

**Scriptures and Doctrine :: A Thought Provoking Statement****A Thought Provoking Statement, on: 2017/7/14 8:35**

I remember in a conversation with a retired pastor he made a rather controversial but yet a thought-provoking comment.

He remarked that the Bible is not a holy book. But the Bible is a book about One who is holy.

Bro Blaine

Re: A Thought Provoking Datement - posted by yuehan, on: 2017/7/14 9:27

Surely the Bible is holy, as everything written by the Holy One is holy.

Re: A Thought Provoking Statement (?), on: 2017/7/14 10:23

What is the point of calling the Bible? a "Holy Bible"? if the book itself is not holy? ... what is written in the Bible are all Holy Spirit inspired scribes and epistles...

The author of the Bible is a HOLY GOD, written by Holy Spirit filled men of God, that made the Scripture itself a holy one ...

// "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away. ~ Matthew 24:35, Jesus Christ //

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2017/7/14 10:34

Brother,

The Bible itself calls itself "Holy Scriptures"

Also calls the people of God "Holy" and the faith "Holy" and the Church "Holy."

Though it sounds nice what the pastor is saying it is not correct. But his point is the Scriptures themselves speak of the Holy God and that is true. "Beyond the Sacred page I seek Thee."

Re: - posted by havok20x, on: 2017/7/14 12:37

By sheer definition, the Bible is Holy. Holy means to be set-apart. The content within is just that, set-apart. Now, the means and methods for creating a Bible (book, scrolls, .pdf file, etc) those are not holy in and of themselves; the entirety of the contents are.

Twice the scriptures refer to themselves as holy scriptures (thanks, Greg!), and 2 different words are used for holy. One is hagios, which means holy and also is the word we use for saints (we are literally THE Holy). And Heiros, which means sacred or of divinity. Either way, scriptures themselves are holy.

We have to be careful, because if we travel down the road of saying, "The scriptures are not holy, but God is"), then we move toward idolatry. Here's how it'll play out:

- 1) Bible isn't holy
- 2) Bible isn't holy, because it was written in part by man.
- 3) Bible was written in part by man, so there are some places that are erroneous or simply opinion.
- 4) Since the bible is no longer a completely trustable authority, I can rely on my feelings to guide me where I feel like the Bible errs.
- 5) I worship God in the way that feels right, as long as it doesn't color too far outside the lines.
- 6) I define the lines.

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And boom! You have post-modernism/post-truth Christianity, where we have successfully diminished our view of scripture, and now are doing what is right in our own eyes, and worshipping a "god" of our own making.

Welcome to the USA.

Re: , on: 2017/7/14 14:34

If we say the Bible is holy then is this not opening up bibliolatry? Is this not opening up worship of the Bible?

Bro Blaine

Re: - posted by dfella (), on: 2017/7/14 15:14

That will be a YES from me for the record! I am guilty, I am an idolator from which I will not repent! LOL!

Re: A Thought Provoking Statement - posted by Lysa (), on: 2017/7/14 15:40

Considering that Gutenberg didn't invent the printing press until 1450 and the actually Holy Bible is only 567 yrs old compared to following the Lord for 4450 yrs before that, how can we say the paper is all that holy?

Come on, friends! "God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth." ~ John 4:24

God bless,
Lisa

Re: - posted by havok20x, on: 2017/7/14 21:32

The ONLY ways to make the Bible an idol is to elevate it above God or to believe that I must use the Bible as a charm to grant me access to God.

I agree with what God has decided regarding His own words:

Psa 138:2 I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have magnified Your word above all Your name.

Lysa, I most certainly agree that we must worship in spirit and truth, so my question to you is this: what is truth, what is its source, and how has the Lord chosen to convey that truth?

Re: Havok , on: 2017/7/14 21:43

â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢

Lysa, I most certainly agree that we must worship in spirit and truth, so my question to you is this: what is truth, what is its source, and how has the Lord chosen to convey that truth.

â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢

Should the question not be Who is truth? Did Jesus not say I am the way and the truth and the life and no one comes to the Father but through Me?

Is truth not in a Person? And does not that Person have a name who is called Jesus?

Bro Blaine

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Re: - posted by havok20x, on: 2017/7/14 21:54

Yes, you have answered the first two questions, brother. The third question, though, you have answered without realizing. You know those things about Jesus because of His word.

Faith comes by hearing. Hearing comes by the Word of God. The Pharisees didn't get that. They stopped at hearing and believed that just by having and knowing the scriptures that they had eternal life. THAT, my friend, is Bible idolatry.

Re: - posted by havok20x, on: 2017/7/14 21:56

Also, the Spirit works in tandem with the Scriptures. Remember: the Spirit works in our lives to bring to mind the Words of Jesus. We don't know those without the scriptures.

