

The Word of God

Have you ever sat and pondered the Word of God? Have you thought about what the Bible says about itself? As Christians, it is important for us to know what the Bible declares about itself.

The Word of God is the Bible. It is the sacred texts that God gave to man. The men that penned the Bible did so under the authority of God. God revealed himself to these men through the Word He had them pen. God is the Author through the men he chose to transcribe His Word the Bible.

Let's take a look at some scripture:

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

¹⁷ so that the servant of God^[a] may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

It declares that God is the Author. We see that God intends for us to use His Word to learn from. His Word itself will teach us, Correct us and train us. God doesn't need man, but He uses man to help spread His Word. He longs to fellowship and draw close to us through His Word.

Isaiah 40:8 (KJV)

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Flowers bloom and are beautiful when their colors are bright and vibrant. While in bloom we take pictures of them, smell them and pick them to display around our homes. Yet as soon as their colors fade, turn brown and petals fall off we discard them. They don't last forever, they are always changing. God's Word is unchanging, it stands forever. We are assured that it is always there for us to guide and protect us.

Hebrews 4:12 (HCSB)

For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the ideas and thoughts of the heart.

The Word of God can enter into the coldest and hardest of hearts. God's Word sees into our souls even what we think we are hiding, God knows. His Word will draw us to Him if we allow it. His Word is powerful.

Here is a brief summary of what the Bible is according to The International Bible Society.

The Bible is the account of God's action in the world, and his purpose with all creation. The writing of the Bible took place over sixteen centuries and is the work of over forty human authors. It is quite an amazing collection of 66 books with very different styles, all containing the message God desired us to have.

This compilation of booklets contains an astonishing variety of literary styles. It provides many stories about the lives of good and bad people, about battles and journeys, about the life of Jesus, and about early church activity. It comes to us in narratives and dialogues, in proverbs and parables, in songs and allegories, in history and prophecy. The accounts in the Bible were not generally written down as they occurred. Rather they were told over and over again and handed down through the years, before eventually being written down. Yet the same themes may be found throughout the book. Along with the diversity, there is also remarkable unity throughout.

So what is the Bible? Well, in addition to all the above, the Bible is:

A guide for living life to the full. It gives us a road map for the perilous journey of life. Or to put it another way, on our voyage through life's ocean, the Bible is an anchor.

A storehouse of wonderful stories for children and grownups. Remember Noah and the ark? Joseph's coat of many colors? Daniel in the lion's den? Jonah and the fish? The parables of Jesus? These stories emphasize the triumphs and failures of ordinary people.

A refuge in trouble. People in pain, in suffering, in prison, and in mourning tell how turning to the Bible brought strength in their desperate hour.

A treasury of insight as to who we are. We are not meaningless robots, but we are magnificent creatures of a God who loves us and gives us a purpose and a destiny.

A sourcebook for everyday living. We find standards for our conduct, guidelines for knowing right from wrong, and principles to help us in a confused society where so often "anything goes."

So diligently seek God through His Word and He will be found!