

The Good News

August 26th, 2018

Volume 18, Issue 34

Trusting in the Bible

By Michael McCleeary

n one of our sermons last Sunday we discussed how that there are many vital aspects of our faith that are truly based on trust and hope. We have personally never seen anyone raised from the dead or even physical "proof" that God even exists aside from nature itself. All we have is the promise of God found in His word. Today we want to examine our faith in God's word and ask ourselves, "What assurances do we have that the Bible is truly the word of God?" Obviously, the bottom line is that either we believe the Bible is the perfect word of God or we don't. It does us absolutely no good to say that some of it may be God's word and other parts of it are not. In fact, to question its legitimacy and integrity at all brings the entire book into question. If we cannot trust in God's word as truly being God's word, how can we ever hope to have fellowship with Him that is based on knowledge and truth? Therefore, let us consider four categories of Scripture that God gives in His word to assure us that we can indeed trust that what is written will help us to be in fellowship with Him to the saving of our souls.

All Scripture is given by God – In II Tim. **3:16** Paul says that all Scripture is "God-breathed". What is important about this phrase is that this means that none of the writers of Scripture were given arbitrary lee-way to write whatever they wanted but, in fact, whatever God said, they wrote. In the cases of the epistles, obviously these men wrote topic in our sermon today. instruction to the churches in their own way, yet all the words were inspired by God and in accordance with His will.

We are given eye-witness testimony regarding the words that are recorded - In John 1:1-10 and in I John 1:1-4, we are told that the

events and words that are recorded and taught come from those who were physically with Jesus and were eye-witnesses of the resurrection. Even Luke, who may have been a little young during Jesus' ministry, claims in Luke 1:1-4 to have researched everything he wrote, relying on the eyewitness testimony of those who had been there, even though he had a "perfect understanding" of these events through the Holy Spirit.

All Scripture was delivered to man in the same form that God gave it - In Gal. 1:6-12 Paul encourages the brethren to not heed any doctrine that is different than what they had already received because the Word they had received was not Paul's word, but rather the doctrine of Jesus Christ that had been personally given to Paul by Jesus. The brethren were to never question whether it was Paul's word or God's.

One purpose of the Scriptures is to give us certainty regarding our faith - In Luke 1:1-4, Luke tells Theophilus that the purpose of his writing down the events recorded was so that he may have "certainty of those things in which you were instructed". All we have is the Bible by which we can know how to please God...if we cannot trust it and be certain of its accuracy, how can we ever hope to please Him?

Study with us this morning as we continue this