

GOD'S WORD

THE INSPIRATION AND AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE

The Words of the LORD Are pure Words

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Introduction

IN THE COMING days (for I believe that we are now in the Last Days), days in which, as Scripture says, sin will increase (Matthew 24:12), and deception will even seek to overtake the children of God (Mark 13:22), in satan's (lack of capital letter intentional as he has always attempted to exalt himself above God) attempt to legitimize sin, he will seek to delegitimize Scripture.

We already often hear, "but which God," or, "which Scripture," when speaking of Them (to which the answer is Jesus' "If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or *whether* I speak of Myself," John 7:17). Even now we see the development of books, movies, and television shows that purport to investigate the actual origins of Scripture Itself, or of the faith upon which we stand. All these are merely a continuation of, and modern incarnation of the original sin of satan, who said, "Yea, hath God (really) said ... ?" Genesis 3:1.

I quote the following passage from my on-line book, [Which Version?](#) (Available in [Micaiah.com](#))

THE WORD OF GOD is central to the life of the Christian. It is from this that one's faith is learned, as, "... faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God," *Rom. 10:17*, and upon it that one stands against the wiles of the enemy, as, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God," *Matt. 4:4*. With such authority contained within its pages, therefore, the utmost respect and authority must be given the Word of God. Harold Lindsell concurs, in *Battle for the Bible*:

It is my opinion that it is next to impossible to stop the process of theological deterioration once inerrancy is abandoned. I have said that it is a theological watershed just as the Continental Divide is the watershed for the United States and Canada. The water that flows on the other side of the divide ends up in the Pacific Ocean. But once the water starts down one side or the other, it continues until it reaches its oceanic destination. Errancy and inerrancy constitute the two principles, and which one a person chooses determines where he will end up.

No matter how sincere a man may be, and however carefully he guards against further theological concessions, they are inevitable once inerrancy is given up. Francis Schaeffer has told conferees at L'Abri that "the generation of those who first give up biblical inerrancy may have evangelical background and real personal relationships with Jesus Christ so that they can 'live theologically' on the basis of their limited-inerrancy viewpoint. But what happens when the next generation tries to build on that foundation?" I am saying that whether it takes five or fifty years any denomination or parachurch group that forsakes inerrancy will end up shipwrecked. It is impossible to prevent the surrender of other important doctrinal teachings of the Word of God when inerrancy is gone.⁷

Not content to simply provide the world with what they hope is a better translation, our modern Bible translators have often delivered scathing attacks on the manuscript source of the KING JAMES (AUTHORIZED) VERSION of the Bible, which they are hoping to supplant. A financial motive for attempting to corrode the practical monopoly of the AUTHORIZED VERSION (KJV) has been taken to the extreme of placing in doubt the credibility of the Book which for three centuries has been the source of faith for the English world, and similarly so, in the respective languages of all of Europe. Custom dies hard, so questioning the reliability of the well-used will be less successful in converting one from that version to another than it will be in placing doubt on the Word of God as a whole.

In that book we establish that we know, without a shadow of doubt, the ***exact letters and words***, in whole and in part, of the original Bible as it was written by the original authors of Scripture. This present essay, therefore, is intended to address the Christian's approach to the actual ***message***, of Scripture. The emphasis of this essay is the Christian's attitude toward the Word of God.

THE INSPIRATION OF SCRIPTURE

Basic Tenets of the Christian Faith, and of the Study of Scripture

1. God Is infinitely greater than man. Man cannot understand God naturally.

8 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith 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.

Isaiah 55:8-9 The BIBLE

25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

I Corinthians 1:25 The BIBLE

2. Man's understanding of God must therefore come from outside of man. Man must receive his understanding of God from God Himself.

5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct Thy paths.

7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil.

Proverbs 3:5-7 The BIBLE

3. Written

- a) As man is naturally subject to his own biases, beliefs, emotions, experiences, etc., he must necessarily receive and adopt an outside, objective source upon which to base his understanding of God. Man requires an objective, completely authoritative written explanation of Who God Is and what He requires of man.
- b) This outside, objective source must be written, so that it cannot be altered.
- c) This outside, objective source must draw man outside of and away from himself, so that it is God that he is seeing, not himself, nor his own opinions of God.
- d) If that written explanation is not completely and fully from God, man's understanding of God is still completely subject to man's opinions and human limitations: both in the subjective writings of the author(s), and in the subjective opinions of the readers, as to which parts of Scripture should and shouldn't be considered Divinely inspired, and therefore authoritative. If that written explanation is not completely and fully authoritative man's understanding of God is still completely subject to man's opinions and human limitations.

20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them.

Isaiah 8:20 The BIBLE

29 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures, nor the power of God.