Re: Havok , on: 2017/7/15 5:52

â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢

Faith comes by hearing. Hearing comes by the Word of God. The Pharisees didn't get that. They stopped at hearing and believed that just by having and knowing the scriptures that they had eternal life. THAT, my friend, is Bible idolatry.

â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢â€¢

Very insightful bro. I would agree that is biblical idolatry. To have only the scriptures themselves and believe that they bring eternal life is biblical idolatry.

Jesus goes on to say that these are the scriptures that testify about me. Yet you refuse to come to me so that you may have life.

I get this picture of the Pharisees with their little pointers looking at the scrolls so intently that they could not look up and see that Jesus was the fulfillment of the Torah.

Bro Blaine

Re: - posted by Lysa (), on: 2017/7/15 7:21

Quote:
-----by havok20x
Lysa, I most certainly agree that we must worship in spirit and truth, so my question to you is this: what is truth, what is its source, and how has the Lord chosen to convey that truth?

and later...

Also, the Spirit works in tandem with the Scriptures. Remember: the Spirit works in our lives to bring to mind the Words of Jesus. We don't know those without the scriptures.

I'm not saying the Scriptures are not important b/c thank the Lord we have them but this thread was started with a thought provoking topic, "...He remarked that the Bible is not a holy book. But the Bible is a book about One who is holy." And I'm agreeing with him!

Jesus commanded them: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift the Father promised, which you have heard Me discuss. (Acts 1:4) and that gift wasn't the Bible either.

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ~ John 16.13

When the Advocate comes, whom I will send you from the Father--the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father--He will testify about Me. ~ John 15:26

I love Scripture, as you can see from what I have posted!! If we do not walk with Holy Spirit, no matter what we read will get twisted.

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God bless,
Lisa

Re: A Thought Provoking Statement - posted by Elibeth, on: 2017/7/15 14:43

Bro Bear,
My thoughts on what this man, mentioned
We know that Jesus' death was to be before hand, and was meant to be.

But 'The Words' that He spoke / preached, was also what He came to do.
(He is 'ONE' with The Word of God.)He came preaching 'The kingdom of God / heaven is at hand.'...(it is in His hand
,...it is His good pleasure to give it to us.

He was persecuted / hated / and killed, because of The Word, that He spoke.. / and the Life that He Lived, ...a life that goes w/ The Word...He Lived in a kingdom, not of this world's kingdom.

That true Life and Word brings an offense.

I have seen many times,..that there are ones that want to have a Jesus without The Word,...could it be, because with The Word, comes a responsibility to that Word ?
We no, that if we have a Jesus without The Word,...then we have another Jesus,..

The Holy Spirit that The Lord has placed within us is Word / Spirit-
A fountain of Living Water, that rises up within us, unto Life,...guides us,
(leading us by His Spirit)...
And when He teaches / speaks to us, through His Spirit, we can go to the written Word, to confirm, what He has spoken to us about.

(So we thank God for the written Word.)

elizabeth

Re: A Thought Provoking Statement, on: 2017/7/15 15:26

Brother,
that is very thought provoking. Here is a quote by Richard Wurmbbrand, founder of "The Voice of the Martyrs".....I have pondered on this too as it is similar to what you are presenting. (I can't seem to copy and paste the actual quote, but here is the page with more of his quotes)

<http://www.azquotes.com/quote/543365>

Notice that he does not deny the bible as the truth....this man had a deep love for Jesus, for the body, and much good fruit...

Re: Sheri , on: 2017/7/15 15:42

Sister here is the Richard Wurmbbrandt quote that you referenced,

â€œâ€œâ€œ The Bible is a wonderful book. It is the truth about the Truth. It is not the Truth. A sermon taken from the Bible can be a wonderful thing to hear. It is the truth about the truth about the truth. But it is not the truth. There have been many books written about the things contained in the Bible. I have written some myself. They can be quite wonderful to read. They are the truth about the truth about truth about the Truth. But they are NOT the Truth. Only Jesus Christ is the Truth. Sometimes the Truth can be drowned in a multitude of words.â€œâ€œâ€œ

Very profound indeed from a godly saint who suffered much for Jesus.

Bro Blaine

Re: , on: 2017/7/15 15:51

Also, the Spirit works in tandem with the Scriptures. Remember: the Spirit works in our lives to bring to mind the Words of Jesus. We don't know those without the scriptures.

I would agree with the above statement by bro Havok. But this started me thinking. Should our emphasis be up on the written word as in our Bible? Or should the emphasis be upon the spoken word by the Holy Spirit.

Consider the versus below,

John 3:34

For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God; for He gives the Spirit without measure.

John 6:63

It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.

Hebrews 1:1-2

God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

It seems that under the old Covenant the emphasis was on the written word. But it seems that under the New Covenant the emphasis is on the spoken Word as by the Holy Spirit. Of course Jesus being the Word.

Just my thoughts for meditation.

Bro Blaine

Re: , on: 2017/7/15 16:16

I would call it an "unhelpful statement".
It is not one or the other or what is more important.

