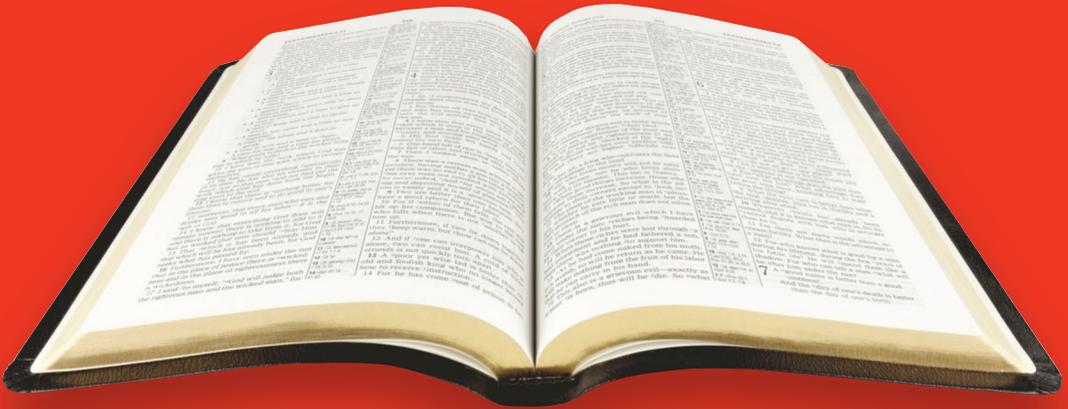


THE BIBLE

“The Book of the LORD”



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*The voice of God's Creation found me
Perplexed 'midst hope and fear;
For though His sunshine flashed around me,
His storms at times drew near:
And I said –
O that I knew where He abideth!
For doubts beset our lot,
And lo! His glorious face He hideth,
And men perceive it not.*

*The Voice of God's Protection told me
He loveth all He made;
I seemed to feel His arms enfold me,
And yet was half afraid:
And I said –
O that I knew where I might find Him!
His eye would guide me right:
He leaveth countless tracks behind Him,
Yet passeth out of sight.*

*The Voice of Conscience sounded nearer,
It stirred my inmost breast;
But though its tones were firmer, clearer,
'Twas not the voice of rest:
And I said –
O that I knew if He forgiveth!
My soul is faint within,
Because in grievous fear it liveth
Of wages due to sin.*

*It was the Voice of Revelation
That met my utmost need;
The wondrous message of salvation
Was joy and peace indeed:
And I said –
O how I love the sacred pages
From whence such tidings flow,
As monarchs, patriarchs, poets, sages
Have longed in vain to know!*

*For now is life a lucid story,
And death a rest in Him;
And all is bathed in light and glory
That once was dark or dim:
And I said –
O Thou Who dost my soul deliver,
And all its hopes uplift:
Give me a tongue to praise the Giver,
A heart to prize the gift!*

H. Twells

THE BIBLE

“The Book of the LORD”

“Thou has magnified Thy word above all Thy Name.” (Psalm 138:2)

“Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and READ...” (Isaiah 34:16)

“Search the Scriptures.” (John 5:39)

“If ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed: and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:31,32)

Note:

All Biblical quotations within this publication are taken from the Authorised (King James) translation of the Bible unless otherwise indicated.

The BIBLE: “The Book of the LORD”

The claims of the Bible are absolute and unequivocal. Without any apology it claims to be the Word of God, infallible and authoritative, the criterion by which the eternal destiny of men will be settled for weal or woe. Hear, for example these words – **“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God”** (2Tim. 3:16); **“God spake all these words”** (Exodus 20:1); **“The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and His word was in my tongue”** (2Sam. 23:2); **“To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them”** (Isaiah 8:20); **“We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth and the spirit of error”** (1John 4:6); **“He that is of God heareth God’s words: ye therefore hear them not because ye are not of God”** (John 8:47).

Christ Himself referred repeatedly to the Scripture as **“the Word of God”** (e.g. Mark 7:13). He always spoke of them as inerrant, and regarded them as the final authority in all matters of doctrine and practice. Here are some of His explicit statements – **“The Scripture cannot be broken”** (John 10:35); **“It is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail”** (Luke 16:17); **“David himself said by the holy Ghost”** (Mark 12:36); **“Thy word is truth”** (John 17:17); **“The Scriptures must be fulfilled”** (Mark 14:49); **“Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures”** (Matthew 22:29); **“In vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men”** (Mark 7:7,8). Both the materialistic theories of rationalism and the hoary traditions of ritualism He assaulted and mercilessly exposed by the truth of Holy Scripture.

There is nothing more absurd than to call ourselves Christians and then to refuse the clear teachings of Christ on such a vital and fundamental matter. To accept some of His teaching, to speak flatteringly of His Person and general manner of life, to acknowledge some of His claims, this is not what it means to be a Christian. We must accept all His claims without prevarication, receive implicitly all His teachings, and submit ourselves entirely to His absolute Lordship over our lives, before we can be regarded as His disciples, and thus Christians (Mark 8:34-38; Luke 14:26,27,33). Unless we have come to this and acknowledged Him as the Universal Sovereign and Eternal Lord and Saviour of the World (Romans 10:9,10), however much we may profess to accept and admire, we are unbelievers, Christ rejecters, and as such are still treading the broad road that ends in eternal destruction. Either we believe that Christ is “the Truth” or we do not. When we are confronted with His claim, **“My doctrine is not Mine, but His that sent Me”** (John

7:16); ***“I Have not spoken of Myself; but the Father which sent Me, He gave Me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak”*** (John 12:49): either we believe it, or we do not. The situation may pose a dilemma, but it is inescapable.

Christ and the Bible, the Living Word of God and the written Word of God stand together. They witness unflinchingly of each other. The advent of Christ in perfect accord with the prophetic Scripture is the convincing proof that Christ is the Son of God, and that the Bible is the Word of God. To say that the Bible is not the Word of God, but that it contains the Word of God together with what is false and misleading, is as ridiculous as to assert that Christ was a very good man, but not the Son of God come down from heaven, If Christ were not the Son of God from heaven, then He was the most brazen and wicked liar and impostor this world has ever seen; and if the Bible be not in very truth the Word of God it is the most stupendous fraud that ever was foisted on mankind. Only Satan could blind sensible men and women to this most obvious of facts. But fact it is.

The Word of God is the living seed which, when received by faith, becomes the instrument in God’s hands of that new birth by which alone a sinful son of Adam’s race can ever hope to enter God’s Kingdom (John 3:3; James 1:18; 1Peter 1:23-25).

But the Word of God rejected is the instrument of man’s eternal doom (Hebrews 4:12,13; John 12:46-48).

The ear that is deaf to Scripture must be deaf to every influence for good beside. Nothing will speak to the soul that cannot hear the Word of God, for only the voice of God can reach and awaken the dead (Luke 16:29-31; John 5:24,25).

But God has not left Himself without a witness. Faith is not fancy. Although the claims of the Bible are staggering in their immensity, uniquely so, yet there are very good grounds for accepting them. There are very many features of the Bible which combine to reveal its true character, if only we are prepared with an honest and an open mind to consider them. Though they be diverse in their nature yet they are one in their testimony, and the consideration of them separately or, and especially, together will lead us to an unshakeable conviction that the Bible is the Word of God. Objective proofs are valuable to the unbeliever, but for the Christian the subjective proofs will be of equal if not greater value. He has had, and is having an experience of God by means of the Holy Scriptures that no amount of clever argument can ever overthrow.

The UNITY of the Bible

Think of the unity of the Bible. It is not merely a book, it is a library comprising sixty-six books. With equal fitness it may be termed "*the Scripture*" or "*the Scriptures*" depending on whether we think of the whole volume or its several parts, for each part partakes of the essential nature of the whole.

Yet notice how very diverse the books are in character. Here we find poetry and prose, history and prophecy, law and lyric, epic and epistle, proverb and parable, allegory and apocalypse. The whole range of human literature is represented here. Writings of every kind are found together in this book.

Their several authors are likewise diverse. Here are the writings of scholars and artisans, prophets and priests, kings and commoners, physicians and fishermen, politicians and prisoners. Men of every type and social standing, living in a vast variety of times and places, have been used to contribute to this book.

There are involved in the writing of its component parts above forty different persons, three different languages, periods of time totalling more than fifteen hundred years, and places varying from a palace to a prison cell.

What might we expect of such a literature? Disunity, discord and contradiction; humanly speaking we could expect nothing else. Yet it is not so with the Bible. The differing writers in their differing ways all contribute to one harmonious whole.