Matthew 22:29 The BIBLE

4. Spirit

Man cannot understand what Is God and what is not God without the Spirit of God, Himself, to guide him and tell him Who God Is, and what God Is like. Without that Spirit, man must blindly make God into his own image, and subjectively seek out written and other physical items to confirm for him his subjective beliefs of who and how God Is. He will automatically be drawn to one or more of the many books and cults written and formed by the subjective opinions of men, to attempt to bridge the gap between God and man. But with/by the Holy Spirit, the sincere man is guided to the one objective, completely inspired, and fully authoritative Word of God, the Bible.

6 Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:

7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

11 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.

12 Now 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.

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

I Corinthians 2:6-16 The BIBLE

5. *It is not for man to tell God Who God Is, and what God Is like; it is for God to tell man Who God Is and what God Is like!*

As man's puny brain does not have the ability to sift through what God tells him, knowledgeably accepting and defiantly discarding/disregarding what he is told/commanded by Almighty God, he must therefore accept/obey in humility everything God Himself tells him (the Bible). The Bible must be either completely authoritative as God's Words or it is not authoritative at all, as man's words.

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 perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Timothy 3:16-17 The BIBLE

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

II Peter 1:19-21 The BIBLE

How the Bible Was Inspired

When one reads Scripture, especially in the original languages, one finds differences in writing styles between the various authors of the various Books of the Bible. Some were educated men; some were simple fishermen. Each man had had his own life experiences, and each had his own personality characteristics, and personal emphases. Yet no verse contradicts any other, in any way.

Some claim that these various styles are an indication that God did not write Scripture, but that Scripture was composed by man, alone. These people suggest that, had God written the Word, He would have dictated, Word-for- Word, what He wanted written, and that man would have had no part in it! But they are mistaken.

Scripture tells us that God, Himself, wrote the Ten Commandments with His finger.

18 And He gave unto Moses, when He had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.

Exodus 31:18 (Deuteronomy 9:10) The BIBLE

This is the only time that God, Himself, physically wrote part of the Scriptures, Himself. All other times He instructed His servants to write down what He told them.

14 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this in a book as a memorial and recite it to Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven."

Exodus 17:14 The BIBLE

8 Now go, write it on a tablet before them And inscribe it on a scroll, That it may serve in the time to come As a witness forever.

Isaiah 30:8 The BIBLE

1 The Word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,

2"Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, 'Write all the Words which I have spoken to you in a book.' "

Jeremiah 30:1-2 The BIBLE

2 "Take a scroll and write on it all the Words which I have spoken to you concerning Israel and concerning Judah, and concerning all the nations, from the day I first spoke to you, from the days of Josiah, even to this day.

Jeremiah 36:2 The BIBLE

3 The Word of the LORD came expressly unto Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, in the land of the Chaldeans by the river Chebar; and the hand of the LORD was there upon him.

Ezekiel 1:3 The BIBLE

etc.

The Biblical writers were led by the Holy Spirit to write:

1 Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us,

2 Even as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the Word;

3 It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus,
 4 That thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.

Luke 1:1-4 The BIBLE

16 Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

Acts 1: 16 The BIBLE

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 perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

II Timothy 3:16-17 The BIBLE

6 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

II Peter 11:6 The BIBLE

17 For He received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to Him from the excellent glory, This Is my beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.
 18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with Him in the holy mount.
 19 We have also a more sure Word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:
 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.
 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

II Peter 1:17-21 The BIBLE

10 Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you:
 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when It testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

I Peter 1:10-11 The BIBLE

But God used each writer's personality, experiences, etc., to help compose the particular Book that God was commissioning. To accurately compose the Book that God wanted written, He formed each man from the womb, creating in him the personality he wanted in that particular writer. He placed that author where his environment would form the foundation for what God wanted said, and where the writer's life experiences would help shape him into the spokesman, the writer, that would most accurately convey the messages that God wanted that particular man to portray. For example:

MATTHEW's Gospel is a distinctively Jewish Book, beginning Jesus' genealogy at Abraham, and repeatedly referring to the, "kingdom of heaven." As a tax collector, he mentions money and finances often.

MARK uses many Latin terms.

LUKE, the physician, examines Christ's genealogy from Adam, and repeatedly speaks of people who are on the outskirts of society.

JOHN tells us that his Gospel is written as an evangelistic tool (John 20:30-31) and relates to us much of what Jesus taught.

Each Book of the Bible is inspired in both substance/message and in each individual letter and Word. Only God could accomplish this.

Whenever part of Scripture is NOT Divine directive, but merely the personal opinion of the Author of the Book, or of a character in that Book, we are told, outright! There is NEVER ANY doubt permitted in the reader, as to the Divine inspiration and authority of Scripture!

Uninspired words In the Old Testament!

