

Scripture: II Timothy 3:14-17.

Topic: The Book of God.

Proposition: The Bible is the Book of God.

Text: II Timothy 3:16 -- "All Scripture is given by the inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction, in righteousness."

Sources: Abingdon Bible Commentary 1942, p. 26-31, 1287-88.;
Macartney's Illustrations, No. 30;
Masterpieces of Religious Verse, no. 381.

Date written: January 6, 1950.

Rewritten: February 27, 1969.

Places and dates used:

Evanston, Wyo. (11a.m.) Jan. 8, '50
Kemmerer, Wyo, (7 p.m.), Jan. 8, '50
Wyo. State Hosp., Evanston, " (2)
Camp Rucker, Alabama, April 1952
Sheridan, Wyo. (11a.m.), 7/20/1958.

Alvord, Colo., March 2, 1969
CHARGE, O. OLSEN HWY. ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
10 am, 13 NOV. 83

Text: II Timothy 3:14-17

Topic: The Book of Job

to mention: The Bible is the

Text: II Timothy 3:14-17

reference is given by the text

rather of Job and is profitable

for both of, for comfort, for cor-

rection, for instruction, in right-

ness.

Source: Application Bible Commentary

Volume 2, pp. 127-128

Illustration of Heloise's

no. 311

date written: January 2, 1950

written: February 27, 1950

pages and dates used:

Evangelist, vol. (I), Jan. 30

Evangelist, vol. (I), Jan. 30

Evangelist, vol. (I), Jan. 30

Evangelist, vol. (I), Jan. 30

Evangelist, vol. (I), Jan. 30

Introduction:

1. Our Scripture is a portion of a letter from Paul to Timothy. Timothy was rapidly becoming the leader of a Christian congregation, probably in Ephesus. To advise and help him in this position, Paul from his prison cell (probably in Rome) wrote the letter which we now call II Timothy.

2. In today's passage from this letter, Paul tells Timothy that the Scriptures are to be used to make him a wiser Christian, and that all Scripture is inspired by God. He continues by telling in what ways Scripture is profitable. ~~to the individual.~~

3. In so writing, Paul tells US what Scripture is, and gives us some standards by which a ~~writings's~~ Scriptural value can be determined. These standards show that the Bible is truly the Book of God.

II. The Bible is the Book of God in that it begins with God, continues with God, and ends with God, as does no other literature.

Introduction:

1. Our signature is a portion of a letter from Paul to Timothy. Timothy was widely known as the leader of a Christian congregation probably in Ephesus. To advise and help him in this position, Paul wrote the letter which we now call I Timothy.

2. In today's passage from this letter, Paul tells Timothy that the Scriptures are to be used to make him a wiser Christian, and that all Scripture is inspired by God. He continues by telling us that we have Scripture in profitable to the individual.

3. In so writing, Paul tells us what Scripture is, and gives us some standards by which a written or printed volume can be determined. These standards show that the Bible is truly the book of God.

II. The Bible is the book of God
that it differs from all other
books and other literature.

1. A novel, which illustrates similar singleness of purpose is entitled "The Egyptian." The whole story is the fictional autobiography of a physician, by name of Sinuhu. From the first page to the last, it is made clear that this Sinuhue is the Egyptian about whom the book is written; that even though the book brings in other interesting details and subsidiary stories, the story of Sinuhue is the prime task of the book.

2. So it is with the Bible in relation to God. It begins with God, continues with God, and ends with God. There are many side-stories, many human experiences, but throughout the Bible all of these either immediately or eventually serve to center attention upon God.

3. The Old Testament conception of God is different from that of the New Testament. Within the Old Testament may be found varying conceptions of the nature and personality of God, but always the concern is with God and what he wants people to do. The Bible shows

1. A novel with illustrations
of a similar kind of purpose is
entitled "The Fictional Narrative".
The story is a fictional narrative
written by a physician, by name of
"John". From the first page to
the last, it is a tale of a man
who is in the hospital, about
the time when the book is written; that
is, even though the book begins in
the first interesting details and ends
with a story of the story of the
man in the prison task of the book.

