**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | How to Know the Bible is the Word of God |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | 2 Timothy 3:16 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #5817 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
   1. 2 Timothy 3:16
      1. You will never be any greater in your Christian life that your conviction concerning the Word of God.
   2. The Bible is not the book of the month; it is the book of the ages.
      1. It has out-lived, out-loved, out-lifted, out-reached and out-ranked all other books put together.
      2. We read the Bible and the Bible reads us.
   3. Man has only three problems: sin, sorrow and death.
      1. All other problems are a subset of one of these.
      2. The Bible is the only book that has the answer to these three problems.
   4. There is a war against the Bible today.
      1. Some despise it.
         1. They hate the Bible for some reason and wish it were obliterated.
      2. Some deny it.
         1. They do not believe it is the inspired Word of God.
      3. Some distort it.
         1. They massacre the Bible with different interpretations
         2. One way to know the Bible is the Word of God: it has stoop up under so much shoddy preaching.
      4. Some dissect it.
         1. They view the Bible as a math book rather than a love story.
         2. They try to pick it apart piece by piece.
      5. Some disregard it.
         1. They give lip service to the Bible, but they do not really study it.
         2. Many Christians spend more time with their newspapers than their Bibles.
            1. Even though they know much in the newspaper is not true and they claim to believe that everything in the Bible is true.
   5. You will not be any bigger, any better, and stronger than your belief in the Word of God.
   6. Why is it so important to understand that the Bible is the Word of God?
      1. Your salvation depends on it.
         1. Salvation is based on the Gospel and the Gospel comes out of the Word of God.
         2. Apart from Gospel Truth, no one is saved.
      2. If you want to see somebody saved, you have to give them something to believe.
         1. You give them the Word of God.
            1. Romans 10:17
      3. Your growth as a Christian depends on the Word of God.
         1. 1 Peter 2:2
      4. Your sanctification depends on the Word of God.
         1. John 17:17
      5. Your assurance depends on the Word of God.
         1. 1 John 5:13
2. because of scientific accuracy
   1. Some believe the Bible cannot be scientifically accurate because it was written thousands of years ago.
      1. The Bible has not always agreed with the days current scientific thought.
      2. In the Louvre in Paris, there are 3 ½ miles of scientific books.
         1. Many of these books are now obsolete because science is ever-changing.
         2. What is scientific fact in one era may not be in another era.
      3. A pamphlet from the French Academy of Science printed in 1861 listed 51 incontrovertible facts that prove the Bible scientifically wrong.
         1. Today, scientists dismiss all 51 of those statements as false.
      4. When a scientist says a good word about the Bible, that does not give us more faith in the Bible; only a little more faith in the scientist.
   2. We take for granted that the Earth is suspended in space.
      1. The ancient Egyptians believed the Earth was supported on five pillars.
      2. The ancient Greeks believed that the Earth rested on the back of Atlas.
      3. The ancient Hindus believed the Earth rested on the backs of huge elephants.
         1. The elephants were standing on the back of a huge tortoise.
         2. The tortoise was standing on the back of a huge serpent.
         3. The serpent was swimming in a cosmic sea.
      4. Job 26:7
         1. God suspended the Earth in space, hanging upon nothing.
   3. We take for granted that the Earth is a sphere.
      1. In times past there were scientific groups called Flat Earth Societies that believed the Earth was flat.
      2. People in the time of Columbus feared he would sail off the edge of the world.
      3. Isaiah 40:22
         1. “Circle” is this passage means sphere or globe’
   4. We take it for granted that the stars are uncountable in human number.
      1. 150 years before Christ, Hipparchus claimed to have counted the stars; numbered at 1,022.
      2. 250 years later, Ptolemy double-checked the work and called the number “absurd,” stating that there were actually 1,026.
      3. 1,300 years later, Galileo created the first crude telescope and was able to see stars beyond stars beyond stars that were uncountable.
      4. The Hubble telescope has taken images of stars millions of light years away.
      5. Jeremiah 33:22
   5. We take it for granted that the blood in our body is a river of life.
      1. Blood carries food to the cells.
      2. Blood carries waste from the cells.
      3. Blood carries energy to the cells.
      4. Blood fights disease.
      5. Blood maintains a constant temperature in the body.
      6. Not until William Harvey in 1615 do scientists know that the blood circulates in the body.
      7. In relatively recent times, when people were sick they would often attribute it to bad blood and doctors would bleed them.
         1. Bloodletting was attributed for the death of President George Washington.
         2. Leviticus 17:14
            1. The blood is the life of all flesh.
         3. “None of These Diseases” written by Dr. S.I. McMillan, studied medical practices and scientific truths found in the Pentateuch; the first five books of the Bible.
            1. He focused on these because they were written by Moses.