It is "God breathed", ie the Words are from God and therefore of infinite value. You can't compare it with other writings just as you can't compare God.

There is none like You, O LORD; You are great, and great is Your name in might. Jeremiah 10:6

Jesus Himself said many times: "it is written..."

In Matthew 22:29 He said "You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God."

Re: , on: 2017/7/15 17:28

"It is "God breathed", ie the Words are from God and therefore of infinite value. You can't compare it with other writings just as you can't compare God."

I completely agree that the Word of God is "God Breathed". There isn't any other book like it. If I read the profound statement correctly, the understanding I get isn't to deny the bible in any way. When I read Richard Wurmbrand's quote, my initial thought was, "why would he say that?" But I think I understand....there are people who "worship" the bible as they do Jesus. If I remember correctly, I believe another brother from a persecuted country said the same thing..."people worshi

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p the bible"....it may have been Brother Yun. Jesus is the LIVING WORD. He absolutely inspired the bible, but we worship Jesus. I hope this helps.

Re: , on: 2017/7/15 17:57

Thank you sherry, my comments were more about the topic and not directed at your post. The statement that "the Bible is not a holy book. But the Bible is a book about One who is holy." i would call "unhelpful" rather than "thought provoking" Appreciate your comments on this forum .

Re: Mark , on: 2017/7/15 18:58

â€¢â€¢â€¢The statement that "the Bible is not a holy book. But the Bible is a book about One who is holy." i would call "unhelpful" rather than "thought provoking"â€¢â€¢â€¢

Brother, respectfully, I think it is thought provoking. I cannot really say what was in this pastor's heart when he made that statement to me. But I think he might have been thinking those Colts such as the Jehovah Witnesses, the Mormons, or the Muslims have their own Holy Book. I think he might have been implying that if we Christians are not careful, our emphasis on the Bible will be the same the Muslims who put an emphasis on the Koran.

To the Muslims their Koran is nothing but a book of rules. To us believers and followers of Jesus the Bible should be God's love letter to us that speaks of how to have a relationship with his Son. And how to live out that relationship.

Yet even in this forum there have been fierce debates over which is the one pure translation. There have been those who have tried to convince us that the KJV is the only translation to use. Thus relegating the Bible to nothing more than just a book of rules as to which rule book is the better one to use. I've often seen that those who contend for the KJV are often the most legalistic in their approach to a walk with faith with Christ.

I'm trying to understand more of a New Covenant position as to how a follower of Jesus should view the scripture. One thing that I am convinced of is that without the Holy Spirit. The Bible will become nothing more than just a glorified rulebook and inspirational stories. We need the Holy Spirit to quicken the scriptures to our heart and mind.

Again simply my thoughts on this.

Bro Blaine

Re: - posted by Elibeth, on: 2017/7/15 20:06

Bro.Bear,

I really do not know if I am understanding you rightfully,...forgive me if I am not,...please except my continuing thoughts:

...the same words that are written down, is the testimony of Jesus,..the testimony of God,..Words that came out of His mouth and life. (Life)

He said, His Word is One.

That God' Word is very Pure,.. whether I am reading it or The Lord is speaking to me through The Spirit. ...every Word of God is very Pure.

Doesn't it just quicken our spirit, while we are reading it ?

Yes,it is the written Word,...it aligns with the quicken Word that is within.

The testimonies of Jesus-

For Instructions in righteousness-

To confirm what He says / instructions-

The comfort of the scriptures-

Rom.15:4,

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of scripture might have hope."

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(in most gentleness I speak),...why should we not just worship His Word?...it is One...it is Truth.

I hold The written Word ,my dearest possession of material things,although I know that I have His Spirit / Word within,should His written Word be taken away.

Lovingly,

elizabeth

Re: The Bible is not a Holy book? - posted by SugarRun (), on: 2017/7/17 9:41

Could that statement simple mean not to superstitiously think this printed and bound word of God is an object to actually hold up to ward off evil?

Some do this similar thing with a crucifix. One I know actually thought the Bible protected their home.~ eileen

Re: - posted by Lysa (), on: 2017/7/17 15:31

Quote:

-----by Elibeth

(in most gentleness I speak),...why should we not just worship His Word?...it is One...it is Truth.

I can only speak for myself about my experiences of why I won't worship the paper pages of my Bible, even though I love my Bible.

I live in the buckle of the bible belt and I've known too many people who have worshiped the paper more than they worshiped the Son of the Living God. They will kill people over a verse rather than give life to someone and they run more people away from God than they draw to Him. That is my reason, be that as it may.

2 Cor 3:5-6

Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of God; who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for THE LETTER KILLS, BUT THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE. (emphasis Lisa's)

I do love my Bible and have several and I teach at my local jail for the girls to read it, and no, they do not know my feelings. But I also teach them to take their problems to the shower (their only private place) and cry out unto the One who can cleanse them and make them whole.

