

Roots Part 1 The Bible & God

I. The Bible

A. Why do we need the Bible?

1. Because we need _____.
2. Since we were created by a Higher Power, we need to receive our truth from _____.
 - a) We didn't create ourselves so we shouldn't try to create our own truth.

3. The Bible is God's revelation of truth to us.

- a) Jesus, speaking to The Father, said, "Your word is truth" in John 17:17.

B. The authority of the Bible

1. All the words of the Bible are _____.

- a) To disobey or disbelieve them is to disobey or disbelieve God Himself.
- b) 2nd Timothy 3:16-17 says, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."
- c) In 1st Corinthians 14:37 Paul says, "The things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord."

2. How was the Bible written?

- a) Sometimes the author simply wrote down what God told him to, as in Revelation chapter 2.
- b) Other times, the author _____ what to write, like Luke 1.
- c) And other times, the Holy Spirit brought to mind the things that Jesus taught.
- d) Regardless of HOW it was written, they are the words God wanted them to write.

3. If we will let Him, the Holy Spirit will change us as we read the Bible.

C. The clarity of the Bible

1. Some passages are easier to understand than others, however...

2. All things necessary to _____ are clear.

- a) Psalm 19:7 says, "The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple"
- b) Psalm 119:130 says, "The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand."

3. The condition of our spirit helps determine _____.

- a) 1st Corinthians 2:14 says, "But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means."

D. Why do we need the Bible?

1. Without the Bible, we wouldn't know how to _____.

2. Matthew 4:4 says, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."

- a) The Bible nourishes our spirit.
- b) Not to read it is to starve our spirits.

E. The Bible is sufficient

1. Remember 2nd Timothy 3:17 - "God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work."

2. Special revelations, leadings, and prophetic words are not to be given the same credibility as scripture and should not be imposed on others believers or churches.

a) Revelation 22:18-19 can be applied to all scripture (don't add or take anything away).

3. God knows what's right and wrong for us and He made sure it was _____.

II. Let's talk about God and what He is like.

A. It's important that any study of God looks at what God says _____ in scripture.

B. God exists

1. Romans 1:20 tells us that we have no excuse for not knowing God because evidence of His existence is all around us.

2. Every created thing, including people, is evidence of God's existence.

3. It doesn't require "_____" to believe in God because of all the evidence found in nature and the Bible.

C. God is _____

1. We can know things about Him AND know Him personally

a) However, we'll never know EVERYTHING about God because "His understanding is beyond measure" (Psalm 147:5)

2. Salvation is found in _____.

a) John 17:3 says, "And this is the way to have eternal life—to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the one you sent to earth."

D. God is independent

1. Acts 17:24-25 says, "He is the God who made the world and everything in it. Since he is Lord of heaven and earth, he doesn't live in man-made temples, ²⁵ and human hands can't serve his needs—for he has no needs. He himself gives life and breath to everything, and he satisfies every need."

2. He always was

a) Psalm 90:2 says, "Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from beginning to end, _____."

b) He is not dependent on anything, but His entire creation is dependent on Him.

3. Even though He doesn't need us, He values us highly and we bring Him joy. (Isaiah 43:7)

E. God is unchangeable in His _____.

1. Psalm 102:27 says, "But you are always the same; you will live forever."

F. God is eternal.

1. He has no beginning or end. He has always existed and always will exist.

a) Ephesians 1:4 says, "Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes."

G. God is omnipresent

1. He is _____

2. He doesn't have size or spacial dimensions.

a) He CREATED space.

b) 1 Kings 8:27 says, "even the highest heavens cannot contain you."

H. God is Spirit

1. John 4:24 says, "For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth."

2. He is more excellent than _____.

I. God is omniscient

1. He knows everything (1 John 3:20)
2. He is always, at all times, fully aware of everything.
3. Nothing surprises Him and nothing is hidden from Him.

J. God is _____

1. Luke 18:19 says, “No one is good except God alone”
2. There is no higher standard of goodness than _____.
3. James 1:17 says, “Whatever is good and perfect comes down to us from God our Father”

K. God is love (1st John 4:8)

1. He eternally gives of Himself for the good of others.
2. 1st John 4:10 says, “This is real love—not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.”

L. God is holy

1. Psalm 99:9 says, “for the Lord our God is holy!”
2. He is completely separated from sin.
3. His holiness gives us a _____.
 - a) Hebrews 12:14 tells us to work at living a holy life.

M. God is righteous and just

1. Deuteronomy 32:4 says, “all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.”
2. He always does what is right and is the final standard of what is right.
3. Because God is righteous, he must _____. Because he is merciful, he allowed Jesus to take the punishment for our sins.

N. God has total freedom

1. He does all that He pleases (according to Psalm 115:3)
2. He is not under any authority or restraint other than His own.

O. God is omnipotent

1. He is _____
2. Jeremiah 32:17 says, “You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You.”
3. The only things God can't do are things _____, like lie or be tempted.

P. Lastly, God is beautiful

1. Psalm 27:4 says, “One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.”
2. He is the sum of all _____.
3. All of our longings and desires will only ultimately find their fulfillment in God.