2. It is with the Bible in
relation to God. It begins in
the beginning with God, and ends
with God. There are many other
stories, many human experiences,
but throughout the Bible all of
these either directly or over-
tly serve to center attention
upon God.

3. The Old Testament con-
tains of God's different from that
of the New Testament. This the
Old Testament may be found varying
conceptions of the nature and per-
sonality of God, but always the
concern is with God and what He
wants people to do. There is a story

us a long pathway trodden by devout seekers after God. This characteristic alone would call for and justify our recognition of a divine element in the Bible. This is one of the meanings when we say that the Bible is the Book of God.

4. This is certainly one meaning of Paul in the words of today's Scripture, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God." That is, the Bible is a record of both man's concern for God, his search to find and know God, and of man's conviction that God has taken the initiative in revealing himself. The Bible is a Book of God from cover to cover, for it shows man searching for God, and God finding man and showing himself to man.

5. The fact that many of The Old Testament ideas of God and his will do not present God in the same character as the New Testament does, throws no discredit on The Old Testament or on the Bible. These imperfect conceptions of God are from man's error in understanding. As people progressed, God came to be seen more as he is, until

us a good pathway through by re-
sults after 1900. This cha-
racteristic alone would call for
and finally our recognition of a
single element in the Bible. This
is one of the reasons we say
that the Bible is the book of God.

4. This is certainly one reason
for belief in the words of today's
criticism. The literature is given
by investigation of God. That is,
the Bible is a record of both man's
concern for God. His search to find
and know God, and of man's convin-
tion that God has taken the initiative
time is revealing himself. The
Bible is a book of God's discovery
to cover. For it shows man's search
for God, and of finding man and
showing himself to man.

5. The fact that many of the
Old Testament ideas of God and his
will in present God in the
same character as the Old Testam-
ent, are those of the New Testament
The Old Testament or on the Bible
has important conceptions of God
are from man's error in understand-
ing. The Bible's progress is
ought to be seen as he is, with

the ultimate revelation of God's will for man was made in Jesus Christ.

II. Secondly, the Bible Revelation of God is confirmed by our own personal experience of God, and in this way the Bible is the Book of God.

1. The story of The Mutiny on the Bounty has at least one incident in it which is worth retelling.

The mutineers sank their ship and landed with their native women on the ~~lonely~~ island named Pitcairn. There were nine white sailors, six natives, ten women and a girl of fifteen. One of the sailors discovered a method of distilling alcohol, and the island colony was debauched with drunkenness and vice.

After a time only one of the white sailors who had landed survived, surrounded by native women and halfbreed children. This sailor, Alexander Smith, found in one of the chests that had been taken from the Bounty a copy of the Bible. He began to teach his fellow exiles its principles, with the

the ultimate revelation of the
will form was made in 1928
Christ.

III. Secondly, the Bible reveals
itself as confirmed by our own
own experience of God and His
to the way that He is the God of
God.

I. The story of the lutheran
the church has at least one factor
in it which is worth retaining.
The writers say their aim is
familiar with their native words on
the foreignland now of this world.
There were nine white soldiers, six
natives, two women and a girl of
fifteen. One of the soldiers
discovered a method of distilling
alcohol, and the island colony
was abandoned with the loss of
vice.

After a time only one of the
white soldiers who had found sur-
vived surrounded by native women
and half-breed children. This
soldier, Alexander Smith, found in
one of the chests that had been
taken from the lutheran a copy of the
Bible. He began to teach the natives
and the natives with the

result that his own life was changed, and finally the life of the whole island colony was changed to the good.

In 1908 the United States ship Topaz visited the island and found a thriving and prosperous community, without whiskey, without jails, without crime, and without an insane asylum. The Bible had changed the life of that island community.

