

LESSON 3: CHRISTIANS BELIEVE IN THE BIBLE

PART 2

Discussion of last week's meeting, readings and events.

(I) AN OVERVIEW OF THE BIBLE

- (A) The Bible contains 66 books: 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament.
- (B) The books are divided into chapters and verses for reference.
- (C) The Old Testament was written in the Hebrew language.
- (D) The New Testament was written in the Greek language. (Remember that our English Bible is a translation from these original languages.)
- (E) Did God make a mistake? Why the need for a New Testament? What's wrong with the Old one? Read Hebrews 8:9-10.

(1) The foundation of the Old covenant with Israel was man's obedience to it (v 9).

(2) The foundation of the New covenant is God's action on behalf of man. (Note the "I wills" in verse 10). It was enacted by the shed blood of Jesus Christ. (Luke 22:20)

(II) BECAUSE THE BIBLE IS INSPIRED WE NEED THE HOLY SPIRIT TO HELP US UNDERSTAND IT

- (A) The man without the Spirit does not understand the things that come from God (1 Corinthians 2:14)
- (B) The Holy Spirit (Greek - Parakletos - One called along side to help) will teach us and help us to remember (John 14:26)

(III) ONE METHOD OF STUDYING GOD'S WORD

(A) There are many others.

(B) Turn to Mark 4:35-41 and read the passage. Now, answer the following questions from these verses:

- (1) Who?
- (2) What is said about the person or people involved?
- (3) What does the person (people) say?
- (4) What? What is happening? What are the events; in what order?
- (5) Where? Where is the event taking place? Where are people going to or coming from?
- (6) When? When did the events take place?
- (7) Why? Why is this story included? Why here in the text? Why does one person say what he does? etc.
- (8) Wherefore? So what?
- (9) What difference would it make in my life if I were to apply this truth?

(IV) BASIC DIVISIONS IN SCRIPTURE

(A) Old Testament: Historical preparation for the Messiah.

- (1) 5 books by Moses - Beginning history/law
- (2) Joshua/Esther - Messiah preparation history
- (3) Job - Poetic & Wisdom
- (4) Isaiah to Daniel - Major prophets
- (5) Hosea to Malachi - Minor Prophets

(B) New Testament: Manifestation - Consummation of Christ.

- (1) The Gospels: The life & works of Christ
- (2) Acts: The further works of Christ through the Apostles.
- (3) The Epistles: Church doctrine
- (4) Revelation: Jesus' rule established

(V) BASIC THEMES OF SCRIPTURE

- (A) God - Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 1:1; Psalms 103
- (B) Man/Creation - Genesis 2:7
- (C) Sin - 1 John 2:15-17; Romans 3:23
- (D) Jesus - John 5:39, Luke 24:7, 44, 45
- (E) Redemption - Romans 3:24; 10:8-13
- (F) Salvation - Romans 1:16; 10:8-13
- (G) Satan/spirit world - Genesis 3:1, 2 Corinthians 4:4
- (H) Prophecy - 2nd coming of Jesus - Revelation 4:20
- (I) Man - Beginning and final end - John 3:17-19

Pray for one another. Invite some unsaved people to church and see what God does.