Lesson 1 - The Bible Is the Authority in Religion

Definitions: 1 Thessalonians 5:21 Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. **Prove:** test something to see if it is true Hold fast: to keep or possess 1. How many things should we test? A. All B. Some 2. What should we hold fast? A. What your group says is true. B. What is good. 3. How will we know if it is good? A. What the Bible says B. What most people believe

The Bible is like a ruler. If we use a ruler correctly, we will know exactly how long something is. If we use the Bible correctly, we will know exactly what the truth is.

God tells us to test all religious teachings. We are to believe only the things that are written in the Bible. This way we can know that we are obeying God's will.



John 8:31-32, 34

31 Then said Jesus to those Jews who believed on him, If you continue in my word, then are you my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

34 Jesus answered them, Truly, truly, I say to you, Who ever commits sin is the slave of sin.

- 4. Who is speaking?
 - A. Enemies of Jesus
 - B. Jesus
- 5. To whom is Jesus talking?
 - A. Jews
 - B. Gentiles
- 6. Did these Jews believe in Jesus?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- 7. What must be true for us to be a disciple of Jesus?
 - A. Listen to men's teachings
 - B. Stay in Christ's word
- If you stay in Christ's words, then you will be whose disciple?
 A. Christ's
 - B. Man's
- 9. If we do not stay in His word, will we be Christ's disciple?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- 10. Whose word should we follow?
 - A. Christ's
 - B. Man"s
- 11. If we abide in Christ's words we shall know what?
 - A. A lie
 - B. The truth
- 12. What will the truth do for us?
 - A. Make us free
 - B. Make us slaves
- 13. The truth will free us from being slaves of what?
 - A. Law
 - B. Sin

Definitions:

If: a conditional word. Something must be true for something else to happen.

Continue: to stay in

My word: Today we find Jesus' words in the Bible

Indeed: truly, really

When Jesus was talking to men who believed, He said they needed to stay in His word. Belief was not enough.



you **stay** in Christ's words,

Then you will:

- 1. be Jesus's disciple
- 2. know the truth



3. be free from sin



you **do not stay** in Christ's words,

Then you will:

- 1. be man's disciple
- 2. follow a lie
- 3. be a slave of sin





John 12:44, 48

44 Jesus cried and said, He that believes in me, believes not in me, but in him that sent me.

48 He that rejects me, and receives not my words, has one that judges him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

14. Who is speaking?

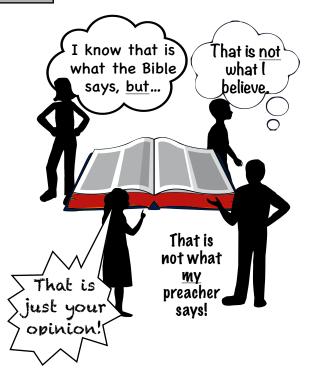
- A. Peter
- B. Jesus
- 15. If we do not receive Jesus' word, who are we rejecting?
 - A. Our Preacher
 - B. Jesus
- 16. If we read something in the Bible and we do not believe it, are we receiving Jesus' word or rejecting it?
 - A. Receiving Christ's words
 - B. Rejecting Christ's words
- 17. By what will we be judged?
 - A. Christ's words
 - B. Man's creed books
- 18. Are we going to be judged by any man's word?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No

If we were going to take a driving test in America, we would get the driver's manual from there. We would not want to study a manual from Australia because that would not help us. Since we will be judged by the teachings of Jesus, we want to study His laws which are found in the Bible. Studying the teaching of men will not help us on the day of judgment.

Definitions:

Reject: to set aside or cast away

Receive: to take in



We are to test everything in religion by what we can read in the New Testament. The truth is not changed by what we believe or by what others teach. When we refuse to believe what is taught in Jesus' law, we are rejecting Jesus and His salvation.



* In Luke 22:14 Jesus is with only the twelve apostles. This same time with His apostles is also recorded in John chapters 13 through 16. This is how we know that here in the following two verses, Jesus is speaking to only the apostles.

John 14:26

26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

- 19. How many things will the Helper teach them?
 - A. All
 - B. Some
- 20. How many things will the Helper remind them?
 - A. All
 - B. Some

John 16:13

13 However when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.

- 21. How much of the truth would they receive? A. All
 - B Some
- 22. If the Apostles received all the truth, would there be any more new truth to come later?A. Yes
 - B. No
 - B. N0



If you go to the bank and take out all your money on Monday, then you go back to the bank on Tuesday and ask for more money, would you get some more money? The answer is no.