In the Book of Job we are given the full text of the soliloquies of Job and of his, "friends." But, while Job spoke what was right in God's ears, and therefore can be quoted by the Christian as the Words of God, we cannot similarly quote the words of his, "friends," as authoritative, holy instruction (even though it's in Scripture!) God tells us that, while Job's words pleased Him, the words of his, "friends," did not!

7 And it was so, that after the LORD had spoken these Words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of Me the thing that is right, as My servant Job hath.

Job 42: 7 The BIBLE

Consequently, while the chapters of the Book of Job that quote Job, himself, can be quoted by the Christian, and employed by him in his Spiritual life and growth, those chapters of the Book of Job that merely quote the words of Job's, "friends," should not be quoted as Divine wisdom and instruction; they are not! While God Divinely inspired them to be recorded and included in Divine Scripture as a true record of what was said, they do not reflect the wisdom and directives of God.

Similarly, while one can read in Isaiah 14:13-14, the actual words of satan (lack of capitalization intentional when referring to this man who would make himself God!), and the record of them therefore composes part of Scripture, they are not Divinely-inspired Words of God; they are merely a Divinely-inspired and infallible record of what satan said! We are given this differentiation, and told outright, in verse 13: "For thou (satan) hast said in thine heart... ." Once again, we are actually TOLD when the WORDS of Scripture are not intended to be quoted as the Words and commands of God, Himself, but are intended to be merely an infallible record of what was said!

Uninspired words In the New Testament!

The seventh chapter of I Corinthians is segmented into various sections by Paul as he writes. Throughout this chapter the Apostle Paul responds to questions that have been addressed to him by letter; he seeks to provide answers according to the wisdom God has given him. But, even so, he informs his readers which answers that he gives are merely his (Godly) opinion, as compared to which statements are Divinely inspired – the actual Words of God. For this reason, we can know with all certainty that all that he writes, beyond these passages, is Divinely inspired (because, as in the rest of Scripture, Paul does not tell us that it is not Divinely inspired, as he is careful to tell us in chapters 7 and 11!)

1 Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me... .
 6 But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment.
 10 And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord,
 12 But to the rest speak I, not the Lord:
 25 Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful.
 26 I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say,
 29 But this I say, brethren,
 39 ..., after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God.
I Corinthians 7:1, 6, 10, 12, 25, 26, 29, 39 The BIBLE

In the eleventh chapter, also, of I Corinthians Paul similarly writes, until verse 16, inclusive, words that portray natural wisdom, and gives Spiritual application to it. In verse 13 Paul appeals to the natural inclinations of the reader to support what he says. At the conclusion of this personal commentary Paul explains that what he has just written is not in fact commandments from the Lord, and that, if anyone does not wish to follow the guidelines he has suggested, what he wrote isn't even common custom, much less a Divine directive!

13 Judge in yourselves: is it ... ?
 ...
 16 But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, neither the churches of God.

I Corinthians 11:13, 16 The BIBLE

Once again Paul, led by the Holy Spirit, is careful to differentiate everything that is his own opinion from what is actual Divinely-inspired Scripture. For which reason we can be CERTAIN that everything that is not explained (by Paul, or by any of the other authors of Scripture), to be personal opinion, is in fact Divinely-inspired Scripture!

In fact, so important to our Lord is the concept of His Divine inspiration, and so essential in His eyes, that only what HE Divinely inspires, be included in Scripture, that there are many ancient books mentioned in the Bible, but not included in the canon of (Books composing) Scripture! There is much that could have been included in our Bible, if mere writing, interest, or additional detail were sufficient reason to add a book to our Bible. These include such works as:

- THE BOOK OF JASHER, mentioned in Joshua 10:13 and II Samuel 1:18;
- THE BOOK OF THE WARS OF THE LORD, mentioned in: Numbers 21:14;
- THE BOOK OF SHEMAIAH AND OF IDDO THE SEER, mentioned in:
 II Chr. 9:29, 12:15, 13:22;
- THE MANNER OF THE KINGDOM, mentioned in: I Samuel 10:25;
- THE ACTS OF SOLOMON, mentioned in: I Kings 11:41;
- THE CHRONICLES OF KING DAVID, mentioned in: I Chronicles 27:24;
- THE BOOK OF NATHAN THE PROPHET, mentioned in:
 I Chronicles 29:29, and also II Chronicles 9:29;
- THE BOOK OF GAD THE SEER, mentioned in: I Chronicles 29:29;
- THE SAYINGS OF THE SEERS, mentioned in: II Chronicles 33:19;
- THE CHRONICLES OF KING AHASUERUS, mentioned in:
 Esther 2:23, Esther 6:1, Esther 10:2, and Nehemiah 12:23.

