Why The Bible Was Written

Intro: We realize the Bible was written by God. The question we wish to notice is why was the Bible written by God and given to man? While it will be impossible to do full justice to this lesson, nevertheless, we shall endeavor to learn basically or fundamentally why the Bible was written.

I. To Reveal God and His Son.

A. Without the Bible we would know very little concerning God and His Son.
   1. We can learn something about God from the universe, or nature.
      a. Psa. 19:1 “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork.”
      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 very limited knowledge and we cannot learn anything concerning His will from nature.

B. Is it not wonderful that God has revealed Himself, and that we can become acquainted with the God we worship.
   1. God has revealed Himself to us in the Bible.
      a. 1 Cor. 2:11-12 “For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. 12Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.”
      b. Eph. 3:3-5 “How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, 4Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) 5Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;”
   2. We can know God.
      a. John 17:3 “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”
      b. 2 Pet. 1:2-11 “Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, 2According 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: 3Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 4And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; 5And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; 6And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. 8For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. 10Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: 11For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”
      c. 2 The. 1:6-9 “Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”
   3. We can know the will of God.
      a. Eph. 3:2-5 “If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: 3How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote
afore in few words, “Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ” “Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;”

b. John 8:32 “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”
c. Eph. 5:17 “Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.”

II. TO TELL MAN UNMISTAKABLE HE IS LOST.
A. Revealing God, the Bible also reveals man’s position in respect to God.
B. Notice the Bible picture of man.
1. The glory of his creation.
   a. Gen. 1:27 “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”
   b. Psa. 8:4-6 “What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet:”
   c. Heb. 2:6-7 “But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him? 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 (Gen. 3).
3. The results 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, 20 “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.... The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.”

C. We must all recognize the fact that we are all sinners and therefore under the wrath of God.
1. Rom. 1:18 “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;”
2. Rom. 2:5-9 “But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God; Who will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile;”
III. ASSURE MAN THAT GOD DESIRES HIS SALVATION.
   A. Although the Bible emphatically shows that man is lost, God wants us to be assured of the fact He desires our salvation.
      1. 1 Tim. 2:3-4 “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; “Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.”
      2. 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.”
      3. Satan has deceived the world into believing God wants man to be lost.
   B. If we are lost, it will not be because God wanted it that way, it will be because we refused to obey God.

IV. EXPLAIN THAT 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”
      3. Jam. 1:15 “Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”
   B. God satisfied the demands of the law when His Son died in our stead.
      1. Rom. 3:23-26 “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; 26To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”
      2. 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.”
      3. Rom. 5:8 “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”
      4. 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.”
      5. 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.”
      6. 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: 2And 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 possibly could to procure it: man should be willing to do what God asks in order to gain it.
   B. The Bible speaks emphatically as to what man must do.
      1. Hear the Word of God; Rom. 10:14 “How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?”
      2. 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.”
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b. 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.”

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

4. 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.”

5. Baptism
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.”
c. This is in harmony with the great commission.
   (1) Mat. 28:18-20 “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20Teaching 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”
   (2) 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.”
   (3) 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.”
d. This is also in harmony with the execution of that commission and every case of conversion recorded.

C. Has your life complied with that which is commanded in the Bible?

VI. INSTRUCT MAN AS TO HOW TO REMAIN SAVED.

A. Although man teaches the impossibility of apostasy, the Bible does not.
1. In fact the Bible warns man not to apostatize.
2. 1 Cor. 10:12 “Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”
3. Heb. 3:12 “Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.”

B. Twenty-one of the twenty-seven books of the New Testament have been written to inform man how to remain saved.

C. Summerize a few things.
1. We must become Christ like.
2. We must add the Christian graces; 2 Pet. 1:3-11 “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: 4Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 5And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; 6And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; 7And to
godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. 8For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. 10Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall. 11For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.”

3. We must walk in the Spirit; Gal. 5:16, 22-25 “This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.... 22But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. 24And they that are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. 25If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”

4. We must love as God loves as described in 1 Corinthians 13.

5. Romans 12

VII. DECLARE TO MAN THE DESTINY OF THE SOUL.

A. The Bible pictures heaven as the home for those who are faithful.

1. John 14:1-3 “Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

2. 1 Tim. 6:12, 19 “Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.... 19Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.”

3. 1 Pet. 1:2-4 “Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. 3Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,”

4. Rev. 2:7 “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.”

B. The Bible also pictures hell as the home for those unfaithful to that which the Bible teaches.

1. Mat. 13:40-42 “As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

2. 2 The. 1:6-9 “Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; 7And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;”

Conclusion: 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: 17That 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:” What a truly marvelous book is the Bible. The Bible pictures a beautiful story. Will you not accept its message of salvation?