The theme of the Bible is one, and its story is one. The theme is Christ, and the story is Redemption; and each book makes its own special contribution to the whole.

A cursory examination may seem to reveal discrepancies, but as we search beneath the surface we are made to realise the underlying oneness which is expressed in a variety of forms. The unity of the Bible is not superficial, but essential and vital.

An amazing harmony pervades the Bible, which can never be explained except on the ground that one mind superintended the work, assigning to each human instrument its part. Diversity in unity is the hallmark of God's handiwork, as witnessed by the material creation in general or the human body in particular, and the Bible displays this divine characteristic in a very marked manner.

“ALL scripture is given by inspiration of God.” (2Timothy 3:16)

“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.” (2Peter 1:20,21)

“Then He said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in ALL the scriptures the things concerning Himself.” (Luke 24:25-27)

“These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning Me. Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures” (Luke 24:44,45)

“Had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed Me: for he wrote of Me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe My words?” (John 5:46,47)



*Blest Volume of Eternal Truth,
Guide of the zestful steps of youth
And comfort of old age:
Inscribed by poet, prophet, priest,
Apostle and evangelist,
Historian and sage,

How perfectly their truths agree!
A most amazing harmony
Embraces every scroll:
Produced on earth, conceived in heaven,
From one great Shepherd they are given,
To form one living whole.*

*While Moses' deep-toned thunders roll,
Prophetic trumps that thrill the soul
And David's harp combine:
With sweetest strains of gospel love,
To sound His praise, Who reigns above,
In symphony divine.*

The SEQUENTIALITY of the Bible

Not only do the various parts form one harmonious whole, they make, in their own place, their peculiar contribution to the story of redemption as it gradually unfolds throughout the book.

In the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible) we have the *“seed”* stage. The major aspects of truth seen in later Scriptures are here found in germ form, so that this portion of the Word of God has been called the *“seed-plot”* of the Bible.

The rest of the Old Testament shows these truths developing in the *“blade”* stage. The history of Israel under law, and the spiritual state of the heathen without the law, discovered in this portion of Scripture prepare the way for the revelation of the world’s Redeemer, Jesus Christ. God was then preparing man for the advent of Christ, firstly by manifesting to him his own inherent sinfulness, his total inability to gain divine favour by his own efforts or merits, that he might see his need of God’s Saviour when He came, and secondly by illustrating the true way of salvation in the types of the ceremonial law, for example in the sacrifices.

The revelation of Christ, the Redeemer, in the Gospels is the *“ear”* stage, while the full explanation of the Person and work of Christ, and the full-orbed doctrines of the Gospel of God, including the end of the age and the true harvest of the cross, in the other New Testament writings, correspond to *“the full corn in the ear”*.

The teachings of the Bible are not merely harmonious, they are progressive. As the purpose of divine grace in redemption pursues its orderly course through the appointed dispensations, so its progress is charted in the pages of Scripture.

No one book gives the whole story from first to last: the whole Bible, in all its parts, is needed to understand fully the ways of God in redemption.

As in the realm of creation the growing plant is the evidence of the Creator’s own wisdom and power (Mark 4:28; 1Cor. 15:38), so in the realm of revelation the orderly progress is the clear evidence of the divine Author’s overruling skill in causing each portion to be written by its chosen human instrument in its own appointed time so as to render its own contribution to the unfolding story of redemption, the greatest story that ever fell on human ears.

“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.”
(Matthew 5:17)

“The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached.”
(Luke 16:16)

“For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; Him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever He shall say unto you ... Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days. Ye are the children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed.”
(Acts 3:22-25)

“Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world (ages) are come.”
(1Corinthians 10:11)

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds;”
(Hebrews 1:1,2)

“I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. 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.”
(John 16:12,13)



*A living seed upon the ground is cast;
Full soon the blade comes springing through the sod;
The full corn in the ear appears at last;
And speaks – without a word – to me of GOD.*

*At sundry times, in divers parts, through seers,
And in His Son, when He earth’s byways trod,
Then from the Ascended Lord at length, appears,
A living book – the ORACLES of GOD.*

The PROFUNDITY of the Bible

The number of the volumes which have been written to expound the meaning of the Bible down through the centuries, in many lands, in many tongues, is quite incalculable. And still books are pouring in a never ending stream from the printing presses of the world to communicate fresh understanding of truth as it is continually being received from the sacred page.

Scholars of the finest calibre from the four quarters of the earth have devoted their lives to the discovery of its riches, yet its wealth is no nearer exhaustion than at the beginning of its history.

As men dig deeper and yet deeper into its meaning, so they become increasingly aware of its profundity, and of their shallowness in comparison. The more capable the scholar, the greater his learning, the more diligent and thorough his research into the realm of divine truth enshrined in the Holy Scriptures, the deeper and more real will his conviction be of the infinite wealth and unfathomable depth of the subject of his study and of his inadequacy for the task to which he has applied himself. The *“deep things of God”* (1Cor. 2:10) are written here, so that only the illumination of the Holy Spirit of God can enable any man, however intelligent, to grasp in any real way its sacred truths.

We may read the Bible again and again, we may read it through one hundred times or more, and yet the next time we read it something fresh, something new will be gleaned from its inexhaustible fulness. The more we come to know its truth, the more we realise how little we know, and how much remains unknown.

Its depths are as unfathomable, its treasures as inexhaustible, as the God who gave it.

What men have produced, men may comprehend and exhaust, but infinitude is divine.

The simplest of men can obtain here bread for their souls' eternal welfare, while the most profound of men can never feel that they have emptied the store.

“O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out!” (Romans 11:33)

“But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory ... as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.”

(1Corinthians 2:7-10)

“Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify ... Unto whom it was revealed...”

(1Peter 1:10-12)



Afresh I praise Thee for Thine ever new

And blessèd word:

Daily it comes to me, fresh as the dew,

This blessèd word:

O, be it mine, yet more and more, I pray,

To meditate therein both night and day!

What God hath spoken well demands our time,

His blessèd word:

Let patient, loving toil search His sublime

And blessèd word!

Only to meditation is it given,

To taste the fulness of this truth from heaven.

Grains of the gold expand to boundless leaf;

This blessèd word:

Gives itself out to search, not survey brief:

O blessèd word,

One page of thee is inexhaustible;

Nought shows Eternity's employ so well!

Exhaustless is Thy new, and new Thine old,

Most blessèd word:

Such wealth of folded treasure to unfold,

O blessèd word,

Demands Eternity! Helps me to see

How endless life may endless learning be!

W. Ball

The SIMPLICITY of the Bible

It is paradoxical but nonetheless true that although the Bible is profound, its message is so simple that even a child may understand it and believe it. The Saviour could speak of ***“these little ones which believe in Me”*** (Matt. 18:6).

In His perfect wisdom God has seen fit to reveal Himself to men in such a way that the natural reasoning's of the proud human heart are baffled, while the humble heart, whatever its intellectual and cultural limitations, is at once capable of perceiving Him. Scripture expresses it in these words, ***“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching (i.e. by the message which the worldly-wise regard as foolishness) to save them that believe ... But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise ... that no flesh should glory in His presence”*** (1Cor. 1:18-31).

Christ prayed when He was rejected by His fellow-countrymen, ***“I thank Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because Thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in Thy sight”*** (Matt. 11:25,26). He insisted, ***“Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein”*** (Mark 10:14,15). How many of tender years and limited mental capacity have comprehended God's way of salvation, Christ crucified, while the wise of this world have stumbled over it.

It is possible for the worldly-wise to be saved; but very few are, because the humbling condition is, ***“Let him become a fool that he may be wise”*** (1Cor. 3:18-21). Such must recognise that their “wisdom” is the product of a mind blinded by sin: they must eschew it, and receive with child-like faith what their fellows, in their conceit, hold in contempt.

But what human mind could devise a plan of salvation satisfactory to the infinite wisdom of the All-knowing, yet intelligible even to a little child? The gospel of Christ, the crowning revelation of the Bible is divine in its simplicity.

