

11-5-17
WHAT IF SOME DO NOT BELIEVE

Text:

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

Romans 3:4 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.

Recently, I got a new computer and that means I had to break down and re-organize my office to rewire the computer, which lead me down a trail of office cleaning. I needed another file cabinet so I had to go up to my old office and clean out an old file cabinet. I found bulletins dating back to before I came as Pastor 35-36 years ago. Then I had to re-organize my book shelves. Which led to going through some old books. Some of which were given to me.

I noticed two books in particular that seemed foreign to my library. The one was written by an atheist, and the other was written by a liberal clergyman from the Episcopal church in California. Then I remembered, these were given to me by a piano client who claimed to be a liberal agnostic, who recently was arrested for sexual assault on a minor.

As I looked through the books it struck me that there is an un-ending attack on the Bible by unbelievers, and even liberal clergy. The one book given to me was written by an atheist, and the other book was written by a so called liberal Pastor of an Episcopal church. Both had one thing in common. They both showed a disdain for the Word of God. This client who prided himself in being of part of the intelligentsia, the enlightened ones, was in truth a pervert. You see many times the real reason that people have a disdain for the word of God is because their deeds are evil and the Bible exposes that.

In these writings I noticed a few things that were presented to try and persuade the readers of the merits of skepticism, and to debase faith in the Bible and God, as we know Him and His word, and the Church as ordained by Jesus Christ.

Here is the main thrust of their attacks and I will refute these with the Bible, since I noticed in both books the obvious absence of sharing what the Bible really says about the matters presented.

I noticed basically:

- I. THE FIRST AUTHOR SHOWED THE MERITS OF SKEPTICISM BASED ON THE PRESTIGIOUS LIST OF SKEPTICS.
- II. THE SECOND AUTHOR PUT DOWN A LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF THE BIBLE POINTING TO THE INCONSISTENCIES OF MANY WHO STRONGLY PREACH THE BIBLE.
- III. THIRDLY IT IS SUGGESTED THAT YOUR LIFE WILL BE BETTER OFF IF YOU REJECT A LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF THE BIBLE.

I. THE FIRST AUTHOR SHOWED THE MERITS OF SKEPTICISM BASED ON THE PRESTIGIOUS LIST OF SKEPTICS.

No there is no doubt that there are a lot of people who do not literally believe the Bible is the Word of God and do not believe it can be taken literally.

Which brings us to our text.

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

Romans 3:4 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.

Now first of all.. we need to decide.. Is the Bible true or is it not true?

It is not possible that any human being can have all the facts on the issue.

The truth is that you can stack up the facts any way you choose. Though what the skeptics call facts are nothing more than a smoke screen.

The real problem is that the so called intelligentsia of this world thinks they are the enlightened ones because they are not basing their skepticism on faith but on doubt.

1. *Faith kicks in When you try to understand things that no man has seen or can ever see.*

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Hebrews 11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

By faith we believe God made everything that is out of nothing.

2. *The skeptics say that they are enlightened because their views are based off of facts and not faith.*

I Timothy 6:20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

I Timothy 6:21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.

Paul says it plainly.

Let God be true and ever man a liar.

They are liars because they say we do not base our beliefs on a book you call the Bible, which is written by men (which they are ignorant of..).

I love what Peter Accardi always says, men could not write the Bible if they would and they would not if they could. Notice how when men write books about themselves they are always the hero! Why is it that the authors of the books of the Bibles all show themselves to be what they are really! Frail, week, doubtful, etc., etc.

Here is the root of the matter, men are liars. They call their belief science, and that sanctifies their belief, which is nothing but a fairy tale whitewashed by so called science.

Look the hardest three chapters of the Bible for me to believe were the first three chapters. When I first got saved, I decided I would read through the whole Bible and I did so in about 2 months. So Peter Accardi had just given me a Bible, my van was broke down, and I had plenty of time.. so I decided I would read through the whole Bible. I started in Genesis and read, and stopped. Then I asked myself this question, DO I REALLY BELIEVE THIS!?

