



Ashland Church of Christ 2006

Pressing Toward the Upward Call of God



“I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14).

The Bible: God’s Message to Man — Dedication Why Should I Believe the Bible?

Text: Psalm 119:66

Key Text: *Psalm 119:66, “Teach me good judgment and knowledge, For I believe Your commandments.”*

I. Because of the Bible’s inspiration.

A. Claims of inspiration.

1. 2Timothy 3:16-17.
2. 2Peter 1:19-21.

B. Concepts of inspiration.

1. God breathed on every word (approved every word).
2. 1Corinthians 2:12-13.

C. Conclusion of inspiration: reading our Bible is the same as listening to God speak.

II. Because of the Bible’s indestructibility.

A. Indications of indestructibility (1Peter 1:22-25).

B. Implications of indestructibility.

1. God is real and cannot be denied.
2. God has a providential hand in the lives of men and in the preservation of His word.

C. Importance of indestructibility.

1. It proves its other claims to be true.
2. It shows that God cares about you and me enough to make sure we have His message.

III. Because of the Bible's inerrancy.

A. Purpose of inerrancy.

1. If the Bible is proven false in just one point, then none of it can be trusted.
2. If there is not even one falsehood, then the Bible is authoritative.
3. Thus, the study of the Bible's inerrancy will be either faith-building or faith-destroying.

B. Proofs of inerrancy (Jeremiah 1:7-9; Romans 1:16-17).

C. Point of inerrancy.

1. The Bible's consistency with other disciplines proves its authenticity.
2. Therefore, the Bible is to be followed.

IV. Because of the Bible's information.

A. Salvation information.

1. Hear (Romans 10:17).
2. Believe (Hebrews 11:6).
3. Repent (Acts 2:38).
4. Confess (Acts 8:37).
5. Be baptized (1Peter 3:21).
6. Live faithfully (Revelation 2:10).

B. Success information (1John 1:4).

C. Sure information (Psalm 19:7).

V. Because of the Bible's inimitability.

A. Not in creeds (Galatians 1:8-9).

B. Not in culture (Romans 12:1-2).

C. Not in compromise (Proverbs 23:23).