Bible: Why It Was Written

Intro: Why was the Bible written by God and given to man? While it is impossible to do full justice to this question, we will endeavor to learn fundamentally why the Bible was written.

I. To Reveal God and His Son.
   A. Without the Bible we would know little or nothing concerning God and His Son.
      1. We can know something of God from the universe.
         a. Psa. 19:1 “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.”
         b. Rom. 1:20 “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;”
      2. This is a limited knowledge.
      3. It reveals nothing concerning the will of God.
   B. We can become acquainted with the God we worship.
      1. What a wonderful thought that we can actually know God.
      2. John 17:3 “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”

II. To Reveal to Man That He Is Lost
   A. In revealing God, the Bible also reveals man’s position in respect to God.
   B. The Bible picture of man:
      1. The glory of His creation
         a. Gen. 1:26-27 “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”
         b. Heb. 2:7 “Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands;”
      2. The shame of his fall.
         a. Rom. 5:12 “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:”
         b. Gal 3:22 “But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.”
         c. Rom. 3:23 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”
         d. Isa. 59:2 “But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”
         e. Rom. 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”
         f. Eze. 18:4 “Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.”
   C. The Bible reveals and we must recognize the fact that all men sin and are thereby lost.
III. ASSURE MAN THAT GOD DESIRES HIS SALVATION

A. The Bible emphatically shows that man is lost, but God wants us to be assured that He desires our salvation.
   1. 2 Pet. 3:9 “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”
   2. 1 Tim. 2:4 “Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.”

B. If we are lost:
   1. It is not because God’s desires for us to be lost.
   2. It is not because Christ desires us to be lost.
   3. Rev. 20:17 “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.”

IV. EXPLAIN GOD HAS DONE ALL TO PROCURE MAN’S SALVATION

A. The law required death for sin.
   1. Eze. 18:4 “Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.”
   2. Rom. 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

B. God satisfied the demands of the law by having His only begotten Son die in our stead.
   1. John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”
   2. Rom. 5:8 “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”
   3. 1 Cor. 15:2 “By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.”
   4. 2 Cor. 5:21 “For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”
   5. 1 John 2:1-2 “My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.”

C. God not only desires our salvation but has done everything possible to procure it.

V. INFORM MAN AS TO WHAT HE MUST DO TO BE SAVED.

A. Since God desires man’s salvation and has done everything He could to procure it, man should be willing to do what God asks to gain it.

B. The Scriptures emphatically speak to what man must do.
   1. Upon hearing the Word, believe
      a. Heb. 11:6 “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”
      b. Rom. 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
c. John 20:30-31 “And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: 31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.”

2. Repent
b. Acts 17:30 “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent.”

3. Confess
a. Rom. 10:10 “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”
b. Acts 8:37 “And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”

4. Be baptized for the remission of sins
a. Acts 2:38 “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”
b. Acts 10:48 “And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.”

5. This is in harmony with the great commission
a. Mat. 28:19-20 “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”
b. Mark 16:15-16 “And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”
c. Luke 24:46-47 “And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: 47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”

6. This is also in harmony with the execution of that commission and every case of conversion recorded.

C. Have you complied your life with what is commanded in the Bible?

VI. TO INSTRUCT MAN AS TO HOW TO REMAIN SAVED
A. Man teaches the impossibility of apostasy, but the Bible does not.
B. Twenty-one books in the New Testament have been written to inform man how to remain saved.

VII. DECLARE TO MAN THE DESTINY OF HIS SOUL.
A. The Bible pictures heaven as the eternal home for those who are faithful.
B. The Bible also pictures hell as the eternal home for those who are unfaithful to what the Bible teaches.


2 Tim. 2:15 “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”
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 perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”

2 Pet. 1:3 “According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.”

The Bible pictures a beautiful story. Will you accept the message of salvation presented in the Bible?