... but, while these other works contain information that God directed the writers of Scripture to allude to, these other books were not inspired, and therefore were not placed into our Bible. In fact, there is much that Jesus, Himself, did and said that would of course be very interesting for the Christian to know, but that God did not feel was relevant to every Christian, and was therefore not recorded for our consumption. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Apostle John wrote:

24 This is the disciple which testifieth of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true.

25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the Books that should be written. Amen.

John 21:24-25 The BIBLE

Consequently, since only those Words and deeds of Christ were recorded, that God wanted recorded for us, and because He excluded much that we might have found to be of great intellectual interest, we can know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that EVERYTHING that IS in the Bible is intended for every one of us; there is nothing superfluous nor unnecessary. Other than what is explicitly stated as otherwise, there is nothing uninspired. There is nothing intended for only a certain audience. There is nothing that any Christian can properly ignore or discount! Only what was Divinely inspired was included in Scripture, and everything that was Divinely inspired was included in Scripture.

16 All Scripture Is God-breathed (*the meaning of, "inspired"*) and Is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

Timothy 3:16 The BIBLE

16 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

17 For He received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to Him from the excellent glory, This Is My beloved Son, in Whom I Am well pleased.

18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with Him in the holy mount.

19 We have also a more sure Word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

II Peter 1:16-21 The BIBLE

23 For I (*Paul*) have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, ...

I Corinthians 11:23 The BIBLE

One cannot accept the Words of Jesus only, and reject the Words of the writers of Scripture; it is a futile attempt to read, 'only the red letters!' Jesus never wrote a single Word that we have recorded! (Jesus wrote on the ground in John 8:6,8, but we have no record of what He wrote.) ALL the Words of the New Testament are written by third parties! Only two of the writers of the Gospels (Matthew and John) were actual disciples of Jesus, and therefore actual eyewitnesses of what happened! If we reject or doubt ANY Word of Scripture written by a third party we must therefore necessarily reject, also, ALL the Words of JESUS! Jesus demands we receive and obey ALL God's Words!

4 And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word of God.

John 4:4 The BIBLE

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;
16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction.

Peter 3:15-16 The BIBLE

As everything else in our, 'religion,' God's very Words must be accepted ... by faith.

Apocrypha

The Apocrypha is a set of ancient books added to the Bibles of such groups as the Roman Catholics. These books speak of Biblical characters, and make reference to Biblical occurrences. But they have been rejected by the born- again churches of the reformation and by many groups before them. Such extra books were included in the Bibles of groups ("churches") that perhaps began as Christian denominations, but eventually, as the Roman Catholics did, forgot and rejected the concept of Christ's instruction to be born again – to have a transforming experience of salvation. When one has not been born again he lacks the direction and illumination of the Holy Spirit, and the instructions of God, and seeks Divine instruction even from the non-Divine, which, without the guiding of the Holy Spirit, he lacks the discernment to reject.

12 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

13 Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, Is come, He will guide you into all truth: for He shall not speak of Himself; but whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak: and He will shew you things to come.

14 He shall glorify me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you.

15 All things that the Father hath are Mine: therefore said I, that He shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

John 16:12-15 The BIBLE

It is recommended that the Christian avoid these spurious books (the Apocrypha); any book that claims something false (such as in authorship or content) is not of God, and should be avoided, as something that might potentially pervert the understanding and the belief systems of the man of God. The Bible demands the complete faith of the reader; if the same reader studies also an Apocryphal book, one that cannot be proven nor disproven, he might easily, although accidentally, apply to the false (Apocryphal) book, the faith he has given to Scripture. Best to completely ignore that which has already been established to be at least partially false.

People and Humanism

THE OXFORD DICTIONARY:

Humanism:

"An outlook or system of thought attaching prime importance to human rather than divine or supernatural matters. Humanist beliefs stress the potential value and goodness of human beings, emphasize common human needs, and seek solely rational ways of solving human problems."

The humanist can therefore be accurately described as a person who sets up man in the place of God. In doing so, he takes up the original goal of satan:

11 Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee.
12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!
13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:
14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.
15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Isaiah 14:11-15 The BIBLE

The humanist, also often referred to by such terms as, “liberal,” “progressive,” “left-wing/leftist, etc.,” judges the Bible and everything else on the basis of things outside the Bible (the Christian judges things outside the Bible on the basis of the Bible). Humanists are people whose opinions are determined and swayed by the world, and by its current opinions and practices. They are motivated by emotions, personal expedience and convenience, and by the opinions and actions of those around them.

