

RELYING ON THE BIBLE?

INTRODUCTION:

1. DO WE NEED TO RELY ON THE BIBLE?

IF YES, THEN WE WOULD EXPECT IT OFFER PRECIOUS INFORMATION. Does it?

WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

Proverbs 3:15

15 She is more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her.

Suggests something quite strongly

This Lesson on “RELYING ON THE BIBLE?” comes After a series of LESSONS DESIGNED HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE BETTER BECAUSE THERE ARE MANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS ON WHAT GOD EXPECTS, those lessons were:

1. Sola Scriptura (all-sufficiency of the Bible)
 2. How Are We Led (by our intellect & voluntary do what's revealed in the Bible)
 3. “Has God given us a Pattern?” Yes - must follow in worship & our lives
 4. Authority in Religion – Authority comes from Jesus for what we practice in worship & in Our Life
- We offer these lessons to encourage you to read & study your bible.

WE URGE YOU TO MAKE A COMMITMENT TO FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF WHAT GOD EXPECTS HAPPY TO assist you in that EFFORT by offering you a free home bible study....just contact us & we'll arrange it.

Getting Back to Our Lesson
RELYING ON THE BIBLE?

1st we need to understand:

WHO ARE WE?

Genesis 1:27

27 So God created man in His own image; ...

1. If God made us then he knows what we need

WHY ARE WE HERE?

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 (written by Solomon)

13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter (everything in this life): Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all. 14 For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.

1. **Deep respect and fear of God**
2. **Keep his Commandments**

WHAT'S ELSE DOES GOD SAY?

Matthew 6:33

33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

1. IF Put the things of God 1st **THEN** God will give you what you need

Matthew 6:24 (Regards to 2 Masters)

24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

1. Can only serve 1 master well

MATTHEW 10:37-38

37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. **38** And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

1. Need to love God more than family

NOW THAT THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT:

1. WE WERE CREATED BY GOD
2. WE WERE PUT HERE TO FEAR GOD & KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS
3. WE ARE PUT THE THINGS OF GOD FIRST
4. WE ARE TO LOVE GOD MORE THAN FAMILY

WHAT ELSE DO WE NEED TO KNOW?

ROMANS 5:8

8 But God demonstrates His own **love** toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
GOD LOVES US

Hebrews 12:9-11

9...we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? **10** For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but **He for our profit (for our benefit)**, that we may be **partakers of His holiness**. (God wants us to share in this) **11** Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it **yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness** to those who have been trained by it.

HOW MANY OF US HAD PARENTS WHO DISCIPLINED US & WE DIDN'T LIKE IT BUT WHEN WE GOT OLDER REALIZED THEY DID WHAT WAS FOR OUR BENEFIT?

THE THINGS HE TELLS US TO DO ARE GOOD FOR US

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4. WE ARE TO LOVE GOD MORE THAN FAMILY
5. GOD LOVES & CARES FOR US

DO WE NEED TO RELY ON THE BIBLE?

Isaiah 29:16

16 Surely you have things turned around! Shall the potter be esteemed as the clay (making God the same as man); For shall the thing made say of him who made it, "He did not make me"? Or shall the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"?

Jeremiah 18:6

6 ...says the Lord. "Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, ...

God is the one that molds and makes his people NOT the other way around

People today tend to make God into what they want him to be NOT what God really is

DO WE NEED TO RELY ON THE BIBLE?

IF YOU SAY NO...CONSIDER THIS ILLUSTRATION - ONE GUY INVENTS A SUPER COMPLEX COMPUTER AND NO ELSE KNOWS MUCH ABOUT IT AND HE GIVES INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO FIX & MAINTAIN IT,

WHO ARE YOU GOING TO LISTEN TO? THE INVENTOR OR THE GUY THAT DOESN'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT IT?