The poet, William Cowper, has expressed the thought beautifully:

*“Oh how unlike the complex works of man,
Heaven's easy, artless, unencumbered plan.”*

“The entrance of Thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.”
(Psalm 119:130)

“To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion. A wise man will hear, and will increase learning;”
(Proverbs 1:2-5)

“From a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”
(2Timothy 3:15)



*Man, on the dubious waves of error toss'd,
His ship half foundered, and his compass lost,
Sees, far as human optics may command,
A sleeping fog, and fancies it dry land:
Spreads all his canvas, every sinew plies;
Pants for't, aims at it, enters it, and dies!
Then farewell all self-satisfying schemes,
His well-built systems, philosophic dreams;
Deceitful views of future bliss, farewell!
He reads his sentence at the flames of hell ...
Grace leads the right way: if you choose the wrong,
Take it, and perish; but restrain your tongue.
Charge not, with light sufficient, and left free,
Your wilful suicide on God's decree..*

*Oh how unlike the complex works of man,
Heaven's easy, artless, unencumbered plan!
No meretricious graces to beguile,
No clustering ornaments to clog the pile;
From ostentation, as from weakness, free,
It stands like the cerulean arch we see,
Majestic in its own simplicity.
Inscribed above the portal, from afar,
Conspicuous as the brightness of a star,
Legible only by the light they give,
Stand the soul-quickening words – BELIEVE, AND LIVE!
Too many, shocked at what should charm them most,
Despise the plain direction, and are lost.
Heaven on such terms! (thy cry, with proud disdain)
Incredible, impossible, and vain! –
Rebel, because 'tis easy to obey;
And scorn, for its own sake, the gracious way.*

William Cowper

The DURABILITY of the Bible

Inasmuch as the Bible is a book which declares uncompromisingly the depths of man's ruin through sin, and reveals the will of God for man, a will which cuts diametrically across man's own natural inclinations, it has always been the most hated book in the world.

While humble souls have loved and revered the Bible, sinners running determinedly on in sin have attacked the book with all the venom of their sin-cursed natures. The penknife which cut the scroll and fire which burned the word of the Lord at the instigation of king Jehoiakim (Jer. 36:23) are typical of the various measures which have been adopted by influential men to suppress or destroy the Bible.

Apart from the assaults of human reasoning, the less subtle, but no less effective, measures of sword, stake, gibbet and prison have all been repeatedly utilised to halt the influence of the book. Every resource possessed by fallen man has at some time in his sad history been requisitioned to destroy the Bible; the mere possession of the book has been enough to send countless numbers to death. May we never forget the heroic labours of men, even in this enlightened land, such as William Tyndale, who lived in affliction and died in agony for no other reason than this – that we might have the word of God in our own language.

In Communist lands even today the governments would seek to prevent the distribution of the Bible and suppress the reading of it; while there, as in Western lands, a constant barrage of scorn, insult and misrepresentation has to be endured by those who love it.

Yet no flood has drowned it; not fire has consumed it; it cannot die, for it is ***“the word of God which liveth and abideth for ever”*** (1Pet. 1:23).

King Jehoiakim destroyed the scroll, but he could not destroy the message. In its own time the word of the Lord was most surely fulfilled, even in the destruction of the king and his ungodly nation; and a new copy of the writing has preserved, even to this day, the record of these significant events for our instruction and warning.

“The words of the LORD ... Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, Thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.”
(Psalm 12:6,7)

“The works of His hands are verity and judgment; all His commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever.”
(Psalm 111:7,8)

“Concerning Thy testimonies, I have known of old that Thou hast founded them for ever.”
(Psalm 119:152)

“There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand.”
(Proverbs 19:21)

“Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever.”
(Isaiah 30:8)

“The word of our God shall stand for ever.”
(Isaiah 40:8)

“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away.”
(Matthew 24:35)

“For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.”
(1Peter 1:24-25)



*Eternal God, it was Thy breath,
The oracles of truth inspired;
And kings, and holy seers of old,
With strong prophetic impulse fired.*

*Filled with Thy great almighty power,
Their lips with heavenly science flowed;
Their hands a thousand wonders wrought,
Which bore the signature of God.*

*The powers of earth, and hell, in vain,
Against the sacred word combine;
Thy providence through every age,
Securely guards the Book Divine.*

*Thee, its great Author, Source of light,
Thee, its Preserver, we adore:
And humbly ask a ray from Thee,
Its hidden wonders to explore.*

Elizabeth Scott

The UNIVERSALITY of the Bible

The creations of men, including their literary productions, are necessarily bounded by the horizons of their own personal outlook, and the circumstances of the place and time in which they live. The mass media have done much in recent times to extend the frontiers of man's comprehension, but even yet true breadth of outlook is remarkable. The Bible was written long before such developments occurred. Yet it is one book which transcends the barriers of space and time, speaks with impartial interest to ***"all men everywhere"***, and wins the affection and confidence of men and women "out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation." and out of every stratum of human society; and this it has done for centuries.

It has been called an Eastern book, and this is true to the extent that it was born in and around the Middle Eastern countries, especially Israel, and consequently has much to say of customs and conditions which are peculiar to such localities, but we should never let such a description blind us to the vital fact that the Bible in its essential message is truly universal.

The unfolding purpose of God in redemption required at one stage the out-calling of one particularly favoured nation, Israel, but this was but a phase of God's purpose, the fruit of which is now seen in His good news, the gospel of Christ, which is sent to "every creature under heaven."

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" was the sacred charge given to His servants by the risen Lord Jesus Christ, and as the word of God has been carried throughout the whole world, its message has reached the hearts of men of totally different backgrounds and cultures. To the Pygmy in the streaming Equatorial jungle and the Eskimo in the frozen wastes of Alaska, to the primitive tribes of New Guinea and the industrialised cities of Europe and North America, the word of God has come, and a common need has been met by a ***"common salvation."*** There is no man anywhere for whom the Bible does not have a vitally apposite message, proving that in the things which really matter among men, "there is no difference" (Rom. 3:22; 10:12).

No book has been translated into so many languages and dialects, for it is not the product of the finite mind of man with its prejudice and ignorance of other parts of the world and ages yet to be, but the creation of ***"God (who) so loved the world,"*** nothing less than "the Scriptures" which ***"according to the commandment of the everlasting God (are) made known to all nations for the obedience of faith"*** (Rom. 16:26).

“The mighty God, even the LORD, hath spoken, and called the earth from the rising of the sun unto the going down thereof.”
(Psalm 50:1)

“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.”
(Matthew 28:19,20)

“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.”
(Romans 10:17,18)

“Now to Him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began, But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith.”
(Romans 16:25,26)

“The word of the truth of the gospel; Which is come unto you, as it is in all the world; and bringeth forth fruit.”
(Colossians 1:5,6)



*Thanks to God whose Word was written
In the Bible's sacred page.
Record of the revelation
Showing God to every age.
God has spoken:
Praise Him for His open Word.*

*Thanks to God whose Word is published
In the tongues of every race.
See its glory undiminished
By the change of time or place.
God has spoken:
Praise Him for His open Word.*

*Thanks to God whose Word is answered
By the Spirit's voice within.
Here we drink of joy unmeasured,
Life redeemed from death and sin.
God is speaking:
Praise Him for His open Word.*

Richard T. Brooks

The PROPHECY of the Bible

Foreknowledge may appear too personal a quality to be attributed to the Bible, but in Galatians 3:8 we read, ***“And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham.”*** If it be objected that a book cannot foresee anything, the reference must be to the author, we reply, “Precisely!” What human author can foretell the future? We are shut up to the realisation that God must be the Author of the Bible, for only God foresees the future (Eccl. 8:6,7; Isa. 41:21-23; 42:8,9; 44:6-9; 45:19-21; 46:8-10).

Infidels quote certain persons who are supposed to have prophesied, but two things they ignore. They ignore the fact that Bible prophecies are not merely vague and general predictions of future events, but also the fact that Bible prophecies are infallibly true, that is, not true prediction mixed with error. Like the call of a clarion, rings out the challenge of one Old Testament prophet – “Seek ye out of the book of the LORD, and read: no one of these shall fail” (Isa. 34:16).

If only man would read the Bible, and read it with open mind, they would be amazed at the vast scope of Scripture prophecy, and at the minute detail of that prophecy.

God does allow false prophets to be right at times, (Deut. 13:1-5), but the Bible is something more than occasionally true; it is invariably true.

Apart from the express prophecies relative to the history of the Jewish and Gentile nations, we have the wonderful realm of Messianic prophecy. The place and circumstances of Christ’s birth, including His lineage; the place and nature of His ministry; His rejection by His people; His subsequent betrayal by a familiar; His death and burial in vivid detail, including the year of His death; His resurrection from the dead – all these are foretold in clear and unmistakable terms in Holy Scripture (e.g. Micah 5:2; Isa. 7:14,15; 9:1,2; 53:1-12; 61:1; Dan. 9:24-26). Numerous writers down through the many centuries of Israel’s history made their own contribution, each adding some further details, to complete the picture of the coming Messiah, and all found perfect fulfilment in the advent of Christ. Not one of these has failed, a clear and satisfying proof that the book of which they are an integral part is ***“the book of the LORD”***.

“Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done.” (Isaiah 46:9,10)

“For I am the LORD: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass.” (Ezekiel 12:25)

“But the scriptures must be fulfilled.” (Mark 14:49)

“All things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished.” (Luke 18:31)

“This scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before.” (Acts 1:16)

“But those things, which God before had shewed by the mouth of all his prophets, that Christ should suffer, He hath so fulfilled.” (Acts 3:18)

“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place.” (2Peter 1:19)



- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| 1 To us a child is born,
A son is given: -
Bestowed on man forlorn,
The gift of heaven.
The Son of God is come
With us to dwell,
Fruit of the virgin's womb,
Immanuel. | Isaiah 9:6

(John 3:16)

Isaiah 7:14

(Matt. 1:22,23) | 4 Men to the slaughter led
The Lamb of God;
Submissively He shed
His precious blood.
God's judgment He endured
Sin's fearful toll,
When unto death He poured
His sinless soul. | Isaiah 53:7

(Acts 8:32-35)

Isaiah 53:6,10

(2Cor. 5:21) |
| 2 My chosen Servant view,
Whom I uphold,
My soul's delight anew,
Hear and behold!
On Him serene doth rest
My Spirit's power: -
Hail, souls by sin opprest,
Salvation's hour. | Isaiah 42:1

(Matt. 12:17,18)

Isaiah 61:1

(Luke 4:17-21) | 5 Crowned now in bliss untold
Above the sky,
Exalted and extolled,
Made very high.
He shall divide the spoil,
Who for us died,
And in His pain and toil
Be satisfied. | Isaiah 52:13

(Phil. 2:9-11)

Isaiah 53:11,12

(Eph. 4:8-10) |
| 3 Surely He bore our grief,
Carried our woes: -
Suffering for our relief,
His cruel foes!
The Man of Sorrows then
Lived He, and died,
Despised and spurned by men,
And crucified. | Isaiah 53:4,5

(1Pet. 2:22-24)

Isaiah 53:3

(Mark 15:25-32) | 6 Surely The word of old,
Most faithful God,
The toilsome path foretold
Which Jesus trod.
Then, God of truth to Thee
All praise be given,
Now and eternally
Here and in heaven. | Isaiah 49:1-7

(Luke 24:44-48)

Isaiah 65:15,16

(2Cor. 1:18-20) |

The HISTORICITY of the Bible

The historical evidence for the genuineness of the books which compose the Bible, compared with that which exists for many classical writings accepted without question as genuine, is overwhelming. Some of the major works of secular writers are accepted on the grounds of a mere handful of manuscripts of quite late date, but there are in existence over three thousand manuscripts of the New Testament alone, in addition to papyrus fragments which date right back to the beginning of the second century. To these are to be added the ancient Versions, translations into various languages dating from the second century onwards. Also many allusions to and quotations from the Scriptures are to be found in the writings of the early Christian leaders who wrote from A.D. 90 onwards.

All in all the evidence is so strong that even secular historians of open and unbiased outlook have criticised modernistic theologians, ministers of Satan in clerical garb (2Cor. 11:15), for their reluctance to accept and admit the same. There is no real room for doubt that the Scriptures generally that we have in our hands are as originally given, being on the human level, both in form and substance, exactly what they profess to be.

Internal evidence, too, is impressive. Of the various New Testament authors perhaps Luke writes most after the style of the great historians, relating the sacred events of which he speaks to the context of world affairs at large. Such a practice invites scrutiny, for it provides the researcher with every opportunity of cross-checking, and so assessing the writer's general accuracy. With unflinching skill, Luke steers his course through the intricacy of changing political situations and offices, persons and places, names and titles; and the same may be said of Scripture as a whole.

How many times have terms or statements been condemned as inaccuracies, anachronisms, etc., only to be proved in the light of fuller knowledge uncovered by historian's pen or archaeologist's spade to be not only true but particularly suitable in the context?

By these means, of course, we can only establish the genuineness of the Scriptures on the human plane, but they at least afford us good grounds for accepting the higher claims of Scripture, the truth of which cannot be checked in such a way.

“Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us, Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word; It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.”

(Luke 1:1-4)

“And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe.”

(John 19:35)

“This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true.”

(John 21:24)

“The salutation of Paul with mine own hand, which is the token in every epistle: so I write.”

(2Thessalonians 3:17)

“For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.”

(2Peter 1:16)

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; ... That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us.”

(1John 1:1-3)



*Church of the Living God,
Pillar and ground of truth,
Keep the old paths the fathers trod
With energy of youth.*

*Lo, in thy bosom lies,
The touchstone for the age:
Seducing error shrinks and dies
At light from yonder page.*

*Woe to the hands that dare,
By lust of power enticed,
To mingle with the doctrine there,
The frauds of Antichrist.*

*Once to the saints was given,
All blessèd gospel lore;
There, written down in words from Heav'n,
Thou hast it evermore.*

*Fear not, though doubts abound,
And scoffing tongues deride:
Love of God's word finds surer ground
When to the utmost tried.*

*Toil at thy sacred text;
More fruitful grows the field;
Each generation for the next
Prepares a richer yield.*

*God's Spirit in the Church
Still lives unspent, untired,
Instructing hearts that fain would search
The truths Himself inspired.*

A.J. Mason

The AUTHORITY of the Bible

Attention has been drawn to the fact that in Darwin's "Origin of Species" such expressions as "we may suppose", "it may be assumed". etc. are to be found liberally sprinkled on almost every page. How different is the Bible!

That which most impressed the hearers of the public ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ was this, "**He taught them as one that had authority**" (Mark 1:22); and as it was with the Living Word, so it is also with the Written Word.

The Bible displays all the characteristics essential to its being what it claims to be, "**the word of the LORD**". Within it covers are no human theories, but divine revelations. It does not suppose, it states. It does not speculate, it affirms. Matters of the most profound and personal nature are expressed plainly and positively without fear or favour. Even matters which are necessarily beyond the reach of human ascertainment, such as the nature of existence after death, are clearly and expressly stated.

This, in fact, is one reason why the Bible is so hated – it states the eternal damnation of the unrepentant sinner in the Lake of Fire faithfully and plainly, without prevarication, and beyond all possibility of mistake.

Warnings are found in its pages against the presumption and dogmatism of ignorant men (e.g. 1Tim. 1:7), but their empty bombast and vainglorious loquacity never mar the page of Holy Scripture.

Simply and soberly, yet with devastating force, the Bible sweeps aside the vapourings of men and reveals "**the mind of the Lord**".

Statements are positive; comments are unprejudiced; commands are peremptory; doctrines are definitive. The natural and spontaneous impress of divine authority is on every part of this unique book.

It does not stoop to discuss matters with men, to ask their opinions; rather it reveals the mind of God and demands from man instant and unqualified obedience. To a rebel race such authority is objectionable, but how thankful the thoughtful reader will be, that in a world full of conflicting opinions we have an authoritative guide in all those concerns which are of the most vital importance.

"This day the LORD thy God hath commanded thee to do these statutes and judgments: thou shalt therefore keep and do them with all thine heart, and with all thy soul."
(Deuteronomy 26:16)

"To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."
(Isaiah 8:20)

"Hear ye, and give ear; be not proud: for the LORD hath spoken."
(Jeremiah 13:15)

"It is written ... It is written again ... Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written ... Then the devil leaveth him."
(Matthew 4:4-11)

"In vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men."
(Mark 7:7-13)

"For what saith the Scripture?"
(Romans 4:3)

"If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord."
(1Corinthians 14:37)

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine."
(2Timothy 4:2,3)



*We thank Thee, Lord, indeed,
That Thou Thy Word hast given,
To light out path in this dark world,
And safely guide to heaven;*

*To warn of sinful steps,
And point our road each day,
To keep us in the one safe path,
The strait and narrow way.*

*Bless those who with us read
Thy wondrous Book of Light,
That all of us with one desire
May strive to do the right.*

*As Thy commands we seek
Within Thy Word each day,
Teach us what Thou wilt have us do,
Then teach us to obey.*

*Oh, give us minds to learn,
And hearts to know Thy will,
And make us willing, cheerful, strong,
Thy bidding to fulfil!*

R. Hudson Pope

The SUFFICIENCY of the Bible

Said the perfect Man many years ago, ***“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God”*** (Luke 4:4). Every Scripture is necessary; but all Scripture is sufficient. Paul states the truth like this, ***“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine (teaching), for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works”*** (2Timothy 3:16,17).