For the humanist, truth, goodness, and righteousness are defined as whatever makes people happy. To this person it is essential that the individual’s sense of self-esteem be bolstered and reinforced. Everyone and everything must be tolerated and exalted, unless it has been declared evil by the most vocal in society, to which neither active nor vocal dissent can be tolerated. If the Bible is found to be at odds with what the most vocal have declared to be truth, the Bible is seen to be either merely a flawed man’s hate-filled writing, or at most the detestable requirements of a detestable god.

The nonChristian criticizes God for destroying entire nations for their sins, and for sending people to hell. The weak, “Christian,” infected by humanistic thought, will perhaps not state such opinions about God openly, at least not to other Christians, but will have less hesitation in calling the Apostle Paul a male chauvinist, a misogynist. Or the weak, “Christian,” may feel that he/she can more easily call into question parts of the Bible other than the Gospels, and more easily raise doubts about the Divine inspiration and authority of those parts of Scripture in which Jesus is not directly quoted.

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;
16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction.

II Peter 3:15-16 The BIBLE

The more subtle humanist, and the man who simply wishes to legitimize his disobedience to God, employs various methods by which he attempts to discredit the Word of God. In those places, such as the Gospels, in which Jesus is directly quoted, the method of calling into question the validity of the Scriptures is more often the questioning of the original (Greek) texts, or the search for and delighted display as evidence, of other translations, which one feels more exactly support one’s own beliefs. However:

6 The Words of the LORD Are pure Words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

7 Thou shalt keep Them, O LORD, Thou shalt preserve Them from this generation for ever.

Psalm 12:6-7 The BIBLE

Another ploy used in their combat against the teachings of Christ is to suggest that Jesus spoke during the time of the Old Testament, and therefore was giving Old Testament law, and therefore is of little or no relevance to the New Testament Christian. Unless, of course, what He says in another location in Scripture, is pleasing to their ears, at which point they will declare with righteous indignation that we must obey the Words of JESUS! However:

14 And the Pharisees also, who were covetous, heard all these things: and they derided Him.

15 And He said unto them, Ye are they which justify yourselves before men; but God knoweth your hearts: for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.

16 The Law and the Prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

17 And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the Law to fail.

Luke 16:14-17 The BIBLE

Their goal is to re-form Scripture (and God) into one's own likeness, to erase what they do not like to hear.

15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

Matthew 13:15 The BIBLE

This is nothing new; satan has said used this same lie since the beginning of creation:

1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, ... ?

Genesis 3:1 The BIBLE

God is thus made into man's own likeness, taking the form which MAN feels He should take. To such people, God is no bigger than they are; they can understand God, and know what does and does not constitute God's teachings. They claim the ability and the right to pick and choose between verses, accepting what they feel is from God, and rejecting that which they feel is not of Him. But:

6 Seek ye the LORD while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near:

7 Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

8 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith 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.

Isaiah 55:6-9 The BIBLE

25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

I Corinthians 1:25 The BIBLE

These people suggest that Paul writes what he does because he is reflecting the cultural beliefs and practices of his day! But in making such a claim, they are in fact claiming the following:

- 1) They are saying that Scripture is not the work of God, but of man;
- 2) They are saying that Scripture is not intended by God to instruct us, today, as to how we are to act, but that it is merely the arbitrary writings of a man, intended to instruct the churches of that time and place of the human customs commonly followed by the churches of their time, following the culture and practices of that time and place.
- 3) They are saying that, as such, Scripture in many places (the places at odds with modern Western society) is merely an interesting record of the culture of the ancient Near East, and, as such, of no particular relevance to the life and practices of the modern Christian or of the modern Church.
- 4) They are therefore saying that Scripture has no right to demand our obedience, that its only relevance is in legitimizing and reinforcing our own beliefs, if and where it follows modern culture, and if and where it vindicates what we ourselves personally or commonly believe or do!

On the contrary!

- 1) Scripture is DIVINELY inspired, and written according to the complete direction of Almighty God;
- 2) Scripture is intended by God to *defy* man's culture, current and ancient, and to demand obedience to God, *contrary to* modern culture; God didn't waste His time commanding man to do something he (man) was already doing, or inclined to do!

3 But He answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

4 For God commanded, saying,

5 But ye say,

6 ... Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,

8 This people draweth nigh unto Me with their mouth, and honoureth Me with their lips; but their heart is far from Me.

9 But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Matthew 15:3-9 The BIBLE

It is ridiculous to suggest that God commanded man, in Scripture, to do something that in his culture or his nature he was already doing, just as it would have been ridiculous for God to command, "Thou shalt eat," "Thou shalt drink," "Thou shalt sleep," etc.! Why *command* someone to do what already comes naturally? If it is commanded in Scripture it is because that thing is UN-natural for man to do (but natural for God), and therefore something man must be commanded to do, or he would otherwise not do it! God didn't say, "Thou shalt not commit fornication," because it was somehow the custom of that day to abstain from fornication. On the contrary! (if that were the case, the Israelites were the only nation in the world to whom God needed to give the 10 Commandments!) God didn't say, "Thou shalt not hate thy neighbor," because it was supposedly the common practice in that day to not hate their neighbor! That's obvious! And God didn't say, "Thy women must not speak in the church, nor teach men," because it was natural in that day for women to keep silent in the church and because they only wanted to teach women and children! We know women better than that! God had to command, "Thou shalt not commit fornication," because it was and is natural for man to commit fornication! God had to command, "Thou shalt not hate thy neighbor," because it was and is natural for man to hate his neighbor!

