

The Bible: What is It?



Discuss: What is the Bible?

The Bible is the World's best-selling book. The Bible is split into two major parts, the Old and New Testaments. It contains 66 books from 40 authors from different classes of society, vocations and educational backgrounds (fishermen, doctors, kings, tax collectors, shepherds, army generals, prophets). The Bible was written over roughly 1,600 years on 3 different continents in 3 different languages (Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek).

Yet it communicates ONE story about God's desire to have a people that he could love and would belong to Him, that they in return would love Him and He would be their God and God would dwell in their midst.

Read 2 Corinthians 6:16-18, Revelation 21:1-7

It is a story of the Father and Bridegroom's longing for a family that He would be with forever.

And there is no contradiction. It all fits together perfectly when interpreted properly. How can that be? Why is that?

Discuss: How can the Bible have one main story and no contradictions even with so many authors?

Though the Bible has many human authors, the Bible has ONE divine author, the Spirit of God who was leading and inspiring all the human authors to write.

Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:19-21

God individually led and inspired these authors to write histories, personal accounts, letters, prophecies, and poetry that were later compiled into one book. All of these different components of the Bible were written over 1,900 years ago.

Discuss: How can something that is so old still helpful for our lives today?

We can see the importance for the Word of God in what the Word says about itself.

The Bible has many things to say about itself, but we will just look at a couple of verses:

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Psalms 119:114

Isaiah 40:8

Matthew 4:4

Psalms 1

Discussion and reflection: What do these verses tell us about the Bible? What can we learn from these verses about God? What can we learn from these verses about man? How can you apply these truths to your life this week? What is God asking you to believe and do as a result of what you have read or learned today?

Action Step This Week: Read Psalm 1 daily and prayerfully ask God to help you gain more understanding.