As the Scripture is read or ministered, and its teaching is understood, it reproves what is wrong, corrects what is wrong, and instructs or trains in what is right. So that man of God is himself developed by the Scripture, and is furnished with an equipment which enables him to meet every spiritual need of his hearers by its ministry. He needs no other instrument. He who feels the need of going outside the scope of Scripture thereby proves either that he is not a man of God, or that his work is not a good work – that is, of course, in God’s eyes. Every need of God’s people, both individual and collective, both doctrinal and practical, is to be met from God’s all-sufficient book.

Once numerous missionaries went from this land to carry the gospel of Christ, the truth of the Bible, to those who had nothing better than human religion, but tragically today men in this very land would say that the Bible is no different from the sacred books of these religions. Such books doubtless contain much that is good, beautiful and true, but the Bible is all good,, and beautiful and true without the admixture of what is evil, ugly and erroneous. And what is there that is good, beautiful and true in these other writings that cannot be found in the Bible? Keep the Bible and lose these other books and what have you lost? Keep every one of these “sacred” books and lose just the Bible and your loss is incalculable, especially in the loss of God’s only way of salvation for lost sinners. The Bible is all that we need to lead us into reconciliation with God, to teach us to serve Him acceptably here below, and to bring us to His eternal dwelling above. Only divine fulness could provide us with this sufficiency.

“Observe to do according to all the law ... turn not from it to the right hand or to the left.” (Joshua 1:7)

“Charge some that they teach no other doctrine.” (1Timothy 1:3)

“Earnestly contend for the faith which was once (for all) delivered.” (Jude 3)

“If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book.” (Revelation 22:18)



*Precious Bible! what a treasure
Does the word of God afford!
All I want for life or pleasure,
Food and medicine, shield and sword:
Let the world account me poor,
Having this I need no more.*

*Food, to which the world's a stranger,
Here my hungry soul enjoys;
Of excess there is no danger,
Though it fills it never cloy:
On a dying Christ I feed,
He is meat and drink indeed!*

*When my faith is faint and sickly,
Or when Satan wounds my mind,
Cordials to revive me quickly,
Healing medicines here I find:
To the promises I flee,
Each affords a remedy.*

*In the hour of dark temptation,
Satan cannot make me yield;
For the word of consolation
Is to me a mighty shield:
While the Scripture-truths are sure,
From his malice I'm secure.*

*Vain his threats to overcome me,
When in faith I take the sword:
Then with ease I drive him from me,
Satan trembles at the word:
'Tis a sword for conquest made,
Keen the edge, and strong the blade.*

*Shall I envy then the miser,
Doting on his golden store?
Sure I am, or should be, wiser –
I am rich, 'tis he is poor:*

*Jesus gives me in His word
Food and medicine, shield and sword. John Newton*

The ANTIQUITY of the Bible

For years certain “scholars” ridiculed the fact that Moses wrote the first five books of the Bible because they asserted that writing was unknown in that early day; but their theories were exploded when archaeologists discovered inscriptions dating from an even earlier period.

Many Bible students think that the book of Job is possibly earlier even than Moses’s writings, for in all the discussions and dispute between Job and his friends, touching many different aspects of man’s duty towards God, no reference is made to the law of God. Yet Job in his day was familiar with the art of writing, and with engraving, and his wish that his words might be inscribed in a book has been fulfilled (Job 19:23). The book of Job is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, of books extant today, but even the last book of the Bible to be written was penned nearly two thousand years ago, so that the Bible as a whole is a very ancient book.

How is it that such an ancient book is preserved in any other capacity than as a literary curiosity? The answer is that the Bible has a real voice for men today. It deals with matters which are essential to man’s existence upon earth, to his relationships with his Creator, God, matters which are thus unaffected by the passage of time, by social developments, or by scientific discoveries. In the book of Job such questions are posed as, **“How then can man be justified with God?”; “Man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?”; “Canst thou by searching find out God?”** (Job 25:4; 14:10; 11:7). No questions are more vital to man than these, and only the Bible can answer them. There is no literature upon earth which is more vitally relevant to contemporary conditions, spiritual and moral, than this ancient book.

The Spiritual darkness, moral perversions and abundant wickedness abroad in this sad world are in fact the direct result of spurning this book which God gave for all time. The most recent of writings is today’s newspaper, fresh from the press; by tomorrow it will be out of date, but the Bible will be as relevant and as pertinent tomorrow as today. It is ancient, but it can never be antiquated for its divine teachings are timeless and incorruptible. No matter how man advances materially, he will never learn or possess anything greater than that which Job in faith expressed, **“I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand up at the last upon the earth: and after my skin hath been thus destroyed, yet from my flesh shall I see God”** (Job 19:25,26 RV). Knowledge may advance, but it can never advance beyond divine truth like this; while he who cannot speak thus is truly in the dark.

“Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:” (Psalms 78:1,2)

“Who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the LORD?” (Isaiah 45:21)

“Thus saith the Lord GOD; Art thou he of whom I have spoken in old time by My servants the prophets of Israel, which prophesied in those days many years?” (Ezekiel 38:17)

“The Lord God ... hath raised up an horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David; As He spake by the mouth of His holy prophets, which have been since the world began.” (Luke 1:68-70)

“For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. (Romans 15:4)

“Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.” (Jeremiah 6:16)



*Thy thoughts are here, O God,
Expressed in words divine;
The utterance of heavenly lips,
In every sacred line.*

*Across the ages they,
Have reached us from afar;
Than the bright gold more golden they,
Purer that purest star.*

*Each word of Thine a gem
From the celestial mines;
A sunbeam from that holy heaven,
Where holy sunlight shines*

*Against this sea-swept rock
Ten thousand storms their will;
Of foam and rage have wildly spent,
It lifts its calm face still.*

*It standeth, and will stand,
Without or change or age,
Thy word of majesty and light,
The church's heritage.*

Horatius Bonar

The MODERNITY of the Bible

While the Bible is an ancient book, it is also the most modern of books. In recent years tremendous strides have been made in the realm of scientific discovery, and yet despite the fact that the Bible is written in everyday language for the understanding of ordinary folk it is, when rightly understood, in perfect accord with the established facts of science. It is NOT in accord with many of the theories which scientists have propounded, but that is a very different matter!

Much reproach has been brought on the Bible because those who profess to believe it have at times opposed the true discoveries of science. The refusal of the Roman hierarchy to accept Galileo's assertion that the world is round is a classical example. But the Bible has suggested, long before the fact was generally understood, that the world is round, speaking of "***the circle of the earth***" in Isaiah 40:22.

What stamps the Bible as divine is this very fact that it is far in advance of its times, stating positively matters which scientists have only discovered by research in recent days. Take just a few simple examples. The earth's situation in space is indicated in the words of Job 26:7, "***He hangeth the earth upon nothing.***" This passage, together with the one just quoted, gives an amazingly apt description of the planet Earth, far, far removed from the gross and childish ideas prevalent in primitive times. The fundamental law of conservation of mass is plainly implied in such a passage as Hebrews 4:3, "***The works were finished from the foundation of the world,***" while the law of energy deterioration or entropy increase is taught in, for example, Psalm 102:25-27, "***The earth ... and the heavens ... yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment.***" The recognition that mass is but a form of energy, a recent discovery, is suggestive in such passages as Hebrews 1:3, "***upholding all things by the word of His power,***" and Colossians 1:17, "***by Him all things consist (i.e. cohere).***"

The recently realised fact of universal wind circuits was stated by Solomon long ago in Ecclesiastes 1:6. The hydrological cycle of evaporation, condensation and precipitation was succinctly expressed in what is perhaps the oldest book in the Bible, Job 36:27-29, RV. The vital significance of the blood circulation, something the medical world is still learning about was taught by Leviticus 17:11. Surely we must ask now men could write truths which would not be discovered and appreciated for thousands of years. GOD moved them to write. The God who made the world, and who knows more about it than man will ever know, was unfolding by divine revelation some of these secrets. This is the only answer.

