

Those to Serve

(B) Jorge Garza
(FV) Mike Mallett
(O) Keith Stifflemire
(A) Mike Lovell
1st prayer Judd Wall
2nd prayer Calvin Burks
Announcements: Jack Wall
Singing: Kevin Grant

Happy Birthday

Anson Day March 28th
Doug Pruett April 1st
Steve Sugg April 6th
Denise Wall April 11th
Connie Mallett April 30th
Coryell Day May 7th

Happy Anniversary

April 1st
Calvin & Tammy Burks
April 18th
Jack & Cindi Wall

1 John 4:19-21 KJV

(19) We love him, because he first loved us.
(20) If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?
(21) And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

Prayer List:

Kadence Payne
Windham Family
Elyza-(Esperance Garza
Daughter)
Anita Adams
Diane Savage (Virginia's niece)
Cheryl Burks
Virginia Lovell
Dora Martinez
Letha Sheldon
Pray for our Nation
Our Troops
Law Enforcement
Rescue Personnel

March 12th

Men's Business Meeting

March 12th

Daylight Saving Time Begins

March 17th

St. Patrick's Day

March 20th

Spring Begins

March 26th

Noon Fellowship

April 2nd

Mission Fund

April 9th

Easter Sunday

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

310 W Brooks Drive

Evant, TX 76525

254-471-5705

March 12, 2023



Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."

Sunday Worship:

Will Vann, Preacher

9:30 am Bible Study

863-899-0987

10:20 am Worship

Email: wvann@yahoo.com

12:30 pm Afternoon

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

Wednesday Night

6:00 pm

How We Got The Bible

It may seem obvious to someone who has, from their earliest memories, sat in a pew listening to God's word being proclaimed that the Bible is in fact the word of God. Even to the one who came to Christ later in life, having escaped the pollutions of this world and who now clings to God's word as the source of their newfound hope, the thought that the Bible is not God's word seems totally foreign. There are however many who doubt the accuracy of the Bible and just as many who outright dismiss it as an authoritative document altogether. How then, can we know that the source of which our very faith comes is truly from God? To start, we know that all things are possible with God (Mk. 10:27; Lk. 1:37), therefore it is possible for Him to deliver His will to man and preserve it throughout history for man. We also know that man cannot know what the will of God is outside of Him revealing it to us (1 Cor. 2:9-13). Considering this, we will, in this article and the next, look at how God delivered His will to us and then how it was compiled into the complete revelation that we now have.

Inspiration

When we speak of the Bible being God's inspired word we do not mean that God inspired men to write as Shakespeare was inspired, but that He delivered His word directly to men by the Holy Spirit (2 Pet. 1:21). The word inspiration that we read in 2 Timothy 3:16 literally means "God-breathed." As one preacher said 'God breathed it out so that we may breathe it in.' There are three main views on the subject of inspiration that we will consider.

The first is that the Bible merely points people to God. The thinking here is that the Bible is composed of man-written material which occasionally bears witness to inspired truth. Though God did not inspire these words they inspire us. Doug Burleson, a college professor and preacher for the Lord's church who has done an extensive amount of research on this subject, said of this, "A person must suppose then that the Bible errantly bears witness to God's inerrant truth, while errant human beings must discover the perfect truth by means of their own personal experiences." One can't help but remember what Alexander Pope said, "to err is human, to forgive divine." When we start attributing error to God's word we eliminate that possibility of objective stability, not to mention forgiveness, thereby building a faith on unstable sand (Mat. 7:26-27), and can only wait for the fall.

(continued on next Page)

How We Got The Bible

(continued)

The second position is that the Bible contains the word of God, i.e., not everything in the Bible is truly inspired by God. To follow brother Burleson's line of reasoning, errant man must learn to distinguish between what is from inerrant God and what is from errant man. A group of scholars from what was once a faithful brotherhood college stated, "Because Scripture contains both the human and divine element, it is a mystery that resists our human definitions." Since many that hold this position believe that Scripture is only inspired when dealing with redemptive matters it makes one wonder how we can know the difference between what God is redeeming and what man is selling?

The Bible is God's word. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth" (Jn. 17:17). "If you love Me, keep My commandments" (Jn. 14:15). "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day" (Jn. 12:48). What else needs to be said in regard to what the God's word says of itself?

Understanding that man is prone to err (Prov. 3:5; 14:2; 16:25; etc...), we ought to look outside of what man produces for our guiding principles. It can plainly be seen, if we will but look, that the Bible claims divine inspiration for itself. All it takes for us to know if this is true or not is an honest appraisal of its content. As brother Burleson stated, "The inspiration of God's divine word does not depend on humankind's ability to accurately copy it, translate it, interpret it, or proclaim it." Therefore, we can have confidence knowing that what we have now truly is God's word!

BY Will Vann