Then I thought, why am I doubting it? I realized the only reason I am doubting it was because of the people in my school that told me we evolved through millions of years! Then I thought about the character of the teachers who taught me this.

Would I believe Mr. Wolf, my grade school science teacher that could not control his classroom?

Would I believe my music teacher who was a pervert and made a pass at my friend and should have been locked up back then?

Would I believe the director of music department who left his wife to shack up with one of the music students?

On and on my professors and teachers lives were a joke. Would I put my faith in them more than this blessed book?

In just a few minutes I put my hand to the spiritual plow and trusted this book and never turned back.

YES I BELIEVE THIS BOOK BY FAITH.

But those skeptics have to believe man by faith.

And their oppositions of science, SO CALLED, SO CALLED

Because true science does not oppose the Bible, it confirms it!

All men are liars! The lie, they will lie. They color the truth to make themselves look better!

3. WHAT IF THE WHOLE WORLD DISBELIEVES?

This is what you had in the days of Noah.

II Peter 3:3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,

II Peter 3:4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.

II Peter 3:5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

God has shown that even the whole world sets themselves against Himself.

II. THE SECOND AUTHOR PUT DOWN A LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF THE BIBLE POINTING TO THE INCONSISTENCIES OF MANY WHO STRONGLY PREACH THE BIBLE.

1. EVEN IF THERE ARE SOME WHO PREACH THE BIBLE WHO ARE A BAD TESTIMONY TO IT'S MESSAGE THIS DOES NOT NEGATE IT'S MESSAGE

Next time you get a notice the mail that your taxes are due, send it back with a note saying if you are going to demand money from me send someone else to deliver it because I have no respect for the mailman.

Since when does the integrity of a printer call into question the merit of a book they were hired to print?

Jesus never said that the inconsistencies of the religious leaders negated the Bible they taught and preached.

Matthew 23:1 Then spake Jesus to the multitude, and to his disciples,
Matthew 23:2 Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat:
Matthew 23:3 All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not.

But he did say that God would judge them for their inconsistencies.

Matthew 23:14 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation.

Jesus said of the religious leaders of His day.

Matthew 23:33 Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

Even in the church James warned:

James 3:1 My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.

James 3:2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

Why are we shocked that sinners act like sinners sometimes?

Is it anything new that religious leaders have been a bad testimony for the Lord? Did not Eli and his family cause a great offence and men started to despise the offerings of the Lord because of them?

You read in Revelation chapters 2-3 that Jesus made it clear that his standard of Judgment for his Church is high! Out of the seven churches only 2 came out with no judgments against them.

So yes there are great offenses that have occurred in the name of Christ but does that negate the message of our Lord and Scripture?

Go to court and give your excuses for violating man's law.

Tell the judge you were speeding because the fellow in front of you was speeding.

Tell the judge that you stole money from the bank because a teller was rude to you.

Tell the judge that the reason you decided to shoot someone was because there are bad police out there and you want to make a statement. That's exactly what is going on today.

In fact the media is on a witch hunt to find bad police, this is an agenda of the liberal. The reason why is because the same media has been on a witch hunt to discredit God. So God has given them over to confusion. Now when you call 911 in any major city those who are paid to defend you are not going to respond so quickly.

Paul said,

Romans 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.

Romans 13:2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.

Romans 13:3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:

Romans 13:4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.

Romans 13:5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.

Romans 13:6 For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.

What is happening: Because men do not fear God, God gives up on the lawless world. Every man does what is right in his own eyes. The world is given over to terror and confusion.

Will men blame religion for this terror? What religion motivated the man in Las Vegas to kill 58 people and injured about 500 others? Here is a man that made a living as a professional gambler. He was worth millions of dollars and spent a fortune traveling. He had everything in this world that money could buy and yet had nothing. Now the media is criticizing the police for not responding in the 6 minutes between when he was discovered and when he started shooting.