“The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.” (Deuteronomy 29:29)

“I have more understanding than all my teachers: for Thy testimonies are my meditation.” (Psalms 119:99)

“The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath He established the heavens. By His knowledge the depths are broken up, and the clouds (skies) drop down the dew. My son, let not them depart from thine eyes: keep sound wisdom and discretion: So shall they be life unto thy soul, and grace to thy neck.” (Proverbs 3:19-22)

“O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.” (1Timothy 6:20,21)



*In caverns deep the miner toils,
To wrest her treasures from the earth:
Bright gems and metals are his spoils,
Esteemed by him of highest worth.*

*But deeper still lies richer store,
Concealed in wisdom’s depth profound:
Here science true and ageless lore,
By earnest seekers may be found.*

*There is a way no eye hath seen,
A path no soaring eagle knows:
No lion’s whelp that way hath been,
No haughty beast along it goes.*

*Let all earth’s mighty ones and wise
From pride and human wisdom turn:
God freely opens willing eyes,
For humble hearts He will not spurn.*

*Who made the earth, the truth has penned,
On Holy Scripture’s timeless page:
Who on its faithfulness depend,
Discover more than vaunting sage.*

The PERSPICACITY of the Bible

There have been through the ages men of acute perception and varied experience of human behaviour whose writings have revealed real insight into the workings of the human heart. Nevertheless the most perspicacious of such writings have never been worthy to be compared with the Bible in this respect.

The Bible is a book of such sure and acute knowledge of the movements and feelings of the innermost souls of men, both in good and evil, that it becomes the very mirror whereby we may see ourselves, and learn ourselves as we have never known ourselves before (James 1:23). We cannot but recognise that the Bible knows us better than we know ourselves.

A wise man once declared, *“As in water face answereth to face, so the heart of man to man”* (Prov. 27:19), but the knowledge of the human soul revealed in the Bible is not merely the sympathetic understanding of a fellow man, it is the perception of the all-seeing eye of man’s Creator, the One who made, and reads as an open book, the hearts of men. Any regular reader of the Bible will appreciate the feelings which prompted a deeply impressed Chinese, whose heart had been searched and whose conscience had been awakened by the reading of the Holy Scriptures, to state candidly to a missionary, “Whoever made that Book, made me!”. The poet S.T. Coleridge declared that the most convincing proof of the divine origin of the Bible was, as far as he was concerned, the fact that it found him at deeper depths of his being than any other book.

Whatever may be the deepest need of the soul, conviction for secret sin, comfort for hidden sorrow, guidance in unshared perplexity, the Bible discerns the need, and provides a suited word for its remedy, speaking to the heart as the living voice of the heart-knowing God. The remedy may not be palatable, but it will lay its finger on the need more surely than any human means of help, as every humble and diligent reader of the Bible continually proves. Even if, like the surgeons knife, it cuts to the quick, it is only that it may expose and remove the cancer of sin, and heal the soul.

“Thou only knowest the hearts of the children of men.” (2Chronicles 6:30)

“I have kept Thy precepts and Thy testimonies: for all my ways are before Thee.”
(Psalms 119:168)

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.” (Jeremiah 17:9,10)

“If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and ... all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.” (1Corinthians 14:23-25)

“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. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.” (Hebrews 4:12,13)

“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.” (James 1:22-24)



*O Lord, Thy word has found me out,
And made my guilty conscience smart;
In evil ways my will was stout,
But Thou hast spoken to my heart.*

*O Thou, Who knewest all my sin,
And mad'st me, too, its guilt to see,
Behold the new desire within,
And speak the word to set me free.*

*Sweet word of peace, of liberty!
From heaven it came to make me whole:
Thou knowest them that trust in Thee;
Thy healing word has touched my soul.*

The PURITY of the Bible

The title on the cover on the book is Holy Bible which is simply another way of expressing the description given by the book of itself, "*the Holy Scriptures*" (2Tim. 3:15).

We have repeatedly remarked in the preceding pages that that which marks the Bible as the Word of God is that it shares His character. In nothing is this more manifestly true than in the matter of essential purity. God is light; and so is His written Word (1John 1:5; 2Cor. 4:3-6; Psa. 119:105; Prov. 6:23). It casts its uncompromising ray into the innermost recess of the human breast, it sheds its light upon the furthest extremity of a fallen world, and everywhere and at all times the darkness is challenged and exposed by its truth.

If it speaks of sin, it is only that it might expose it, and bring the sinner to repentance, whether it be an individual or a nation. Where necessary it treats of the nature of sin, even the foulest of sin, with explicitness and frankness, yet always with a delicacy that never degenerates.

This book is a holy book, and its effect is to make its readers holy. Holy men and women love this book, and the more they love it, the holier they become. Sinful men and women hate this book, and the more they hate it, the more sinful they become.

There is nothing that will engender hatred of this book like sin nurtured in the breast, loved and cherished. Men do not become more holy by rejecting the Bible, nor do they become less holy by practising its sacred truths. The result of receiving into the heart and practising in the life the teachings of the Bible is a closer conformity to the character of God, a growth in holiness (John 17:17).

Infidel books may be found without surprise in scenes of gambling, drinking, swearing and profligacy of all kinds, but the most hardened sinner would regard it as incongruous to find a Bible in such circumstances. Why should that be?. It is because all men instinctively recognise that the Bible is a holy book, a book in perfect consonance with the infinitely holy character of the God who gave it.

"I have not concealed the words of the Holy One." (Job 6:10, compare Isaiah 5:24)

*"The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth,
purified seven times." (Psalm 12:6)*

*"Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto
according to Thy word." (Psalm 119:9)*

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105)

"Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it." (Psalm 119:140)

*"Every word of God is pure: He is a shield unto them that put their trust in Him."
(Proverbs 30:5)*

*"That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word."
(Ephesians 5:26)*

"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth." (1Peter 1:22)

"Building up yourselves on your most holy faith." (Jude 1:20)



*How shall the young secure their hearts,
And guard their lives from sin?
Thy word, O Lord, the way imparts,
To keep the conscience clean.*

*When once it enters to the mind,
It spreads such truth abroad,
The meanest may instruction find,
And raise their thoughts to God.*

*'Tis like the sun, a heavenly light,
That guides us all the day;
And through the dangers of the night,
A lamp to lead our way.*

*Thy precepts make me truly wise:
I hate the sinner's road;
I hate mine own vain thoughts that rise,
But love Thy word, O God.*

*Thy word is everlasting Truth;
How pure is every page!
That holy book shall guide our youth,
And well support our age.*

Isaac Watts

The VITALITY of the Bible

An infidel once scoffed at a Christian for believing the Bible, “Why,” said he, “You don’t even know who wrote some of it.” The Christian replied, “Who wrote the multiplication tables?”, and, on receiving no answer, added, “Yet you believe in them, and use them!” His critic was nonplussed for a moment, but at last he said, “That is quite different. I use the multiplication tables simply because I know they work.” “Exactly,” was the Christian's response, “And that is why I believe the Bible: I know it works!”

How true that is: the Bible works! The language of Scripture itself is **“Ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe”** (1Thess. 2:13). **“The word of God is quick and powerful (vital and energetic)”** (Heb. 4:12).

The Lord Jesus said in His parables, **“The seed is the word of God”** (Luke 8:11). It is the divine principle of life which, when received, creates new life within the breast. The life of God is implanted, and develops, within the heart of every man who receives the word of God by faith. Such a mighty change – the regeneration of the soul – cannot be hid; a new man after the image of God is formed in one who hitherto bore only the stamp of fallen Adam.

This is not a theological theory, but a vital fact which has been manifested in the lives of multitudes of true Christian’s since the times of Christ. The haughty have been humbled, the debased have been uplifted, the rebellious have been subdued, the broken have been made whole, the slaves of sin have been liberated by the soul-saving, life-transforming power of the Gospel, the power of the word of God.

But the seed only bears this fruit in good ground: it is only **“in you that believe”** that the word of God **“effectually worketh.”** Faith is the necessary condition upon which the mighty, emancipating, creative power of the word of God can be experienced by the children of men.

To the unbeliever the Bible is a dead book, and such it must remain until God’s Spirit does a work in his heart. But to the believer, the Bible is the living word of the living God, the mighty instrument by which God’s power became operative in his life, causing him to be born of God, and moulding him continually into the image of Christ.