And God had to command, “Thy women must not speak in the church, or teach men,” because it is natural for women to speak in the church and to not hesitate to teach men! What is in the Bible is there, not because it is the traditions of men, but because it is the commandments of God, *contrary to* the customs of man! God is **defying** the traditions of men, not defending or teaching the traditions of men!

The Bible is intended, not as a historical and anthropological lesson book for the purpose of teaching people the cultures of the Ancient Near East; Scripture Is God’s instruction Book for righteous living!

Jesus’ ministry was entirely based upon His **defying** the traditions of men! He was constantly at odds with the religious leaders of the day for precisely that reason – He defied their traditions by which they defied the Word of God! He certainly did not transition from **defying** man’s traditions, in the Gospels, to **teaching** them, in the Pastoral Epistles!

Nor is the Bible the writings of men!

One often hears today the heretical words of the feminists, “Oh, Paul was just a male chauvinist!” as if the Word of God is merely the words of man!

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.
21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

Peter 1:20-21 The BIBLE

(“Prophecy,” in this sense, is not, “fore-telling, “ or, “telling ahead of time, what is going to happen,” but, “prophecy,” in the other sense of the word, as in, “forth- telling,” or, “telling forth the Word of God.” It is in this sense that Saul, “prophesied,” in I Samuel 10, in which, by the Spirit of God, he spoke-forth the Words of God, not necessarily events of the future, but the very Words of God. Jonah, the, “prophet,” did the same at Nineveh. Because what Jonah warned would happen without repentance, did not indeed happen - because the people repented - his identity as a prophet was not in his fore-telling an event - which did not in fact occur, - but in his telling-forth what God wanted the Ninevites to hear: a command to repent.)

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;
16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other Scriptures, unto their own destruction.

II Peter 3:15-16 The BIBLE

When once we allow ourselves to toss out Scripture because it defies our personal biases and opinions, we immediately destroy within ourselves the entire authority of Scripture! This is because the authority of Scripture rests not upon our approval, but upon its identity as the Word of God. In fact, the authority of Scripture rests upon the fact that it **defies** our personal biases and opinions!

8 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, saith 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.

Isaiah 55:8-9 The BIBLE

Again, we’re reminded of satan’s original lie: “...yea, hath God (*really*) said?” **Genesis 3:1 The BIBLE.**

All these humanistic doctrines are anti-Christian doctrines. They are methods to attempt to camouflage and legitimize man's desire to disobey God. They are all heretical, pagan, and anti-God ideas and doctrines. And they are unlike the man and woman of God!

God Does Not Change; The Word of God Does Not Change

17 Think not that I Am come to destroy the Law, or the Prophets: I Am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the Law, till all be fulfilled.

19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:17-19 The BIBLE

33 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My Words will never pass away.

Luke 21:33 The BIBLE

89 For ever, O LORD, Thy Word Is settled in heaven.

Psalms 119:89 The BIBLE

8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the Word of our God shall stand for ever.

Isaiah 40:8 The BIBLE

24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

25 But the Word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this Is the Word which by the gospel Is preached unto you.

I Peter 1:24-25 The BIBLE

The Word of God Is neither temporary nor does It change. The Word of God Is Jesus; Jesus remains the same.

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The Same Was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made.

...

14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the Only Begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

15 John bare witness of Him, and cried, saying, This was He of Whom I spake, He that cometh after me Is preferred before me: for He was before me.

16 And of His fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

John 1:1-3, 14-17 The BIBLE

6 For I Am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Malachi 3:6 The BIBLE

8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Hebrews 13:8 The BIBLE

THE AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE

Jesus used the Scriptures, and based His teaching on them, quoting them as the ultimate authority.

16 And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up: and, as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

Luke 4: 16 The BIBLE

29 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.

Matthew 22: 29 The BIBLE

10 And have ye not read this Scripture

Mark 12:10 The BIBLE

3 But He answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

4 For God commanded, saying,

5 But ye say,

6 ... Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,

This people draweth nigh unto Me with their mouth, and honoureth Me with their lips; but their heart is far from Me.

