

**Is The Bible Relevant?**

Some say Bible out of date; irrelevant...

- a. 'Bible was crutch for ignorant / superstitious people of the past'
- b. Some assume Bible characters were gullible, easily deceived . . .
  - Gideon, Jg.6-8
  - Naaman, 2 K.5
  - Nebuchadnezzar, Dn.2
  - Samaritan woman, Jn.4
  - Apostles, Jn.20
  - Jews, Ac.2
  - Saul, Ac.9

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- a. 'Bible was crutch for ignorant / superstitious' people of the past'
- b. Some assume Bible characters were gullible, easily deceived . . .
- c. 'Bible does not solve our problems: sin, suffering, starvation'
- d. 'Bible gives us nothing useful'

## Many honest men affirm veracity of Bible

- a. Nelson Glueck: famous Jewish archaeologist
- b. Wm. F. Albright: father of modern biblical archaeology
- c. Millar Burrows: Yale professor, archaeologist, DSS scholar

It is not enough to determine if Bible is true

Is it relevant?

- a. Is Aristotle relevant?
- b. West Point – Anabasis

# I. God Does Not Change

Hb.13:8, Jesus Christ is the same...

Ja.1:17

Mt.26:28 / 1 Co.11:25

1 Co.10:11, ancient Israel and modern Corinth

I. God Does Not Change

II. Truth Does Not Change



## Physical truth – nature

- Gravity, water cycle (Ec.1:5-7)
- Farmer ignores agriculture...
- Architecture...
- Birth, life, death, Ps.90:10
- We still need food, water, air, shelter...

## Spiritual truth – Bible

Jn.8:24 – Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins. ... 31 Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Jn.16:13 – However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

## Spiritual truth – Bible

- Mk.16:16, Jesus said... [forever true]
  - World – universal scope
  - Every creature – all are subject
  - Confirmed word with signs – proof, Mk.16

## Spiritual truth – Bible – Hb.2

**2** For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, **3** how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, **4** God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will

I. God Does Not Change

II. Truth Does Not Change

III. Man Does Not Change

# Genesis 1, answer to greatest questions

- Our origin . . . Purpose . . . Destiny
- Eccl.12:13, purpose for existence
- Jer.10:23, perfect revelation for life
  - Lk.5:27 – Ac.1:13, unity
  - Gal.2:20
- Mt.5:1-12, true joy
- Ac.17:22-31, object of worship
- Ro.1:16-17, remedy for sin
- Ro.15:4, comfort in trial [Ac.16:40]
- 1 Th.4:18, in death

I. God Does Not Change

II. Truth Does Not Change

III. Man Does Not Change

IV. Sin Does Not Change

# 1 Jn.2:16

- Gn.3, lying
- Gn.4, murder
- Gn.9, drunkenness
- Gn.19, homosexuality
- Gn.34, rape, revenge
- Gn.38, immorality
- Modern attitudes toward sin have changed
- We cannot erase sin's consequences



## 1 Jn.2:16

- Gn.4, sacrifice to God
- Gn.6, build ark
- Gn.18, hospitality
- Gn.22, supreme love for God
- Gn.33, 50, forgiveness (Esau – Joseph)

Jn.18, Pilate – ‘what is truth?’