“Thy word hath quickened me.” (Psalm 119:50)

“I will never forget Thy precepts: for with them Thou hast quickened me.”
(Psalm 119:93)

“For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” (Isaiah 55:10,11)

“Is not My word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?” (Jeremiah 23:29)

“I commend you to God, and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.”
(Acts 20:32)

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth;”
(Romans 1:16)

“...the word of life...” (Philippians 2:16)

“Of His own will begat He us with the word of truth” (James 1:18)

“Receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.”
(James 1:21)

“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.” (1Peter 1:23)



*Cling to the Bible, though all else be taken,
Lose not its precepts so precious and pure;
Souls that are sleeping its tidings awaken,
Life from the dead in its promise is sure.*

*Cling to the Bible – this jewel and treasure,
Brings life eternal, and saves fallen man;
Surely its value no mortal can measure,
Seek for its blessing, O soul, while you can!*

*Lamp for the feet that in byways have wandered,
Guide for the youth that would otherwise fall;
Hope for the sinner whose life has been squandered,
Staff for the aged, and best Book of all.*

M.J. Smith

The PERSONALITY of the Bible

We have already drawn attention to the fact that foreknowledge is attributed to the Scripture; so are other personal qualities, qualities which are peculiar to divine personality. The Bible is instinct with God. It is not merely a book to be read, it is a voice to be heard. The Scripture speaks. When Paul wrote, ***“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,”*** the words he actually used were, “All Scripture, God-breathed.” This is a timeless fact. What 2Timothy 3:16 states is just this, the Scripture is vibrant with the breath of God. As God originally breathed into man’s nostrils the breath of life and he became a living soul, so by the miracle of inspiration God has breathed into man’s writings the breath of life and they have become a living book.

Under the influence of the Divine Interpreter, the Holy Spirit of God, the written word becomes the spoken word, and the voice of God is heard, not with the physical ear, but with the inner ear, the perception of the heart. Since God is the Maker of man’s heart it is not surprising that He is able to communicate with it in a peculiar way. This is fact, and no mere imagination, the result of wishful thinking. Many a man has heard the voice of God speaking in His own inimitable and authoritative way, and finding the word disquieting has done his utmost to stifle it. There is nothing in all the world that would give greater pleasure to such an one that to conclude that all was but imagination; but honesty, and sense, and conscience have all rendered such a conclusion impossible. The word of God carries conviction, and unless the sinner wished to add to his sins by wilfully refusing the voice of God, he must, however reluctantly, heed His voice. Every genuine Christian has had to pass this way, and has proved that this is so.

By this means the Bible brings us to a personal experience of God, being the visible and tangible medium of fellowship with the God who is Spirit. The nearer we live to the Bible, the nearer we shall live to God; the farther we live from the Bible, the farther we shall live from God. God will lead us to the Book and the Book will lead us to God. The Psalmist declared, ***“Thou hast magnified Thy Word above all Thy name”*** (Psa. 138:2); of all the means of revelation by which God has made Himself known, the most important is His Word. Here His voice can be heard and Himself become known. Whatever His perfect knowledge diagnoses for our need, conviction, correction, encouragement, guidance, comfort etc., this He will minister through His Word, speaking to us by it, and causing it to become His voice, the living voice of the living God to all those who have ears to hear and a heart to obey.

*"The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and His word was in my tongue."
(2Samuel 23:2)*

*"Concerning the works of men, by the word of Thy lips I have kept me from the
paths of the destroyer."
(Psalm 17:4)*

*"This I know; for God is for me. In God will I praise His word: in the LORD will I
praise His word. In God have I put my trust. "
(Psalm 56:9-11)*

*"Thou art near, O LORD; and all Thy commandments are truth."
(Psalm 119:151)*

*"I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in His word do I hope."
(Psalm 130:5)*

*"When thou goest, it shall lead thee; when thou sleepest, it shall keep thee; and
when thou awakest, it shall talk with thee."
(Proverbs 6:22)*

*"...the oracles of God..."
(Romans 3:2)*

*"The Holy Ghost saith..."
(Hebrews 3:7)*

*"The Holy Ghost this signifying..."
(Hebrews 9:8)*

*"The Holy Ghost also is a witness to us..."
(Hebrews 10:15)*

*"If a man love Me, he will keep My words: and My Father will love him, and We will
come unto him, and make Our abode with him."
(John 14:23)*



*Father of mercies, in Thy word
What endless glory shines!
For ever be Thy name adored,
For these celestial lines.*

*Here may the wretched sons of want
Exhaustless riches find;
Riches above what earth can grant,
And lasting as the mind.*

*Here the Redeemer's welcome voice
Spreads heavenly peace around;
And life, and everlasting joys,
Attend the blissful sound.*

*O may these heavenly pages be
My ever dear delight;
And still new beauties may I see,
And still increasing light.*

*Divine Instructor, gracious Lord,
Be Thou for ever near;
Teach me to love Thy sacred word,
And view my Saviour there!*

Anne Steele

The HONESTY of the Bible

One has said of the Bible that from a merely human standpoint it is “the most tactless book in existence.” The honesty of the book is at times quite devastating. No attempt is made to avoid the truth, however unpalatable or embarrassing it may be. It flatters no one, scorns policy, and disdains to gloss over the facts of the case.

The depravity of man’s heart is declared repeatedly in the most pointed way, without apology, and without any mollification. No greater or more sweeping denunciation of the human race could be conceived. It tells of man created in innocence, living in vital fellowship with his Creator, set in Paradise and yet falling into sin. Only here, indeed, may we learn the origin of evil in the world. Its pages then reveal how the first man born into the world, stubbornly setting aside the God-given way of worship, sank to murder and lying. We read of a world so corrupt and so violent that God destroyed it with a flood. And not only are we informed of the sins of the ungodly, for, to the apparent weakening of its own cause, the Bible speaks just as frankly of the sins of the servants of God. It tells of the failures of God’s chosen people, their unbelief, their unrighteousness, their continual lapsing into idolatry, and their ultimate rejection by God. Yet note how that nation, with all its persistent rejection of the Word of God, in the sovereign providence of God has been the means of preserving and perpetuating those very oracles which set forth so tellingly their own defections.

From every human point of view there is not the slightest of hope of the teaching of the Bible finding acceptance amongst men. Its writers make no effort to couch their teaching in terms which will gain them a favourable reception from their readers, much less do they dilute their message with a view to popularity. Though they write in love, it is the truth they write, pure unadulterated truth, and truth written in the plainest possible way, with never a trace of unreality, sham, craftiness or hypocrisy.

If mere men are the authors of this book, and they write from solely human motives, their work is a monumental folly, and it is doomed to oblivion.

The unique character of the Bible, its uncompromising honesty, derives from the fact that its Author is the God of truth, in whose eyes only truth is of value, and the secret of its otherwise inexplicable power and influence in human history is just this, that the truth of God by the power of His Holy Spirit, carries conviction to the consciences of men.

“God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent: hath He said, and shall He not do it? or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good?”
(Numbers 23:19)

“As the LORD liveth, what the LORD saith unto me, that will I speak.”
(1Kings 22:14)

“Through Thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.”
(Psalm 119:104)

“Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge, That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?”
(Proverbs 22:20,21)

“That which was written was upright, even words of truth.”
(Ecclesiastes 12:10)

“I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth.”
(Daniel 10:21)

“Thy word is truth.”
(John 17:17)

“I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you ... For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God.”
(Acts 20:20,27)

“But [we] have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.”
(2Corinthians 4:2)



*Both flatterer's art and statesman's craft,
The Scripture doth eschew;
Dissembling heart, its polished shaft,
Shall pierce thee through.*

*Lend Hell thine aid: deny the Lord,
And from His presence flee;
A two-edged blade, the Spirit's sword,
Shall follow thee.*

*Should deadly ill endanger life,
Sin's plague within the soul;
With heavenly skill the Surgeon's knife,
Removes the whole.*

*The cheer of age, the chart of youth,
The light that beams from heaven;
God's faithful page, His "words of truth",
Divinely given.*

The INTEGRITY of the Bible

In accommodating their ideas to the demands of an ungodly world, many have adopted very weak and partial views on the inspiration of Scripture. Scripture itself, however, is clear and positive. Not only are its teachings in general given by God, but the very words used to express those teaching are chosen by God and inspired by His Spirit. We read of the Divine revelation of the law, that **“God spake all these words”**, and that **“Moses wrote all the words of the LORD”** (Exodus 20:1; 24:4). Of the promised Christ we are told, **“I will put My words in His mouth”**, so that He could say Himself, **“He whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God”** (Deut. 18:18; John 3:34). The apostle Paul states categorically in 1Corinthians 2:13, **“which things also we speak, NOT in the words which man’s wisdom teacheth, BUT which the Holy Ghost teacheth.”** It is therefore significant whether a word is singular or plural, and whether a verb is past tense or present tense (See e.g. Gal. 3:16; Matt. 22:32). Old Testament Scriptures are quoted in the New Testament and often emphasis is laid upon one specific word (e.g. Matt 22:43-45 – **“Lord”**, Heb. 1:4,5 – **“Son”**; 2:11,12 – **“brethren”**; 4:3-5 – **“rest”**; 4:7 – **“today”**; 8:13 – **“new”**).