God bless,

Lisa

Re: C.H Spurgeon - posted by proudpapa, on: 2017/7/17 15:51

The fact is that churches have made mistakes as well as individual men, and have fallen into grievous errors both in practice and doctrine. Look at the churches of Galatia, Corinth, Laodicea, Hardis, and so on; nay, we find that the first disciples of our Lord, who made up the truly primitive and apostolic church, were not infallible, they made a great mistake about a simple saying of our Lord. He said concerning John, "If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?" "Then went this saying abroad among the brethren, that that disciple should not die: yet Jesus said not unto him, He shall not die; but, If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee?" Even the apostles themselves could blunder, and did blunder. They were infallible in what they wrote when they were under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, but at no other time. Yet, brethren, I marvel not that in the sore distress to which the mind is often brought, it is found better to believe in an infallible church than to be left to mere reason, to be tossed to and fro, a desolate waif, driven by ever changeful winds over the awful leagues of questionings which are found in the restless ocean of unbelief. Longing as I do for a sure foundation, and rejecting both popes and councils, where shall I look?

We have a more sure word of testimony, a rock of truth upon which we rest, for our infallible standard lies in, ~~it~~ is written. ~~The~~ Bible, the whole Bible, and nothing but the Bible, is our religion. It is said that it is hard to be understood, but it is not so to those who seek the guidance of the Spirit of God. There are in it great truths which are above our comprehension, placed there on purpose to let us see how shallow are our finite minds, but concerning vital and fundamental points the Bible is not hard to be understood, neither is there any excuse for the multitudes of errors which men pretend to have gathered from it. A babe in grace taught by the Spirit of God may know the mind of the Lord concerning salvation, and find its way to heaven by the guidance of the word alone. But be it profound or simple, that is not the question; it is the word of God, and is pure, unerring truth. Here is infallibility, and nowhere else.

Menno Simons - posted by proudpapa, on: 2017/7/17 16:09

"Again, I have no visions or angelic revelations, neither do I seek or desire such, lest I be thereby deceived. For Christ's Word alone is sufficient for me. If I do not follow His testimony, then verily all is lost. And even if I had such revelations, which is not the case, they could not deviate from the Word and spirit of Christ, or else they would be only imagination, seduction and satanic deception." - Menno Simons

add :

"Inasmuch as I daily see these terrible dangers, and from the beginning many an unwise soul has been misled, and many are yet misled by false prophecies, smooth words, seeming holiness, lying wonders, boasting and false promises of the antichrists and false prophets who under the cloak of God's Word have ever sought their own honor and advantage, as was the case with the Romish popes, with John of Leyden at Münster and with others, - therefore I deem it needful and well sincerely to warn and admonish my beloved readers, not to accept my doctrine as the Gospel of Jesus Christ until they have investigated for themselves and found it to agree with the Spirit and Word of the Lord, that their faith may not be founded on me nor on any other teacher or writer, but solely on Jesus Christ." - Menno Simons

Re: Menno Simons - posted by Christinyou (), on: 2017/7/18 21:37

The Holy Spirit through Peter speaks it plainly. It is the Word of God that saves us, "spoken by the Holy Spirit to the heart".

1 Peter 1:22-25 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. 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: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

By the "Word" of God, this "Word" is Logos.

1 Peter 1:23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

Logos; this is "the divine expression of Jesus Christ" as in John 1; "the Word was God". This is the living Word which the Holy Spirit seal and birthing by the Father, the incorruptible Seed birthed in each of us who believe, this living word is the Words of Life, and can be used to preach Christ in any language, This I believe is what tongues is all about.

The "word" in verse 25 is hray-mah which is the written word preached by what cannot be preached without a Preacher.

Holy Spirit preached or man preached, it is all Holy, including the words on the page which is for our learning and remembering the Holiness of Jesus Christ, the Father and the Holy Spirit.

In Christ: Phillip

Re: - posted by rbanks, on: 2017/7/18 23:50

Psalms 138:2

2 I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise -- thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

John 1:1

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

2 Timothy 3:16-17

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.

This will be my one and only post on this thread because I would never consider such a statement as thought provoking but very unprofitable as this thread is doing no good for people who are suppose to believe that God's Word is Holy and the only way for salvation and for us to be presented Holy unto the Lord.

The Holy Spirit always exalts Jesus who is the Word and would never inspire such a statement but it only could have come from the fleshly nature of man. Not accusing the man of not being saved but we must understand our flesh can some times get in the way.

The Bible is a Holy library of 66 Holy Books inspired by a Holy God. I cringe at the thought of even suggesting that God's Word is not Holy. We do not say that the books of the Bible contain the Word of God but that it is the Word of God and never should we even suggest it is unholy. We should perish the thought and even consider it close to blasphemy when the Holy Spirit and the Word are One.