8 But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Matthew 15:3-8 The BIBLE

35 If he called them gods, unto whom the Word of God came, and the Scripture cannot be broken;

John 10: 35 The BIBLE

25 Then He said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:

...

27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

Luke 24: 25, 27 The BIBLE

37 For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in Me (*Jesus*:) "... that the Scripture might be fulfilled... :"

Luke 22:37 The BIBLE

John 13:18 The BIBLE

John 17:12 The BIBLE

John 19:28 The BIBLE

John 19:36 The BIBLE

17 Think not that I Am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I Am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:17-19 The BIBLE

To Jesus (God Himself) Scripture was the ultimate authority. Jesus said, in effect, in John 10:35-36, "If God says one thing, how can YOU presume to say something different!?"

18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the Words of the prophecy of this Book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this Book:

19 And if any man shall take away from the Words of the Book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Revelation 22:18-19 The BIBLE

1 Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying,

2 Why do Thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread.

3 But He answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

4 For God commanded, saying, ... But ye say, Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

...

7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,

8 This people draweth nigh unto Me with their mouth, and honoureth Me with their lips; but their heart is far from Me.

9 But in vain they do worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Matthew 15:1-4, 7-9 The BIBLE

6 He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me.

7 Howbeit in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

8 For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.

9 And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.

...

13 Making the Word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

Mark 7:6-9, 13 The BIBLE

And, as if this weren't enough, we are told that Jesus Himself Is the Word.

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 The Same Was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made by Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was

made.

...

14 And the Word Was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the Only Begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

15 John bare witness of Him, and cried, saying, This was He of Whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for He was before me.

16 And of His fulness have all we received, and grace for grace.

17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

John 1:1-3, 14-17 The BIBLE

39 Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and They are They which testify of Me.

John 5:39 The BIBLE

Jesus, referred to as, "The Word," Is the living embodiment, "the incarnation," of the Word of God! Rejection of the Written Word is at the same time rejection of the Living Word! One can no more reject one and accept the other than he can reject Jesus and accept the Father.

23 That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent Him.

24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My Word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 5:23-24 The BIBLE

48 He that rejecteth Me, and receiveth not My Words, hath One that judgeth him: the Word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

49 For I have not spoken of Myself; but the Father which sent Me, He gave Me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.

50 And I know that His commandment Is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

John 12:48-50 The BIBLE

9 Jesus saith ... he that hath seen Me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?

10 Believest thou not that I Am in the Father, and the Father in Me? the Words that I speak unto you I speak not of Myself: but the Father that dwelleth in Me, He doeth the works.

11 Believe Me that I Am in the Father, and the Father in Me: or else believe Me for the very works' sake.

...

23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love Me, he will keep My Words: and My Father will love him, and We will come unto him, and make Our abode with him.

24 He that loveth Me not keepeth not My sayings: and the Word which ye hear Is not Mine, but the Father's Which sent Me.

John 14:9-11, 23-24 The BIBLE

Many Religious Groups Claim Corruption of the Bible to Justify Their Disobedience Toward the Bible

The Jews have not only rejected the entire New Testament, but have written other books which they have elevated almost to the level of the Old Testament, books such as the Talmud, the Midrash, and the Mishna. Roman Catholics have added many books, called the Apochrypha, to their Bible, and have added even to those, many traditions and stories found nowhere in Scripture, but for which they claim an authority superior to the Bible. They claim that their traditions and pope have final authority, superseding that of the Word of God Itself! The Buddhists reject the Word of God, and have written their own book, the Dhammapada, to replace it. Hindus reject the Bible and have sought to replace It with their own book, the Shruti. Muslims claim the Bible to be corrupted and inaccurate, and have concocted one of their own, their Koran, for which they claim superiority. Similarly, the Mormons claim a matching degradation of and incorrect interpretation for the Bible as their excuse to not accept it as their final authority, and have written one of their own, the Book of Mormon, to which they do ascribe perfection. The, "Jehovah's Witness," organization has actually changed the Bible Itself, publishing their own changed version, the, "New World (Per)version," in order to reject the Word given to us by God. (All these books are false scripture, false doctrine, and damnable heresy.) One of the alterations the, "Jehovah's Witness," organization made is to change even John 1:1's, "In the beginning, was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God," to , " ... and the word was a god"! in an attempt to erase the Deity and authority of Jesus! Even THEY realize that, if they are going to legitimize their disobedience to God, they must discredit the Bible and create their own. All these groups recognize the centrality of the Bible to the faith of the Christian, and to the authority of Christianity! And it is for the very fact that they reject faith in Christ, the Creator, Sustainer, and Saviour of the world, that they reject the Word of God (Jesus), Who Is the Bible, the Book that God gave man, explaining Himself. And it is for the fact that the Bible is so central to the faith of the Christian that these groups have realized their need to supplant, to replace it with something else, if they are going to seek legitimacy for their rejection of and disobedience to God.