Moses had been educated in Egypt.

* + - * 1. The Egyptians practiced embalming and even brain surgery.

These practices can be found in the “Papyrus Ebers.”

This contained much of the medical knowledge of the Egyptians.

* + - * 1. Some of the practices found in the Papyrus Ebers:

To prevent hair from turning gray, anoint with the blood of a black cat which has been boiled in oil or with the fat of a rattlesnake.

To prevent losing hair, apply a mixture of six fats: horse fat, hippopotamus fat, crocodile fat, cat fat, snake fat and eyebex fat.

To strengthen your hair, anoint with the tooth of a donkey that has been crushed in honey.

To remove a splinter, apply a mixture of worms’ blood and donkey dung to the site of the wound.

Other common “drugs” used by the Egyptians:

Lizard blood

Pig’s teeth

Rotten meat

Moisture from pig’s ears

Milk

Goose grease

Donkey hooves

Excreta from animals and humans

* + - 1. In the Middle Ages, the Bubonic Plague killed millions of people.
         1. Leviticus 13:46
         2. Sickly people were quarantined in order to protect those that were not sick.

This practice helped to subside the infection and death rates from Bubonic Plague.

* + - 1. In 1840, a hospital in Vienna was experiencing high rates of maternity deaths.
         1. The new head of the hospital, Dr. Phillip Semmelweis, instituted a policy of washing hands before pregnant mothers were examined.

Doctors were starting there days in the morgue and then going straight to the maternity ward without washing their hands.

* + - * 1. The mortality rate dropped from 1 out of every 5 to 1 out of every 84 within a year simply because of washing hands.
        2. When 11 out of 12 died in a row, even after washing their hands after leaving the morgue, Semmelweis instructed doctors to wash after every patient.
        3. Numbers 19:14-19

Warns about contamination from dead bodies and how to isolate those that had come into close contact.

1. because of historical accuracy
   1. The Bible is not primarily a book of science.
      1. The Bible is not written to tell us how the heavens go; it is written to tell us how to get to Heaven.
      2. But, the God who wrote the Bible is also the God of all science.
      3. John 3:12
   2. The Bible is also not primarily a history book.
      1. But it is historically correct.
      2. It is His story.
   3. Dr. S.R. Driver said it was impossible for Moses to have written the first five books of the Bible because man did not know how to write at that time.
      1. Dr. Matthew Petrie studied some tablets found in Northern Egypt.
         1. These were letters written between people in Egypt and Palestine.
      2. This proved that people at the time of Moses knew how to write.
   4. In the book of Daniel, Belshazzar is having a feast when a hand appears and writes upon a wall.
      1. Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upsharsin.
         1. “You have been weighed in the balances and found wanting. Your kingdom is coming to an end.”
      2. Daniel is summoned to translate the writing and told that if he can do so, he will be made the third ruler of the kingdom.
      3. Historians claimed that that was impossible because no historical records of Babylon mention a king named Belshazzar.
      4. Historians claim that Nabonidus was the last king of Babylon.
      5. Again, in the 1880’s, a set of clay cylinders were discovered that not only proved the existence of Belshazzar, but that he indeed ruled Babylon with his father; they were co-regents.
         1. Nabonidus was away from the kingdom for most of his reign and left his oldest son, Belshazzar, in power during his absence.
         2. This makes the statement in the book of Daniel by Belshazzar to make Daniel the “third” ruler of Babylon historically accurate.
   5. Had the cylinders with the name of Belshazzar not been found, would that have made the Bible any less true? No.
      1. The Bible is true even without archeological evidence backing it up.
   6. The Bible is historically true.
      1. You can bank on the record of the Word of God.
2. CONCLUSION
   1. How will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?
      1. If you turn from God’s Word, there is no escape for you.
   2. What will you do with Jesus who is called the Christ?
      1. You will ignore Him or listen to Him.
      2. You will accept Him or Reject Him.
      3. You will crown Him or Crucify Him.
      4. You will have to make a decision about Him.
         1. To decide not to decide is a decision.
   3. What must I do to be saved?
      1. Acts 16:31
   4. You can know the Bible is the Word of God because God tells us so.
   5. If you will trust Jesus, He will save you instantaneously, He will be with you continually, and He will keep you eternally.
   6. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
   7. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
      1. Romans 3:23
      2. Romans 10:9-10
      3. Romans 10:13
      4. Acts 16:31
      5. John 3:16