Blessings to all...and I do hope that you will give this thread a sudden death...and don't even give it a proper funeral because it is not even worthy to be consider of any profitability to anyone or worthy of Him who is a consuming fire of all that is unholy.

Re: , on: 2017/7/19 7:57

â€¢â€¢â€¢ We do not say that the books of the Bible contain the Word of God but that it is the Word of God and never should we even suggest it is unholy. We should perish the thought and even consider it close to blasphemy when the Holy Spirit and the Word are One.â€¢â€¢â€¢

If I did not know any better it would seem the above statement would imply worship of the written Bible. This almost would imply a new meaning of the Trinity which is Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Bible.

It would seem that worship of the written Bible itself is more blasphemous. We are called To Worship the Living Word. The Living Word is Jesus Himself.

In the book of Revelation we are told that He has a name. And His name is the Word of God. That is the risen Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ, The Living Word, is the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is not the Holy Bible.

Simply my thoughts. Thoughts that would have gotten me burned at the stake and probably still will. But my confession is Jesus is Lord. My confession is He the Living Word. And my confession is the scriptures are that which give wisdom in how one is to have faith and life in His name. But my confession is it is the Living Word Jesus Himself who is to be worshipped and not the written word.

Again simply my thoughts.

Bro Blaine

Re: - posted by Heydave (), on: 2017/7/19 8:51

Bearmaster wrote: "Simply my thoughts. Thoughts that would have gotten me burned at the stake and probably still will. But my confession is Jesus is Lord. My confession is He the Living Word. And my confession is the scriptures are that which give wisdom in how one is to have faith and life in His name. But my confession is it is the Living Word Jesus Himself who is to be worshipped and not the written word."

You err in your knowledge of church history. Those who were burnt at the stake, were because they upheld the 'Word of God' as the ultimate authority for truth. Your low view of scripture would be in line with the Roman Catholic persecutors, so I think you will be OK when it comes to having to deny the authority of scripture.

Re: , on: 2017/7/19 10:35

~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~ You err in your knowledge of church history. Those who were burnt at the stake, were because they upheld the 'Word of God' as the ultimate authority for truth. Your low view of scripture would be in line with the Roman Catholic persecutors, so I think you will be OK when it comes to having to deny the authority of scripture.~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~

Dave they were burned at the stake not that they worshipped the Bible. They were burned at the stake because they worshipped Him who was the author of The Bible.

It is the same with our persecuted brethren in today. Though they will risk death it won't a copy of the scriptures. They realize it is the Living Word they risk death for and not the book itself.

The Roman Catholics never acknowledged Jesus Christ as the Living Word who dwelt in one's heart. That is the Living Word who dwells in their heart by faith. So to equate my view with that of Roman Catholicism is simply not correct.

What I see as those who hold to a high view of scripture is almost equated to a worship of scripture itself. Again perhaps their idea of the Trinity is Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Bible.

It would seem that there are those who interpret John 1:1 as in the beginning was the Bible and the Bible was God and the Bible was with God.

As ridiculous as that might sound. I wonder if there are those who worship the Bible on a par with worshipping Christ Himself.

Scriptures are a testimony of Christ himself. The scriptures point is to Christ who is the Living Word. But the scriptures do not give us eternal life nor are they to be worshipped. There is only one who commands our worship and that is the Living Word Himself. There is one who gives us eternal life. That is Jesus Christ Himself.

My thoughts.

Bro Blaine

Re: - posted by proudpapa, on: 2017/7/19 11:11

RE : /// Dave they were burned at the stake not that they worship the Bible. They were burned at the stake because they worshipped Him who was the author of The Bible.///

They were burned at the stake because of their stance on the Authority of Scripture and their realization that True Spirituality and Faith comes from reading/hearing and then believing God's Word.

Lets not speculate.

Read the writings of men who were burned at the stake such as Tyndale and what they believed about the authority of Scriptures :

'THE OBEDIENCE OF A CHRISTIAN MAN' by William Tyndale :

<https://www.richard-2782.net/obediencechristianman.pdf>

William Tyndale : "God's words are spiritual" (In other words it is Holy) - posted by proudpapa, on: 2017/7/19 11:28

"God is a Spirit, and all his words are spiritual, His literal sense is spiritual, and all his words are spiritual. When you read (Mat 1.21) "She shall bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins:" this literal sense is spiritual, and everlasting life to as many as believe it. And the literal sense of these words, (Mat 5.7) "Blessed are they merciful, for they shall have mercy;" these words are spiritual and life, by which those who are merciful may rightly, by the truth and promise of God, challenge for mercy. It is like these words, Mat 6.15, "If you forgive other men their sins, your heavenly Father shall forgive you yours." And so it is with all the promises of God. Finally, all God's words are spiritual, if you have the eyes of God to see the right meaning of the text, and what the Scripture pertains to, and the final end and cause of it. All Scripture contains the promises and testament of God in Christ, and the stories pertaining to that testament are to strengthen your faith; or else the law and the stories pertaining to it are to frighten you from doing evil. There is no story or tale in Scripture, however simple or vile to the world, that you will not find spirit and life in it, and edification in the literal sense. For it is God's Scripture, written for your learning and comfort. There is no cloth or rag there that does not have precious relics wrapped in it of faith, hope, patience and long suffering, and of the truth of God, and also of his righteousness." - William Tyndale

Re: A Thought Provoking Statement - posted by Lysa (), on: 2017/7/19 11:50

I wanted to add something, I love the precious word of God and the Word of God. Many of you who say we should worship the written word of God, and I'm wondering if you pray that word of God?

