

# IS THE BIBLE RELEVANT?

(2 Peter 1:1-4)

## INTRODUCTION:

Some contend that the Bible is not relevant today. Their idea is since the Bible was complete or written over 2000 years ago, it is outdated and it cannot cope with today's problems in such a modern complex society. Many object religion and or the Bible because it says it causes:

1. Division and confusion
2. Hypocrisy among those who claim to be Christians
3. The moral compromise that is tolerated in many denominations
4. The materialistic money grabbing attitude of many people

It may be true that these are valid objections to the religious denominations, but not against the Bible; the Bible does not teach such things it actually condemns them. To know if the Bible is relevant we need to see where the Bible comes from.

## I. WHERE DID THE BIBLE COME FROM?

### **A. Did the Bible come from men?**

1. If from men, then would have to be evil men, deceivers
  - a. These men would be limited to cope with problems not known to their day, as we know them now.
2. If the Bible came from man, then what about the higher moral standard? When Jesus came to this earth was there on earth this higher moral standard? See the sermon on the mount (**Matthew 5:1ff**)

### **B. Did the Bible come from God?**

1. If from God, (who knows the end from the beginning)
  - a. He would know better what the needs of man are than the creator of everything
2. The Bible claims to be from God (**Galatians 1:11-12**)
  - a. (**Ephesians 3:3-5**)
  - b. They received it as the word of God (**1 Thess. 2:13**)
  - c. (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**)
  - d. (**2 Peter 1:21**)
  - e. About 3,800 times, "Thus says the Lord" or equal
3. Jesus endorsed the Bible (**John 12:48-50**)
  - a. He quoted from the Old Testament many times ("It is written")
  - b. Endowed New Testament (**John 16:13**)
    - 1) (**Matthew 10:20**) endorses what the apostles taught
4. When Bible interferes with what people want to do want to rule it out
  - a. How do you account for the following:
    - 1) Unity and the accuracy of the Bible
    - 2) Prophecy
    - 3) Pre-scientific

## II. IS THE BIBLE THEN RELEVANT?

### **A. If from an all wise and all knowing God who made man & knows what is in him**

1. Bible does not deal with local politics, modes of transportation or things that change

2. Deals with mans basic problem – sin, relationship to God and fellowman

**B. The Bible provides for the basic need of man**

1. Identity
2. A sense of purpose
3. Destiny

**III. THE BIBLE IS RELEVANT TO OUR GREAT SOCIAL ISSUES TODAY**

**A. Racism (Mark 16:15)**

1. The Gospel is for all people for all time (**Galatians 3:28**)

**B. Rights, are solved by the golden rule (Matthew 7:12; 5:44)**

**C. Freedom (1 Peter 2:16; 1 Cor. 9:19)**

**D. Security, a constant concern for all**

1. Civil security – afforded by government (**Romans 13:1-4**)
2. Social Security – provided in the home (**1 Timothy 5:8; Ephesians 6:1-4**)
3. Material security (**Matthew 6:33**)
4. Spiritual security, only in Christ (**Ephesians 1:3**)

**E. Crime (Romans 13:3-4)**

1. When evil is actually punish, crime goes down

**F. Broken homes (Ephesians 5:23-25)**

**G. Moral laxity (1 Cor. 6:18-20)**

**H. Mental health (Philippians 4:6-7)**

1. People of the world living aimless lives
2. Christian not living up to what they is right

**IV. THE GOSPEL IS ESPECIALLY RELEVANT TO OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE**

**A. Reveals our purpose in being (Rev. 4:11)**

**B. Provides for our forgiveness (Acts 22:16)**

**C. Clears our conscious (1 Peter 3:21)**

**D. Provides food to grow (1 Peter 2:2; Heb. 5:12-14)**

**E. Stabilizes our life & faith (1 Thess. 3:2-3)**

**F. Gives joy in living (1 Peter 1:8-9)**

**G. Gives us comfort in sorrow (1 Thess. 4:18)**

**H. Gives us hope in death (Titus 1:2)**

**CONCLUSION:**

**A. Once again the question, is the Bible relevant?**

1. Invitation

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