2. Just as on the island life was changed to the good by God's truth as shown in the Bible, so the Bible can and does change life even today. Personal experience of what application of Bible truth can do in individual life has always been the most convincing proof that the Bible is the Book of God.

3. The book that has in it the most truth about God and man, about salvation from sin, and about the life eternal, will always be the Holy Bible to all who reverently read it, however much they fail to need it. We find ourselves at our best morally when our lives are most in accord with what the God of the Bible commands and approves.

result that his own life was changed
and finally the life of the
whole island colony was changed to
the good.
In 1808 the United States ship
was visited the island and found
a thriving and prosperous community
that without slavery, without trade
without effort and without aid from
anywhere. The Bible had changed
the life of that island community.

2. Just as on the island life
was changed to the good by the
truth as shown in the Bible, so
the Bible can and does change life
even today. Personal experience
of what application of Bible truth
can do in individual life has always
been the most convincing proof that
the Bible is the Book of Life.

3. The Book that has in it the
great truth about God and man, about
salvation from sin, a key to the
life eternal, will always be the
Bible to all who reverently
read it, however much they fail to
see it. We find ourselves at our
best morally when our lives are
most in accord with that the Book of
the Bible commands and approves.

MANY

Intelligent and truth-seeking people in all countries and in all ages ~~always~~ find in the Scriptures of the Christian religion moral and spiritual truth, not only unequalled anywhere else, but so satisfying to their heads and hearts, and so potent and efficient in meeting their moral and religious needs, that it is true to say that the Bible is possessed of a life-giving and inspiring quality which is of God.

4. To most who study the Bible reverently, the divinest credential which these writings furnish is found in their contents, in the moral and spiritual truths which are ^{so} great and meaningful that they carry the message of God straight to the souls of people. The 23rd, 46th, 91st, and 103rd psalms; the 42nd and 53rd chapters of Isaiah; the Sermon on the Mount; the 13th chapter of First Corinthians; and hundreds of other passages ~~of like worth and meaning~~ obviously are of divine inspiration, of God. They speak to people who know by experience the God whom they present. As Paul put it, "All Scripture is

Intelligent and truth-seeking people
in all countries and in all ages
always find in the Scriptures of
the Christian religion words and
spiritual truth, not only applicable
anywhere else, but as satisfying
to their hearts and needs, and so
valuable and efficient in meeting
their moral and religious needs,
that it is true to say that the
Bible is possessed of a life-giving
and inspiring quality which is of
God.

To read, to study the Bible
reverently, the liveliest exercises
that these things furnish
is found in their contents, in the
total and spiritual truths which
of great and precious truth that they
carry the message of God's love
to the souls of people. The Bible
is the greatest and most precious
of all the characters of Jesus
the Son of Man, the Son of
God, the first-born of the Father,
and hundreds of other passages of
the Bible which are obviously
of divine inspiration, of God.
They speak to people who know
nothing of the Bible, they present
As an outgrowth of the Bible

given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

III. Thirdly, the Bible is shown as God's Book because it presents God as perfect.

1. No one view of the Bible as the Book of God can be accepted as true if it should make God less than perfect in his words and works and ways; for then mankind would have no standard of perfection.

2. However, different and conflicting may be the conceptions of God reflected in certain portions of the Bible, such as in the Pentateuch, the book of Judges, and the imprecatory (or cursing) psalms on the one hand, and in the four Gospels on the other, we must not think that God himself was any less holy and just, wise and loving in ancient days than he was in the time of Christ; or than he is now. The difference is not in God, but in the conflicting and changing views of God reflected in the different periods of biblical

... by translation of ...
... for ...
... for ...
... as ...

Why ...
... because it ...
... as ...

... as the ...
... as ...
... that ...
... and ...
... have ...