I only ask because people have posted threads on SI about "claiming" the word of God in their life and believe what the Bible says about healing and other topics but man o man, do they shot down in this forum and branded as "word of faith."

I see a tremendous gulf in how you allow yourselves freedom to worship or love your Bible but not another. Can you explain to me and others the difference between you worshipping your Bible and them worshipping theirs?

I ready, willing and able to read your responses.

Re: William Tyndale : "God's words are spiritual" (In other words it is H, on: 2017/7/19 11:50

They were Burned at the stake because of there stance on the Authority of Scripture and There realization that True Spirituality and Faith comes from reading/hearing and than believing Gods Word.

The worship of the Bible and not of Christ.

Bro Blaine

Re: William Tyndale : "God's words are spiritual" (In other words it is H - posted by Heydave (), on: 2017/7/19 11:51

Quote bearmaster: "If we say the Bible is holy then is this not opening up bibliolatry? Is this not opening up worship of the Bible?"

NO. This statement you made early on in this thread is a completely wrong conclusion and shows what you really wanted to address. However it is a false connection. In trying to expose an error (that we don't see much of) of folk actually worshipping the bible, you make an equally dangerous error of denigrating the scriptures. Of course the bible is Holy, if you understand what 'Holy' means, i.e separate, unique and not like any other. In the same way (as Greg previously pointed out) God is Holy and His people are Holy.

In your zeal to be controversial you are in danger of reducing the bible to just another book that points us to Christ. So is Pilgrims Progress or Tozer's The pursuit of God on an equal level as the Bible? If not why not?

This is just another pointless thread that ends up undermining the truth.

Re: Some Random Thoughts., on: 2017/7/19 12:40

~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~The Bible is a Holy library of 66 Holy Books inspired by a Holy God. I cringe at the thought of even suggesting that God's Word is not Holy. We do not say that the books of the Bible contain the Word of God but that it is the Word of God and never should we even suggest it is unholy. We should perish the thought and even consider it close to blasphemy when the Holy Spirit and the Word are One.~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~

Acts 6:13

~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~This man incessantly speaks against this holy place and the law,~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~

The Jews worshipped the temple and the law. Â Is the Bible being put upon a pedestal to be worshipped?

Jesus said to the Pharisees in John 5:39-40,

~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~ You search the scriptures Â because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me and you are unwilling to come to Me Â so that you may have life.~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~Â

The Jews possess the law and they believe that by studying the law they had eternal life. Is this the same attitude that is being placed on the Bible? That by possessing and studying the Bible one has eternal life?

~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~Â This is just another pointless thread that ends up undermining the truth.~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~

I assume the statement above refers to undermining the truth of the Bible. That was never the intention of this thread. Al so did not Jesus say in John 14:6

~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~ I am the way and the truth and the life; no one comes to the father but through Me.~~â€œâ€œâ€œ~~

Truth is found in a Person and His name is Jesus. He is the truth. Â The Bible may contain truth about Jesus. Butto quote Richard Wurmbrandt, the Bible is the truth about the Truth. The ultimate truth is found in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

So here is a question. Â How did the first century Church in Acts function without a Bible of 66 books? For that matter how did the first century church in Acts function without a complete New Testament?

To the best of my knowledge the completed Bible did not come about until about the middle of the second or third centuries. Thus the church functioned without a completed Bible for at least a century or two. Â

So again the question how did the first century church function without a Bible? And particularly how could the first century church function without a Bible and accomplish what they did?Â

We consider ourselves blessed because we have all 66 books of the Bible. Yet are we walking in the same Apostolic power that the first century Church did?

Is it possible that the first century church functioned without a written Bible because they had living Word Himarlf, Jesus, working through those first century hearts that were yielded to Him?

Bro BlaineÂ

- posted by proudpapa, on: 2017/7/19 13:49

The higher critics view that the Scriptures only purpose is to point us to Jesus is the root of liberal christian thinking.

read this artical by the huffington post and you will find the exact same arguments, misrepresentations that has been used in this thread :

Worshiping God, Not the Bible :

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/matt-idom/the-bible-vital-tool-or-m_b_814058.html

1.) The Bibles Purpose is simply to point us to God

RE : /// He remarked that the Bible is not a holy book. But the Bible is a book about One who is holy.///

huffington post :

"But, I must always remember, it is not through the bible that I am found. No, that is more about the one God I understand the bible to be revealing."

