

“The Inspiration of the Bible”

Adapted by: Michael R. Hughes

Text: I Corinthians 2:11-16

Theme: To stress the inspired nature of the Bible.

Introduction:

1. Read *The Temple of God's Revelation*.
2. All we know about the Godhead, heaven, origin, destiny of man comes from studying the Bible.
3. Lesson to strengthen faith and to enhance respect for the Bible as the inspired word of God.

Discussion:

- I. The Bible as a literary production.
 - A. Antiquity: Among the oldest books.
 1. Events transpired before pyramids built.
 2. David, Solomon, before the Trojan wars and wanderings of Ulyses.
 3. Most written before the Athens library in the 6th Century B.C.
 4. Isaiah to Malachi—before Plato, Socrates, Aristotle.
 5. As applicable today as 1900 years ago.
 - B. Its unity: 66 books by 40 different writers.
 1. Disadvantages, harmony. (Cf. sculptors, painters put works together over centuries, make perfect figures and paintings.)
 2. Simplicity vs. scientific terms. (Yet profound)
 3. Translated into over 1,000 tongues, dialects.
 4. Does not become obsolete.

II. The indestructibility of the Bible.

- A. Efforts of Voltaire, Paine, etc.
- B. Efforts of Roman Catholic Church, then and now.
- C. Efforts to defeat in apostolic times, modernists now.

III. Claims of the Bible for inspiration.

- A. Man could not, would not; write it. Supernatural.
- B. "God spake," "thus saith the Lord," 2,500 such in the Old Testament alone.
- C. Bible writers never claimed credit for originating writings.
 - 1. "The Spirit of the Lord spake by me" - II Samuel 23:2.
 - 2. "Which things we also teach" - I Corinthians 2:13.
 - 3. "For the prophecy came not in old time" - II Peter 1:21.
 - 4. "...I have put words in thy mouth" - Jeremiah 1:9.
- D. Our Lord endorsed the Old Testament - Luke 24:44.
 - 1. Approved the record of creation - Matthew 19:4.
 - 2. Corroborated the flood - Matthew 24:37,38.
 - 3. Confirmed the account of Jonah - Matthew 12:40.
- E. Confirmed as God's word - Hebrews 1:1-4.

IV. Evidences of inspiration.

- A. Impartiality of its contents.
 - 1. Moses. Numbers 20:10-12. Yet only Old Testament person so connected with Christ as in Revelation 5:3, Song of Moses and the Lamb.
 - 2. David's sins. II Samuel 2.
 - 3. Peter's denial, hypocrisy.
 - 4. Examples I Corinthians 10:11; Romans 2:11.
- B. No effort to satisfy human curiosity.
 - 1. What did Jesus write? John 8:1-8.
 - 2. What did Paul see? II Corinthians 12:1-4.
 - 3. Dorcas, others.

- C. Anticipated and answered error of all kinds.
1. Cup denied "laity" - Matthew 26:27; Mark 14:23; I Corinthians 1.
 2. Maryolatry (A.D. 788) - Luke 18:20,21.
 3. Purgatory - Luke 16:26 (A.D. 1438).
 4. Mediatorship - I Timothy 2:5. And this present notion of a coredeematrix (i.e. Mary).
 5. Priesthood - I Peter 2:9.
 6. Supererogation - Luke 17:10.
 7. Meats and marrying - I Timothy 4:1-3.
 8. Denominational division - I Corinthians 1:10-13; 3:1-3.

Conclusion:

1. God is supreme.
 2. The word of God is our supreme law.
 3. We shall be judged by it; let us live by it
- Invitation:

Bibliography:

From sermon originally by Roy J. Hearn.