

Why We Need The Bible Pt. 1

“God and The Bible”

Isaiah 55:8-11

Introduction- Why a sermon series on the Bible and why we need it? The answers to life’s greatest questions are found in the Bible and only in the Bible. **Illus.:** God; Man; Death; What happens after death?

How you view the Bible and what you do with the Bible is of the utmost importance. In our world today of secularism, existentialism, humanism, relativism, pluralism, and hedonism. We need a sure word from God. We have that in the Bible. There is a God, and He is not silent; He has spoken and continues to speak through His unchanging word. Jesus said, “Heaven and Earth shall pass...”

I want to look today at the topic of “**God and The Bible.**” That the Bible is the *revelation* of God!

Our text in Isa. 55 introduces us to the subject of revelation! From this text, there are three important lessons to learn.

I. The Need of Divine Revelation, vv. 8-9

The word *revelation* from the greek word *apokalupsis* which means *disclosure* or *unveiling*, hence revelation signifies God disclosing or unveiling Himself to mankind.

Many people find the very concept of revelation difficult. Why should He? or How could He?

God cannot be known apart from revelation. Why? Because God is transcendent and infinite.

Humans of every age are baffled by the mysteries of life and human experience; we must admit we need wisdom from outside ourselves if we are to fathom our own being, let alone the being of God.

Plato spoke of “our having to sail the seas of darkness and doubt on the little raft of our own understanding if a man cannot find some word of God which will more surely and safely carry him.”

Man without a revelation from God is like a blind person groping in darkness. We can be thankful that God is also personal and loving; and He takes pleasure in revealing Himself.

- God is Love
- God is Light

God made man in His image- the problem is sin.

God is holy. Man is sinful and fallen.

So where can we find Him? (vs. 6)

- How can we know He's near? (vs. 6)
- What are His thoughts? (vs. 6)
- What are His ways? (vs. 9)

There is a great gulf fixed between God's mind and human minds.

Illus.- I can't even know the thoughts of another person unless they speak and reveal themselves in words or works. How much more so with God! God is infinite, so God must take the initiative to disclose what is in His mind or we shall never be able to find out. We must take the place of humility before the infinite God; and admit that I cannot by searching to find God (not human reason). It's the place of wisdom!

II. The Way of Divine Revelation (vv. 10-11a)

Granted, that it is indispensable for God to reveal himself and reasonable for God to reveal himself; the question now is *how* has God revealed himself? The simple answer is by his works and his words. Just as people use works and words for self-expression. As in creative arts: painting; drawing; pottery; music; poetry; or writing. So also God in his works and words.

Two categories:

1. General Revelation

- In Nature- Creation
- In Human- Conscious
- In Providence- Care

See Psalm 19:1-4 & Rom. 1:19-20

2. Special Revelation (note vv. 10-11, "my word that goeth forth out of my mouth." also, vs. 8, "saith the Lord.")

God has revealed Himself not only in His works, but also by His word. In Jesus Christ the *living word* and in the Bible, *the written word*.

Illus.- Jesus (John 1:1;14, 18 and Heb. 1:1-2)

All that is known today of Christ is through the scriptures. In the Bible we have divine disclosure of propositional truth. The Bible is not only a record of revelation, it is the divine record of revelation; it is the only written revelation from Him.

The God of the Bible is a God who speaks. II. Tim. 3:16, “*All scripture is given by...*” So scripture is God’s word issuing from God’s mouth. Yes, there were human authors, but the Holy Spirit superintended the writers. II Peter 1:21, ensuring an inerrant word.

The Bible can be trusted! God is true! A written revelation preserves the original, is independent of the orator.

III. The Purpose of Revelation, vs. 11

How has God spoken by *words*, but *why* did he speak? The answer is not just to teach us; *but to save us*; not just to instruct us, but specifically to instruct us *for salvation*.

“*And that from a child thou has known the holy scriptures; which are able to make you wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus,*” II Tim. 3:15

Salvation is certainly the context in verses 6-7 and salvation’s fruit in verses 12-13. Through God’s general revelation in creation, God reveals his glory and power. But through special revelation, his word, he reveals the way of salvation through Jesus Christ.

If you want to know how God saves sinner’s you must turn to the Bible (Eph. 2:8-9).

From our text in Isaiah 55, we have learned three truths:

- 1. Divine revelation is not only reasonable, but indispensable.**
- 2. Divine revelation is through words.**
- 3. Divine revelation is for salvation, it points to Christ.**