2.) Accusing those whom disagree of (bibliolatry):

RE : /// If we say the Bible is holy then is this not opening up bibliolatry? Is this not opening up worship of the Bible? ///

huffington post :

"It was, I believe, Robert Schuler who warned Christians to beware of "bibliolatry."

3.) KJV strawman

RE : /// Yet even in this forum there have been fierce debates over which is the one pure translation. There have been those who have tried to convince us that the KJV is the only translation to use. Thus relegating the Bible to nothing more than just a book of rules as to which rule book is the better one to use. I've often seen that those who contend for the KJV are often the most legalistic in their approach to a walk with faith with Christ.///

huffington post :

"I will never forget standing up to read the scripture from the bible my bishop had given me when a member of the church stood up and shouted at me: "That's what's wrong with you seminary boys. You don't read from the real bible!" He got up and left in an angry huff. Of course, the "real" bible was the King James bible."

4.) The misleading accusation that those whom disagree : would imply a new meaning of the Trinity

RE : /// If I did not know any better it would seem the above statement would imply worship of the written Bible. This almost would imply a new meaning of the Trinity which is Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Bible.///

huffington post :

"It was, I believe, Robert Schuler who warned Christians to beware of "bibliolatry". That is, worshipping the bible to the same degree that we worship the God the bible reveals. To be consistent, that means remembering the Trinity only has three sides, not four."

Re: , on: 2017/7/19 16:55

Luke 4:16-21

And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written,

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME,
BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR.
HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES,
AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND,
TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED,
TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD."

And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The hearers of Jesus were so fixated on the written word. They could not see Him who was the Living Word standing in front of them. They did not realize that it was Jesus who is the word of God who fulfilled the written word of the Old Testament.

We have the same thing in modern-day Christendom. There is so much focus on the written word, the Bible. That one fails to see Jesus as the fulfillment of the scriptures. One fails to see Jesus as the Living Word of whom the scriptures testify.

Bro Blaine

Re: - posted by proudpapa, on: 2017/7/19 18:27

RE : /// We have the same thing in modern-day Christendom. There is so much focus on the written word, the Bible. That one fails to see Jesus as the fulfillment of the scriptures. One fails to see Jesus as the Living Word of whom the scriptures testify.///

No!

Modern Christendom's view about the Scriptures is exactly what the Huffington Post article put forth :

Worshiping God, Not the Bible :
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/matt-idom/the-bible-vital-tool-or-m_b_814058.html

Robert Schuler would be an excellent example of one whom sought to be spiritual apart from the Scriptures, If need be we can look at him and others everything from Norman Peal to H. E. Fosdick to Loyola etc. on those whom relied on their own personal spiritual experiences apart from the Scripture

and we can compare those to those whom spiritual experiences originated and revolved around believing the Scripture to be God's Word and believing the promises contained in it. such as Tyndale, Bunyan, Spurgeon etc.

Re: - posted by Heydave (), on: 2017/7/20 5:45

Blain,

Please can you answer this previous question.

"So is Pilgrims Progress or Tozer's The pursuit of God on an equal level as the Bible? If not why not?"

Re: - posted by StirltUp (), on: 2017/7/20 7:42

Brother Bear, quote " One fails to see Jesus as the Living Word of whom the scriptures testify."

Surely this is not the fault of the Scriptures and do not make them any less "God breathed" ?

You yourself are continually quoting from those very scriptures to back up your argument, which I am sure we all grasp.

Our lack of spiritual perception and faith and Pharisaical pride and hard heartedness do not negate the purity of the Scriptures.

I can also say that I was not saved by the Scriptures but rather by a Mighty working of the Spirit of God revealing Christ in me, however now that I am saved I understand what the scriptures are about and can spiritually discern their value. Now I see clearly I understand they are the very Words of the Living God.

God bless,

Re: - posted by docs (), on: 2017/7/20 7:57

Scriptures are the very words of the living God. Amen! Just as He intended. What will God say to you that is not in Scripture?

Re: , on: 2017/7/20 11:33

""""""Our lack of spiritual perception and faith and Pharisaical pride and hard heartedness do not negate the purity of the Scriptures.

I can also say that I was not saved by the Scriptures but rather by a Mighty working of the Spirit of God revealing Christ in me, however now that I am saved I understand what the scriptures are about and can spiritually discern their value. Now I see clearly I understand they are the very Words of the Living God. """"""

Brother, you stated that so well. When I read the original post, I didn't see it the way many of you are taking it. I saw it as the pastor giving God the Father ALL the glory for the written scriptures. Yes the scriptures are absolutely HOLY, but just as Lisa stated, its not the paper and the binding that makes them holy...His Word was Holy before it was put on paper....does that make any sense? . That is how I honestly understood the OP. Even if a bible was destroyed, the Word of God lasts for ever...and nothing compares to the Word. Im so very thankful for the written Word of God, as it is VERY precious to me, but it's what I do with the Word, and it's up to me to hide it in my heart. I am so sorry if you took the words I said as meaning the bible doesn't have value....no, no,, no.....you completely misunderstood, and I should have been more clear...Forgive me for that. I love Jesus with ALL of my heart and I love you all.

