man, you will walk away with *head knowledge and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_*. It will not be *absorbed* and** *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* **you from the inside.**

**7. The THINGS OF GOD**

**Natural Man**

 **-Revieveth not**

 **- They are foolish**

 **- He can’t know them**

 **- Unable to spiritually discern**

**Spiritual Man**

 **- God hath prepared them for us**

 **- Revealed to us by his spirit**

 **- We can know them**

 **- We have THE spiritual discerner in us**

**8. The Holy Ghost shall *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* you all things and bring all things to *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***

**9. The Holy Spirit is enough to teach you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

10. My responsibility to learn:

* We must ­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to learn
* We must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the guide
* We must \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

LIST OF HEROES

1. John Wycliffe

2. Johannes Gooseflesh (Gutenberg) moveable type printing press

3. Martin Luther

4. Erasmus

5. William Tyndale

6. Miles Coverdale

7. John Rogers

8. Thomas Cranmer (archbishop of Canterbury)

9. Theodore Beza

10. John Knox

11. John Fox

12. Robert Stephanus

13. John Smith (Jamestown settlement)

14. John Bunyan

15. King James the first of England

16. John Rainolds

17. Miles Smith

18. Thomas Holland

19. William Bedwell

20. Eusebius

NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

You will be doing a short study of someone God used throughout the last 2,000 years to preserve and protect God’s Words. God has used many types of people from different walks of life to do this work; from shepherds who recited God’s Word, to scribes who made sure that the Word of God was spread, to people who fought for every person to have God’s Word in a printed copy, to those strove to make sure that the versions of the bible that God wanted passed along were translated  in every language.

* Select a name from the list of “Bible Preservation Heroes” on the other page.
* Use the internet to research and answer the following questions about that person
1. Who is it the “Bible Preservation Hero” that you chose?
2. What time frame were they alive in and what country did they live in?
3. Research and list two other major events that were taking place during the time this person was alive?
4. What there occupation or plans in life before they got saved?
5. Were they educated? What did they study  and where did they get their training?
6. What was their role in preserivng the Word of God?
7. Why was their work important to making sure God’s Words were valued and shared?
8. Do you notice any character qualities about them that we should emulate?
9. Who did there work impact?