OBTAINING THE INVENTOR

THE TREND IS TO **READ ABOUT** THE BIBLE – NOT THE BIBLE ITSELF – GET OPINIONS OF MEN INSTEAD OF TAKING THE TIME TO FIND OUT WHAT GOD SAYS AND WHAT IT MEANS
REMINDS ME OF A CONVERSATION – WHO THOUGHT IT IS REALLY A GOOD IDEA TO READ THE WRITING OF MEN BUILD YOUR FAITH BASED ON THAT...WHAT HE WAS SAYING IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT YOU BELIEVE

1 Corinthians 1:10 believe same

Galatians (1:6-9) teaches if make 1 change to gospel it stops being the gospel

IS IT WISE TO RELY ON MEN ABOVE GOD?

Isaiah 55:8-9

8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And **My thoughts than your thoughts**.

Proverbs 3:15 (In regards to God's wisdom)

15 She is more precious than rubies, And all the things you may desire cannot compare with her.

God's wisdom very valuable and nothing compares to God's wisdom

HOW MUCH DO WE NEED TO RELY ON THIS BOOK?

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 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.

2 Peter 1:3

3 as His divine power has given to us **all things** that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

THESE PASSAGES SOUND LIKE IT IS ALL WE NEED IS THIS BOOK

HOW CLOSELY DO WE NEED TO RELY?

John 12:48

48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

Acts 4:12

12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name (speaking of Jesus) under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

OUR SALVATION DEPENDS ON IT

DOES THE BIBLE TELL US HOW TO LIVE?

Ephesians 5:15-17

15 See then that you **walk circumspectly** (live carefully), not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be unwise, but **understand what the will of the Lord is**.

1. How to live & what God wants

HOW CAN WE KNOW THAT?

1 Timothy 4:13-15

13 ... give attention to **reading**, to exhortation, to doctrine (what bible teaches).

15 **Meditate** (think) **on these things**; **give yourself entirely to them**, that your progress may be evident to all.

2 Corinthians 10:5

5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself **against the knowledge of God**, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

1. Correct our thinking

Colossians 3:8-10

8 But now you yourselves are to **put off** (get rid of) all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. **9** Do not lie to one another, since you have **put off the old man with his deeds**, **10** and **have put on the new man** who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

- 1. Get rid of the old bad habits and develop new good habits according to God**
- 2. Instead put on:**

Galatians 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is **love, joy, peace**, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23 gentleness, self-control...**

If do these things it going to be evident to all – 1 Timothy 4:15

If we follow what God says it will correct problems, for example if you're a Gossip:

1 Timothy 5:13

13 And besides they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house, and not only idle but also **gossips** and busybodies, saying things which they ought not.

Gossip – is something told that is hurtful, done for the wrong reason (make self look good by hurting someone else) and there is no need to.

Matthew 7:12

12 Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them...

Would you like me to tell something private you told me to someone else? If you wouldn't want it told then they probably wouldn't want it told.

1 Corinthians 15:33

33 Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."

1. Be careful who you spend time with
2. What you listen to
3. Where you go
4. How you spend your time

What you fill your mind with is what comes out of you

Proverbs 23:7 For as he thinks in his heart, so is he.

Matthew 12:35 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.

IS THERE VALUE IN ONE BECOMING A CHRISTIAN?

Acts 8:39 (There is joy)

39 Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.

He rejoiced because he had **forgiveness of sins and hope** of eternal life with Jesus

Philippians 4:7 (There is Joy & Peace)

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, **rejoice!**

5 ... The Lord is at hand. (God is close by)

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

7 and **the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Luke 19:10 Gives you work important to do – **Purpose**

10 for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

IT OFFERS THINGS IN THE NEXT LIFE

Matthew 13:44 (Great Treasures)

44 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

PSALM 116:15 Precious in the sight of the Lord Is the death of His saints.

Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Revelation 21:4 (speaking of heaven)

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

CONCLUSION

Proverbs 3:15 (In regards to God's wisdom)

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THE BIBLE OFFERS MANY PRECIOUS REASONS TO RELY ON IT, WILL YOU?