Also, I won't compromise the convictions I have, I do fear the Lord. If I see someone going the wrong direction, I want to extend the same hand of mercy Jesus extended to me, even if it doesn't make sense to my flesh. It doesn't mean I agree with sin, no not at all. I hate sin. I do have compassion for the lost, because I too, was lost in sin and needed someone to show me mercy and compassion through the love of Jesus.

This makes me think about a testimony I heard not long ago....

I remember Brother Yun sharing a testimony about something that happened in China. There were so many denominations. The believers were all at odds with one another over different things scripturally speaking. The division was so bad, the Lord allowed all of the church buildings, the bibles, and the hymnals to be destroyed. Many ended up in prison. The Lord tore down what man built, so He could build His church. It was many years later that revival broke out.

We cannot see one another hearts, nor can we hear the tone we use on the forum.

With much love in Christ Jesus,

Spurgeon on Hebrews 4:12. - posted by proudpapa, on: 2017/7/20 14:01

"...This shows us a great Truth of God which we might not otherwise have so clearly noted. How much that can be said of the Lord Jesus may be also said of the inspired volume! How closely are these two allied! How certainly do those who despise the one reject the other! How intimately are the Word made flesh and the Word uttered by inspired men, joined together!

It may be most accurate to interpret this passage as relating both to the Word of God Incarnate and the Word of God Inspired. Weave the two into one thought, for God has joined them together, and you will then see fresh lights and new meanings in the text. The Word of God, namely, this Revelation of Himself in Holy Scripture, is all it is here described to be, because Jesus, the Incarnate Word of God, is in it. He does, as it were, incarnate Himself as the Divine Truth in this visible and manifest Revelation. And thus it becomes living and powerful, dividing and discerning.

As the Christ reveals God, so this Book reveals Christ, and therefore it partakes, as the Word of God, in all the attributes of the Incarnate Word. And we may say many of the same things of the written Word as of the embodied Word. In fact, they are now so linked together that it would be impossible to divide them. This I like to think of, because there are some nowadays who deny every doctrine of Revelation and yet, indeed, they praise the Christ. The Teacher is spoken of in the most flattering style and then His teaching is rejected, except so far as it may coincide with the philosophy of the moment.

They talk much about Jesus, while that which is the real Jesus, namely, His Gospel and His inspired Word, they cast away. I believe I do but correctly describe them when I say that, like Judas, they betray the Son of Man with a kiss. They even go so far as to cry up the names of the doctrines, though they use them in a different sense that they may deceive. They talk of loyalty to Christ and reverence for the Sermon on the Mount but they use vain words. I am charged with soiling suspicion. I do sow it and desire to sow it. Too many Christian people are content to hear anything so long as it is put forth by a clever man, in a taking manner.

I want them to try the spirits, whether they are of God, for many false prophets have gone forth into the world. What God has joined together, these modern thinkers willfully put asunder and separate the Revealer from His own Revelation. I believe the Savior thinks their homage to be more insulting than their scorn would be. Well may He do so, for they bow before Him and say, "Hail, Master!" while their foot is on the blood of His Covenant and their souls abhor the doctrine of His substitutionary sacrifice.

They are crucifying the Lord afresh and putting Him to an open shame by denying the Lord that bought them, by daring to deride His purchase of His people as a mercantile transaction, and I know not what of blasphemy beside. Christ and His Word must go together. What is true of the Christ is here predicated both of Him and of His Word. Behold this day the everlasting Gospel has Christ within it. He rides in it as in a chariot. He rides in it as, of old, Jehovah did ride upon a cherub and did fly "yes, He did fly upon the wings of the wind." It is only because Jesus is not dead that the Word becomes living and effectual, "and sharper than any two-edged sword."

If you leave Christ out of it, you have left out its vitality and power. As I have told you that we will not have Christ without the Word, so neither will we have the Word without Christ. If you leave Christ out of Scripture, you have left out the essential Truth of God which it is written to declare. Yes, if you leave out of it Christ as a Substitute, Christ in His death, Christ in His garments dyed in blood, you have left out of it all that is living and powerful. How often have we reminded you that as concerning the Gospel, even as concerning every man, "the blood is the life thereof" a bloodless Gospel is a lifeless Gospel!"

Scriptures and Doctrine :: A Thought Provoking Statement

Re: - posted by StirltUp (), on: 2017/7/20 15:33

Dear sister,

I, for one, did not think any of you were disparaging the Scriptures.

I do understand where bro Bear was coming from.

I was just wanting to give a balanced view, my two cents...

Blessings,