The Roman Catholics ridicule Christians for the what the Catholics call the Christians', "Paper Pope," the Bible, the Christian's final authority (the Roman Catholics, declare that their final authority is not the Bible, but their, "Pope," the elected head of their organization). And the Muslims refer to Christians and Jews as, "Ahl al-Kitāb," or, "The People of the Book," (the Bible). In other words, even these (nonChristians who attempt to be Godly - II Timothy 3:5 'Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof') recognize the fact that, to the Christian, the Bible is the final authority! So if a *nonChristian* recognizes the centrality, to Christianity, of a completely authoritative Bible, and views it essential that he destroy the Bible's authority and replace it with his own personal version of truth, in order to reject Christianity, surely the *Christian*, of all people, must recognize how essential it is that he recognize the Bible's complete authority! Rejecting the complete authority of the Word of God is a common excuse of the NONChristian, for their disobedience to God. It is NOT to be typical of the Christian! "... Let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints!"

The Trustworthiness of Scripture

56 Blessed be the LORD, Who Has given rest to His people Israel, according to all that He promised; not one Word has failed of all His good promise, which He promised through Moses His servant.

I Kings 8:56 The BIBLE

7 The works of His hands are verity and judgment; all His commandments are sure.

8 They stand fast for ever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.

Psalms 111:7-8 The BIBLE

25 For I Am the LORD: I will speak, and the Word that I shall speak shall come to pass; It shall be no more prolonged: for in your days, O rebellious house, will I say the Word, and will perform it, saith the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 12:25 The BIBLE

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the Law, till all be fulfilled.

Matthew 5:18 The BIBLE

32 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled.

33 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but My Words shall not pass away.

Luke 21:32-33 The BIBLE

There's no coincidence that Revelation 22:18-19 occurs just two verses from the end of the entire Bible; nothing is coincidence with God (Proverbs 16:33)! While these two verses refer to the Book of Revelation, they refer also to the entire Bible! Any man wishing to add to, or take away from any part of the Bible will be merely inviting the plagues written in both the Book of Revelation, and in the Bible as a whole!

18 For I testify unto every man that heareth the Words of the prophecy of this Book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this Book:

19 And if any man shall take away from the Words of the Book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this Book.

Revelation 22:18-19 The BIBLE

The Bible Is whole and complete; It Is the finished revelation of Jesus Christ, of God Himself; It cannot be added to, nor can It be subtracted from. Many have attempted to add to or replace It by writing their own Talmud, Midrash, Mishna, Apocrypha, Dhammapada, Shruti, Koran, Book of Mormon, New World (Per)version, etc., which are all false and heretical books, and have brought down upon themselves the plagues written in the Bible. Many in the future will continue to, and in fact, increase greatly their attempt to discredit the Bible, the Word of God, asking, as satan did, "yea, hath God (really) said... ?" (Genesis 3:1).

6 I marvel that ye are so soon removed from Him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel:

7 Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the Gospel of Christ.

8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

Galatians 1:6-10 The BIBLE

22 And ye shall be hated of all men for My Name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

Matthew 10:22 The BIBLE

11 And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

12 And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

13 But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

Matthew 24:11-13 The BIBLE

CONCLUSION

What it all comes down to, in the end, is (I Corinthians 13:13):

Faith:

Christianity, the following of God, is essentially a life of faith.

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

Hebrews 11:6 The BIBLE

It is only by exercising faith in Christ as his Saviour that a man can receive God. And, indeed, it is only through faith that one can continue to live a life as a Christian.

2 This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

3 Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?

...

6 Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

Galatians 3:2-3, 6 The BIBLE

Faith is the currency of heaven.

20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

21 And being fully persuaded that, what He had promised, He was able also to perform.

22 And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

23 Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him;

24 But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on Him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

Romans 4:20-24 The BIBLE

13 We having the same Spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

II Corinthians 4:13 The BIBLE

3 For what if some did not believe? shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?

4 God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.

Romans 3:3-4 The BIBLE

It is man's responsibility to have faith (through the power and enabling of God) in what God Has written.

Hope:

49 Remember the Word unto Thy servant, upon Which Thou hast caused me to hope.

Psalm 119:49 The BIBLE

19 We have also a more sure Word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

II Peter 1:19-21 The BIBLE

Love:

15 If ye love Me, keep My commandments.

John 14: 15 The BIBLE

13 ... but the greatest of these is love.

I Corinthians 13:13b The BIBLE

All the words and Biblical teaching are insufficient to induce one to obey God. Jesus summed up the entire Word of God in one sentence, and in one verse, John 14:15, above.

God bless you as you draw near to Him.