

Back to the Bible

Text—2 Tim. 3: 16-17; Prov. 23: 23

Introduction

- A. Last couple decades: people, especially preachers, cast aside bible for own opinions.
 - 1. Rock Concert atmosphere.
 - 2. I'm OK, You're OK.
 - 3. No condemnation.
 - 4. Salvation prayer, not Sinner's Prayer. Don't want to judge.
- B. Claim to be Christians but know nothing of what the bible says.
- C. Return to scriptures for the truth!

I. Reasons People don't use the bible

A. 2000-year-old book isn't relevant to today.

1. Homosexuality—Rom. 1: 26-27

“For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature.²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.”

2. Fornication—Heb. 13: 4

“Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.”

3. Divorce—Matt. 19: 6-9

4. Drunkenness—Eph. 5: 18; Prov. 20: 1

“And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit.”

“Wine is a mocker, Strong drink is a brawler, And whoever is led astray by it is not wise.”

5. Overall—1 Cor. 6: 9-10, **“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.”**

6. Bible is still relevant.

B. Not under a law today

1. Love letters from Jesus

2. Taken out of way, nailed to tree (Col. 2: 14)

3. What about...

a. Sermon on the Mount—Matt. 5-7

b. Church establishment in Acts

c. Instructions on discipline—1 Cor. 5: 1-5 (READ)

C. Cause trouble in this PC World

1. Rodney King—Why can't we all just get along?
2. Bunch of Male Chauvinists, no women allowed to speak!
3. Doesn't matter...same God.
4. "You believe...and I'll believe..."

II. What happens when we get rid of the Bible?

A. Men become the rule makers

1. Pope and Catholic church
 - a. Bible is secondary to things Pope decrees.
 - b. What he says goes, regardless of what the bible says.
2. Mormons: A President and Apostles
 - a. No scripture to support Prez.
 - b. Apostle were appointed by Jesus
 - i. Gal. 1: 1, not by Men
 - ii. No apostles today!
3. Men write books to create The Truth
 - a. Jerry Jenkins/Tim LaHaye—Left Behind series
 - b. L. Ron Hubbard, Broke author created Scientology (Dianetics)
 - c. Rick Warren—Purpose Driven Life
 - d. Joel Osteen—Your best life Now
 - e. "Create you Own Religion"
4. Why search the Bible, just listen to me!
 - a. Isa. 30: 10 "speak to us smooth things"
 - b. 2 Tim. 4: 3-4, **"For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables."**
 - c. Matt. 28: 18, **"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."**

B. Every form of living is accepted.

1. Adulterous marriages—MDR
2. Homosexual relationships
3. Drinking, gambling, violence
4. Can't fall from Grace—Gal. 5: 4, **"You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace."**

C. Won't inherit the Kingdom of God—1 Cor. 6: 9-10

III. Reasons to return to the bible

1. Authority in religious matters.
 - a. Matt. 28:18—"All authority"
 - b. 2 Tim. 3: 16, 17; **"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."**

- c. 1 Pet. 4:11, **“If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”**

2. Instruction concerning the church.

a). Name—

- i. Rom. 16:16, “churches of Christ”
- ii. Acts 20:28, “church of God”

b). Worship—

- i. John 4: 22-24, **“You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. ²⁴ God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”**
- ii. Acts 2: 42, **“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.”**

c). Work—

- i. Rom. 12: 4-8, **“For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, ⁵ so we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. ⁶ Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; ⁷ or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; ⁸ he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.”***
- ii. Phil. 2:14-16, **“Do all things without complaining and disputing, ¹⁵ that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.”**

d). Doctrine—

- i. 2 Tim. 3: 16, 17
- ii. 2 John 9, **“Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.”**

3. Instruction concerning the salvation of the soul.

- a. Mk. 16:15, 16; **“And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. ¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”**
 - b. Acts 2:38, **“Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”**
4. Promise of a Heavenly Home.
- i. Heb. 12: 28, **“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.”**
 - ii. Phil. 3: 20, **“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,”**
 - iii. John 14:1-4 (READ)

Conclusion

Proverbs 23:23, **“Buy the truth, and do not sell it, Also wisdom and instruction and understanding.”**

Bible is just as relevant today as it was 2000+ years ago. We need it more now than ever!