Jesus said that the apostles would be given all the truth. Since he never lied, there would be no more truth to give to anyone else.



Jude verse 3

3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that you should earnestly contend for the faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints.

- 23. What was delivered?
 - A. The faith
 - B. The gift
- 24. When this book was written, had the faith already been delivered, or was it still to come?
 - A. Still to come
 - B. Already delivered
- 25. How many times was the faith delivered?
 - A. As often as needed
 - B. Once for all

Definitions:

Diligence: put forth effort

Exhort: to call near

Earnestly: to keep using a lot of effort

Contend: to fight for



If you are asked to bring someone <u>a</u> cup, you may choose which cup you want to bring, but if you are asked to bring <u>the</u> cup, then you can only bring a specific cup.

In this verse, it talks about the faith, not a faith. When the Bible uses "the faith", it means the teaching or the doctrine of God, not a person's faith. It also lets us know that it cannot be just any teachings, but it must be the teachings from God.



This verse also indicates that by the time the book of Jude was written, the faith was finished being delivered. It also indicates that it would be delivered only one time. This means that there would be no more teachings to come at a later time.



2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped to all good works.

26. How much of the scripture is given by inspiration of God?A. All

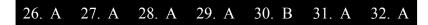
B. Some

27. The Bible teaches man what is right and what is wrong?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- 28. The Bible teaches man how to correct sin?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- 29. The Bible teaches man how to live right and just?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- 30. The scripture is given so that the man of God may be what?
 - A. Needing man's teachings
 - B. Complete
- 31. The scripture gives us what we need to do how many good works?
 - A. All
 - B. Some
- 32. Does the Bible have everything we need in religion?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No



To cook rice, all you need is rice, a pot, water and heat. If you have all 4 of these things, you have everything you need to cook rice. If you have what you need, you do not need anything else. If one of these things is missing, you do not have everything you need.



Definitions:

Scripture: God's words written down

Inspiration: God breathed

Profitable: useful

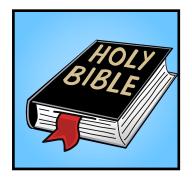
Doctrine: teaching what is right

Reproof: teaching what is wrong

Righteousness: the ways that are right and just

Thoroughly:completely

Equipped: have things that are needed



The Bible is God's words. It is our scripture today. It tells us everything we need to know to be ready to do every good thing He wants us to do. That means that outside the Bible there is nothing else needed to tell us how to please Him. God has provided everything we need to do every good work He wants us to do. He did not leave one thing out. Everything we need spiritually is found in His word not one thing is missing. It is like cooking rice. If you have what you need, you do not need anything else.

Galatians 1:1-2, 6-9

1 Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;) 2 And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia:

6 I marvel that you are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: 7 Which is not another; but there are some who trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. 8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 9 As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that you have received, let him be accursed.

Paul is writing to Christians.

33. Did these Christians turn	away from the gospel?
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- A. Yes
- B. No
- 34. Should an angel preach any other gospel?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- 35. Should Paul preach any other gospel?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- 36. Should any man today preach any other gospel?
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- 37. What will happen to those who preach something different than what Paul preached?
 - A. They will be accursed
 - B. They will be blessed
- 38. What will happen to those who follow something different than what Paul preached?
 - A. They will be accursed
 - B. They will be blessed

Definitions:

Marvel: Surprised

Remove: turn away from

Pervert: change into something that is bad

Accursed: eternally condemned

If you are thirsty and someone offers you some water to drink, you would drink it. But if you saw that person put some poison in the water and then offered you the drink, you would refuse it.



Paul is trying to get the Christians to keep the truth pure and not allow others to change it. We should do the same today. If what we believe has any of man's teachings added to God's word, it would cause us to be lost even if we did not know it was wrong. If the person teaching really believes what they are



Revelation 22:18-19

18 For I testify unto every man that hears the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: 19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book. **Definitions**:

Testify: to say with power that a thing is true

39. Should man add or take away from God's word?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- 40. What will happen to those who add to these things? A. They will be okay.
 - B. They will suffer the plagues found in the book.
- 41. What will happen if they take things away from God's word?
 - A. They will be okay.
 - B. Their part will be taken out of the book of life.



If you add or subtract something from 5, you no longer have 5.



The same thing is true with truth. If you change it by adding or subtracting something from God's word, you no longer have God's word.

The Bible is from God. It tells us everything that we need to know in order to do all the things that God wants us to do. There is no other religious truth outside the Bible.



