

DO YOU LOVE MY WORD?

Introduction:

1. Why Would I Love the Bible?

A) The Bible is God's Autobiography

- > If we love God then we will love His Word

- > In the Bible God speaks to reveal Himself and His will (Exodus 20:1-4a)

- > Sinful humanity rejects an authoritative God and chooses instead to make their own god. (Romans 1:18-25)

B) The Bible reveals the plans and purposes of God

- > The Bible answers the important questions of life

- > The reveals the grand story of the Creation / Fall / Redemption / Re-creation

This book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condemns all who will trifles with its sacred contents.

(Robert Chapman)

C) The Bible reveals the path of wisdom and warns us of the dangerous path of folly (Proverbs 16:25)

- > Wisdom always leads to God's blessing and life

- > Folly always leads to destruction and judgment

* How can I know wisdom and avoid the pitfalls of folly? Read God's Word!

D) The Bible is absolutely trustworthy

- > Everything that it says is an accurate report of what really happened – God's perspective.

- > Everything it promises will come to pass (Matthew 5:17-18)

Elisha / famine in Samaria (2 Kings 7:1-2)

Jesus / resurrection from the dead (Mark 10:33-34)

Jesus / promise to return (John 14:1-6)

2. Why Wouldn't I Love the Bible?

A) I don't love God

> If I don't love God why would I want to read a book in which He talks about Himself?

B) I have never really tasted it (Psalm 119:103)

> The author of Hebrews rebukes those who haven't developed a taste for the meat of God's Word (Hebrews 5:12-14)

C) I don't like what it says about me

> Story of King Ahab (2 Chronicles 18:1-7)

“This book will keep you from sin, or sin will keep you from this book”

3. How do I Develop a love for the Bible?

A) You read it from cover to cover

> We read God's Word too little, not too much

B) You study it

> The Bible is to be read but it is to read us as well (James 1:21-25)

> We need to devote ourselves to the study of God's Word (2 Timothy 2:15)

C) You meditate upon it (Psalm 119:97; Joshua 1:6-8)

It doesn't matter how many Bibles we own or what translation we use

What does matter is whether or not we love it / read it / obey it

If you love God, you will love His Word