A secular society that wholesale teaches that there is nothing more to life than this world will mass produce tragedies like this.

Yet the skeptics are quick to indite those who preach the Bible. When do you remember, ever, a true preacher of the Word of God being portrayed in Hollywood or the mainstream entertainment world as good? They are always portrayed as a whack, someone who is immoral, out for money, taking advantage of people, a Jim Jones telling their followers to drink Kool Aid.

People in my hometown, when they met a fellow from our church greeted him by saying, "oh you're part of Frankies cult."

When Peter Accardi got saved, there were a lot of bar owners that I knew that would ask me what happened to Peter, when I told them he was off to Bible college, they would just shake their heads and say, "Oh that's too bad.."

All this to discredit the Bible.

2. A PERSON'S LIVING TESTIMONY SHOULD NOT BE CONFUSED WITH THE BIBLICAL TESTIMONY.

A. Everyone has a living testimony and it takes a life to build that.

Why has Pastor Bissol stayed in this little country church for 34 years? The reason why is because I am not only teaching and preaching the Word of God to you but I am building a life story. It is my living testimony. It takes a lifetime to build a living testimony. That testimony is not complete till your life is complete.

The fellow who shot up all those people in Las Vegas lived out of a suitcase and moved around a lot. Never let anyone get to know him. Maybe that was because there was nothing good to know.

Jesus let 12 men get to know Him very well. He had no secrets from them. Sometimes, it takes a living testimony to make a lasting affect in some people's lives. DON'T MESS UP YOUR LIVING TESTIMONY.

B. THEN THERE IS THE WRITTEN TESTIMONY.

This book is a written testimony and one of the things I noticed in both books written by these two skeptics is that they made light of the written testimony, which is the Bible.

This is God's word, and the Bible consists of:

The Law.
The Prophets.
The Poetic Books.
The Gospels.
The Epistles to the church.

Each has its place as the written testimony. Each has a powerful message for every human being on this planet.

This Bible is a supernatural book. Men who disrespect it disrespect it's author.

Psalms 138:2 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.

Four times in Scripture Jesus is quoted as saying,

Matthew 5:18 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 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

Mark 13:31 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

Luke 21:33 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

Look at the character of the men of God who wrote the Bible, but of all of them the greatest of all is Jesus Christ.

If He was wrong about the Bible then "TO WHOM SHALL WE GO.." As Peter said in John Chapter 6.

Jesus never said the Pharisees greed negated the Scripture.

Jesus never said the Pharisees abuses negated the Scripture.

Jesus never said the corruption of the religious leaders in his time negated Scripture.

Alright a persons living testimony cannot be trusted.
But no man can destroy the written testimony.

Men have tried to destroy.

Men have maligned it.

Men have Blasphemed it.

BUT IT ENDURES AND WILL ENDURE.

If I don't read any other book but this book "THE BIBLE" I will do fine.

When men are taught to spot a counterfeit dollar bill they study the real thing not all the counterfeits. There are a million and one ways to counterfeit a dollar bill. But if you know the real thing you do not have to study all the counterfeits.

III. *THIRDLY IT IS SUGGESTED THAT YOUR LIFE WILL BE BETTER OFF IF YOU REJECT A LITERAL INTERPRETATION OF THE BIBLE.*

1. *IT DOES NOT MATTER WHAT THE PRINCES OF THIS WORLD BELIEVE AND FIGHT AGAINST. GOD IS TRUE AND HIS WORD IS TRUE AND THEY WILL BE FOUND OUT TO BE LIARS.*

Psalms 2:1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

Psalms 2:2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,

Psalms 2:3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.

Psalms 2:4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

1. *Notice first these people rage and imagine a vain thing.*

Evolution is a vain thing.

The Philosophies of this world are vain things.

These books are written by two men who imagined vain things against God's word.

We do not have to study all the counterfeits. There are a million books like these who oppose the Word of God and reject its authority! They are all vain!

A lot of people read other books more than the Bible itself. Why will you prefer the word of men?