When Paul speaks in 2Timothy 3:15 of **“the holy scriptures”**, the word he uses really signifies “letters” (See Luke 23:38; John 7:15), so that every letter of Scripture is “holy”. The Lord Jesus declared, **“Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled”** (Matt. 5:18). The “jot” refers to the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet, while the “tittle” is a little horn, somewhat similar to the cross on the letter “t” in English. We are thus shown very clearly that inspiration, and consequently infallibility, extends to every letter, and even part of a letter, in Holy Scripture. This of course applies to the original manuscripts. Errors may creep in by the process of copying, or in translating to another language, though in the superintending providence of God much help has been given to restrain human fallibility in this way.

We have already noted that Scripture is accurate in some matters, i.e. scientific and historical, but we may state that Scripture is accurate in all matters, being verbally inspired of God, and divinely perfect.

This by no means suggest that there are no problems still awaiting elucidation. Difficulties still remain, though their number continually decreases; but we are convinced that the only “errors” in our Bible are either copyist’s errors or mistranslations. The originals are divinely inerrant.

"God spake all these words." (Exodus 20:1)

"Ezra the priest, the scribe, even a scribe of the words of the commandments of the LORD." (Ezra 7:11)

"...because of the LORD, and because of the words of His holiness." (Jeremiah 23:9)

"Ye have perverted the words of the living God, of the LORD of hosts our God." (Jeremiah 23:36)

"Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in His spirit by the former prophets." (Zechariah 7:12)

"If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; he is proud, knowing nothing." (1Timothy 6:3,4)

"As for God, His way is perfect: the word of the LORD is tried." (Psalm 18:30)

"Therefore I esteem all Thy precepts concerning all things to be right." (Psalm 119:128)

"It is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail." (Luke 16:17)

"If He called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken..." (John 10:35)

"Holding fast the faithful word." (Titus 1:9)



*Wondrous Volume, precious, clear,
True word of God;
Than rich rubies far more dear,
True word of God;
Giv'n by verbal inspiration,
Telling forth a full salvation,
Light of truth for every nation,
True word of God.*

*Pilgrim's food, the heavenly Manna,
True word of God;
Warrior's two-edge sword and banner,
True word of God;
Traveller's guide, and workman's measure,
Sure foundation, fadeless treasure,
Living fount of lasting pleasure,
True word of God.*

The SUBLIMITY of the Bible

The thoughts of the Bible are not the thoughts of mere men; they are the thoughts of God. ***“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts”*** (Isa. 55:8,9). In the Bible we discover ideas of such sublimity, both intellectual and moral, that they could never have originated in the minds of men.

A few years ago the editor of a secular, scientific periodical wrote, “The majestic words of Genesis continue to provide for many of us a satisfactory answer which science still cannot give to those deepest of all mysteries: who are we? where are we? how did it all begin?” When we think of the ideas which were prevalent when these “majestic words” were penned, we are the more impressed with the sense that they are from heaven.

Where may we find a conception of God to be compared with the God of the Bible? Here is neither the vengeful deity of the pagan, nor the unprincipled benignity of the sentimentalist, but a God who is at once perfect Light and perfect Love. Infinite purity and infinite compassion unite in one transcendent Essence. Indeed, so far is the Bible revelation of God from being an invention of man’s mind, that men find it quite impossible to compass the infinitudes of His perfection. We cannot grasp the conception of a God who is inflexibly just yet tenderly merciful, nor of one Supreme Being manifest in three Persons, nor of an absolute Sovereign who decrees all events yet recognises the freedom of man’s will, nor of a Person who is possessed of perfect Godhood yet is truly man.

Concerning the Person of Christ it has been well said that only a person like Jesus Christ could invent Jesus Christ. The moral features of His character and life were not such as men appreciate: they only aroused hatred and scorn, and occasioned His crucifixion. Such beauties and excellencies never originated in the sin-cursed minds of men; they are a revelation from heaven.

We cannot but also see how the Bible conception of future bliss differs so radically from those of the religions of men, lacking the sensuality and grossness which is found there. To be with the Lord, to be like the Lord, to serve the Lord, eternally, – what loftier or nobler considerations could be set before the sons of men? No! The book which leads men to such a heaven, and to such a God, is a book which had its origin in that heaven, and emanated from that God.

“The voice of the LORD is full of majesty.”

(Psalm 29:4)

“He that hath My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the LORD.”

(Jeremiah 23:28)

“The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul:

The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart:

The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever:

The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold:

Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

Moreover by them is Thy servant warned:

And in keeping of them there is great reward.”

(Psalm 19:7-11)

“For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory.”

(2Corinthians 3:9)

“God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:”

(Colossians 1:27)



*The Spirit breathes upon the word,
And brings the truth to sight;
Precepts and promises afford
A sanctifying light.*

*A glory gilds the sacred page,
Majestic, like the sun;
It gives a light to every age –
It gives, but borrows none.*

*The Hand that gave it still supplies,
The gracious light and heat;
Its truths upon the nations rise –
They rise, but never set.*

*Let everlasting thanks be Thine,
For such a bright display;
As makes a world of darkness shine,
With beams of heavenly day.*

*My soul rejoices to pursue,
The steps of Him I love;
Till glory breaks upon my view,
In brighter worlds above!*

William Cowper

A PERSONAL Note

Dear reader:

- Are your sins forgiven? (1John 2:12; Acts 13:38,39)
- Are you cleansed by the blood of Christ? (Heb. 9:14; 1John 1:7)
- Do you possess eternal life? (1John 5:11,12; John 3:36)
- Have you experienced the new birth? (John 3:3-8; 1Pet. 1:3,23)
- Are you saved? (Eph. 2:8,9; Titus 3:5; Acts 16:30,31)
- Are you on the road to heaven? (2Cor. 5:1; 1Pet. 1:4)

If not – WHY NOT? ***“The holy Scriptures ... are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus”*** (2Tim. 3:15)

*We won't give up the Bible,
God's Holy Book of truth,
The blessed staff of hoary age,
The guide of early youth;
The lamp that sheds a glorious light,
On, else – a dreary road!
The voice that speaks a Saviour's love,
And leads us home to God.*

*We won't give up the Bible,
For it alone can tell,
The way to save our ruined souls,
From Satan, sin and hell;
The guilty sinner here may learn —
The Gentile and the Jew —
To purge his robes in Jesu's blood,
From sins of every hue.*

*We won't give up the Bible,
For pleasure or for pain,
We'll buy the truth, and sell it not,
For all that we might gain;
Though men should try to take our prize,
By guile and cruel might,
May we maintain the truth in love,
And God defend the right!*

*We won't give up the Bible,
But spread it far and wide,
Until its saving voice be heard,
Beyond the rolling tide;
Till all shall know its gracious power,
And, with one voice and heart,
Resolve that from God's holy word,
We'll never, never part!*

John Gregg and William M. Whittemore

*"I have ESTEEMED the words of His mouth more than my necessary food."
(Job 23:12)*

*"But his DELIGHT is in the law of the LORD; and in His law doth he MEDITATE day
and night."
(Psalm 1:2)*

*"Therefore I LOVE Thy commandments above gold; yea, above fine gold."
(Psalm 119:127)*

*"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and Thy word was unto me the JOY and
REJOICING of mine heart."
(Jeremiah 15:16)*

*"Have ye not READ this scripture?"
(Mark 12:10)*

*"These were more noble ... and SEARCHED the scriptures daily, whether those
things were so. Therefore many of them believed;"
(Acts 17:11)*

*"Then opened He their understanding, that they might UNDERSTAND the
scriptures."
(Luke 24:45)*

*"These are written, that ye might BELIEVE that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God;
and that believing ye might have life through His name."
(John 20:31)*

*"These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God;
that ye may KNOW that ye have eternal life."
(1John 5:13)*

*"But whoso LOOKETH INTO the perfect law of liberty, and CONTINUETH therein, he
being not a forgetful hearer, but a DOER of the work, this man shall be blessed in
his DEED."
(James 1:25)*

*"He that HATH My commandments, and KEEPETH them, he it is that loveth Me."
(John 14:21)*

*"But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have OBEYED from
the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you."
(Romans 6:17)*

*"HOLD FAST the form of sound words."
(2Timothy 1:13)*

*"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be
ashamed, RIGHTLY DIVIDING the word of truth."
(2Timothy 2:15)*

*"PREACH the word; be instant in season, out of season."
(2Timothy 4:2)*

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