Lesson 8: Hiding the Word in our Heart

Lesson 8; Part 1

Memorize: “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.” Matthew 24:35

Introduction: We know God exists by the testimony of creation, “For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.” (Romans 1:20) But to learn of God’s character and His will and plan for us, this can only be understood through the revelation of His Written Word to us.

**Overview of the Bible**

The Bible consists of 66 books. The first 39 books are referred to as the Old Testament. It covers 3,600 years of man’s history. The remaining 27 books are referred to as the New Testament. These cover a period of 100 years, beginning with the birth of Christ.

The Old Testament contains books about the Jewish religion and history. It also has poetry and prophesy relating to the Jews particularly and all of civilization.

The New Testament contains the gospel (good news about Jesus Christ), the history of the early church, letters written to various churches, and end-time prophecy.

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE BIBLE AS INFALLIBLE

Thirty-two different men were responsible for writing the Holy Scripture; however, there is only one author.

1. 2 Timothy 3:16 says that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ scripture is given by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of God (The word *inspiration* in this case means “God-breathed.”)

2. Did men write from their own will and understanding? (2Peter 1:20-21) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**History and archeology**

Biblical names of people, cities, nations, and events have been confirmed through archeological findings. In 1947, two shepherd boys discovered the Dead Sea Scrolls dating back 1,900 years. Included in the scrolls was found a copy of the book of Isaiah, a thousand years older than any manuscript previously known. Yet when compared to manuscripts, such as were used to translate the King James Version, the Dead Sea Scrolls paralleled word-for-word in more than 95 percent of the text. The less-than-five-percent differences consisted of spelling and punctuation variations.

**Prophecy**

There is no other book other than the Bible that contains prophecies that have been fulfilled with utmost accuracy since the time it was written. There are over 10,000 predictions in the Bible that we know of, which have been fulfilled to the minutest detail. In the lifetime of Christ alone, 333 prophecies were fulfilled. At least 29 of them were fulfilled in one 24-hour period, relating to the betrayal, trial, suffering, death, and burial of Jesus Christ.

The Bible, God’s Word, is sacred and can be trusted.