... However, ...
... as ...
... of ...
... the ...
... the ...
... (or ...)
... of ...
... on the ...
... that ...
... I ...
... in ...
... the ...
... but ...
... in ...
... the ...

history and literature.

3. Christ treated the Old Testament reverently, as the divinely-inspired word of God. Yet, he not only pronounced erroneous some of the things which were "said by them of old time," but he corrected them. Christ showed us -- and he continues to show us -- God as the loving heavenly Father. God alone is sufficient to satisfy the minds and hearts of people. The Old Testament is a record of ~~the~~ changing and usually-progressive conceptions of God entertained by the people. It is in the New Testament with the full, perfect and greatest revelation of God by and through Jesus Christ that the great proof is presented that here is the Book of God.

4. As Paul put it, "the Scripture is of God that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." In the perfect God, man sees his standard, his goal.

History and Literature.

2. Christ treated the Bible

testament reverently, as the divine
inspired word of God. Yet he
did not only pronounce erroneous
of the things which were said by
them, but he corrected
them. Christ showed us -- and he
continues to show us -- that as the
love of heavenly Father, God alone
is sufficient to satisfy the minds
and hearts of people. The Bible
testament is a record of a con-
tinuing and unending progressive con-
dition of the world, and by the
people. It is in the hands of
rest with the full, perfect and
greatest revelation of God by and
through Jesus Christ that the
great work is presented that here
is the book of God.
... As I said, but it is the same
truth as of God that the man of God
may be perfect, thoroughly furnished
into all good works. In the ser-
vice of God, you see his standard,
his goal.

Conclusion:

The Bible is truly the Book of God, because

(1) it begins with God, continues with God, and ends with God, as does no other literature;

(2) because the Bible revelation of God is confirmed by our personal experience of God, and

(3) because it presents God as perfect, and Jesus Christ as the standard and goal to be reached for by all mankind.

A poem by Alice M. Pullen says in poetic words what we have been discussing in prose:

For man's unceasing quest for God,
For God's unceasing quest for man,
For records of his love and power
Surrounding life since life began,
We thank thee, Lord most high.

For ancient tales of long ago,
Man's guesses when the world was
young,

For talks around the blazing fire,
For stories told and stories sung,
We thank thee, Lord most high.

Conclusion:

The Bible's truth the book of
God because

(1) it begins with God continuing
with God and ends with God, as

does in other literature;
(2) because the Bible revelation

of God is confirmed by our personal
experience of God, and

(3) because it presents God as
perfect, and Jesus Christ as the

standard and goal to be reached for
by all mankind.

It comes by Alice L. Hilson says
the poetic words what we have been

discussing in prose:

For man's necessary quest for God
on God's necessary quest for man,

For records of his love and power
surround the life since life began

I think thee, Lord, most high,
For ancient tales of love and power

Thine guesses that the world was
young.

For tales around the blazing fire
For stories told and stories sung

I think thee, Lord, most high.

For those great laws the Hebrews
made,
Among the greatest ever known,
For early history wise men wrote,
Engraved on parchment, skin, or
stone,
We thank thee, Lord most high.

For those old songs of tuneful
verse,
The music of the shepherd king,
For songs the Boy of Nazareth sang,
And still succeeding ages sing,
We thank thee, Lord most high.

For those most precious books of
all,
That show us Jesus Christ our Lord
Seen through the eyes of faithful
friends
Who gave their lives to spread
his word,
We thank thee, Lord most high.

For those great laws the Hebrews
made,
Among the greatest ever known,
For early history wise men wrote,
Engraved on parchment, skin, or
stone,
We thank thee, Lord most high.

For those old songs of tuneful
verse,
The music of the shepherd king,
For songs the Boy of Nazareth sang,
And still succeeding ages sing,
We thank thee, Lord most high.

For those most precious books of
all,
That show us Jesus Christ our Lord
Seen through the eyes of faithful
friends
Who gave their lives to spread
his word,
We thank thee, Lord most high.