These people are militant against the Bible.

2. WHEN PEOPLE THINK THAT THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE A BETTER LIFE WITHOUT THE RESTRICTIONS OF GOD'S WORD HERE IS WHAT THEY MEAN.

Herein lies the better life that people are talking about.

It is found in verse 3 of Psalm 2.

Psalms 2:3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.

The root reason that most people reject the Bible is because there is something in this book that they think ties them or restrains them from doing what they want to do.

Look, the main reason that people hate the Bible is because they hate what the Bible says. If it is just a fairy tale why are they so threatened?

The main thing they hate is the LAW of God. This to them is like a band, or like a rope that handcuffs them.

Psalms 2:3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.

A. THE MAIN OFFENCE OF THE BIBLE IS THE LAW OF GOD.

Though no man is saved by keeping the law, so too no man can be saved without the hearing of the law and the preaching of the law.

The law is our school master to bring us to Christ.

How can you learn to read and write without the school master teaching you the basics?

The law is what people hate because it convicts them of sin.

If the Bible was just a made up book why are men so offended and defensive about it? Why the vendetta? The reason why is this:

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The preaching of the law of God is like a handcuff to the passions and desires of men. It brings conviction.

How can Jesus save a man from their sins, when he does not know he is a sinner?

Romans 7:7 What shall we say then? is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

THEY WANT TO BREAK THE BANDS.

B. THE OTHER OFFENCE OF THE BIBLE IS THE CONVICTION OF SIN THAT IT PRODUCES IN A PERSONS LIFE.

Romans 7:7 What shall we say then? is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

IT IS SUPERNATURAL.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The Holy Spirit Is Promised To Come Into the World:

John 16:8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

Why do men reject the truth of God's word? It is because they want to feel good about their evil deeds and say they are not evil at all. Usually those who are militant against the Bible have deep rooted sins in one of three areas.

LUST OF THE FLESH. Usually sexual or drinking or drug related.

The fellow who gave me these books was arrested for Pedophilia.

LUST OF THE EYES. Which usually involves covetousness, things, money.

Fellow who killed all those people in Las Vegas lived to gain money through the corruption of gambling.

PRIDE OF LIFE. They want to feel important and gain the favor of their colleagues.

The reason that the Hollywood crowd hates the Bible is because it demands they humble themselves.

He that sitteth in the heavens will laugh.

God is on His throne, and whether people reject or receive Him, it does not add or take away from His power and majesty.

Which brings us to our opening text:

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

Romans 3:4 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.

3. IN THE END THE BIBLE TEACHES GOD WILL PREVAIL AND WITH EASE HE WILL PUT DOWN THOSE WHO REBEL AGAINST HIM.

Psalms 2:1 Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?

Psalms 2:2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying,

Psalms 2:3 Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.

Psalms 2:4 He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.

Imagine a little bratty child coming at you in anger. This child could be held back with one hand tied behind your back. That is what it means "HE WILL LAUGH". God will sit on his throne and that throne will not be diminished in the least by those who attack Him.

People who deny God's judgment, who scoff at it and make light of it, think they have nothing to lose by rejecting it. They have much to lose.

As Jesus alluded when He said,

Matthew 16:26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

If it were not so why did Jesus say,

Matthew 5:29 And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Matthew 5:30 And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Conclusion:

Imagine the restraint God is showing today against these who mock and reject him. Why the restraint? The Lord wants men to be saved.

II Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

On the cross the Lord said,

Luke 23:34 Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

John 3:16 there is a message of love and forgiveness to all who will repent of their sins and come to Christ.

Romans 2:4 Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

God's longsuffering should lead people to repentance.

The Bible we preach is a message of hope and salvation.

It is a message of Love and forgiveness for all that will come to him.

What we need to be is messengers of this word.

But we also need people who are willing to be a living testimony of this world. The world is watching and they need to see people who are living a consistent Christian life. The world is looking at us with a critical eye, and we do not need to add fuel to their criticisms!