


SERMON: Why we KNOW the Bible is from God!

TEXT: 2 Timothy 3:16, “*all scripture is inspired of God!*”

Introduction: The origin, accuracy and inerrancy of the Bible must be established before it can benefit the soul. Once established as a Divine message, the soul can be addressed. Thus, how do we know and say the Bible is the Word of God? The reasons are important and as follows:

1. The Old Testament writers affirmed that they were speaking the Word of God and not the words of men. The phrase “Thus says the Lord,” or an equivalent, is found more than 2,000 times in the Old Testament (cf. 2 Sam. 23:1-3; Is. 8:1, 11; Jer. 1:9; 5:14; 7:27; 13:12; Ezek. 3:4; Mic. 5:10; Hab. 2:2, etc.). Thus, the OT assumes and speaks from the perspective of divine inspiration. Should we do any less?
2. The Apostles regarded the whole of Scripture as the infallible Word of God (cf. 1 Cor. 14:37; Gal. 1:11, 12; 1 Thess. 2:13; 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:21). Notice the word “all” in 2 Tim. 3:16. 2 Peter 1:20-21 informs us that the Holy Spirit did not provide an imperfect revelation!
3. Jesus without reservation endorsed the Scriptures as the inspired Word of God (Matt. 5:18; John 10:35; 12:48). Jesus inundated the whole of scripture.
4. Fulfilled predictive prophecy unmistakably demonstrates the authoritative-ness of Scripture (Deut. 28:37, 63-65; Is. 13:19-22; Jer. 46:19, 20; 51:37; Ezek. 29:15; 30:6; Nah. 3:1, 4-6; Zeph. 2:13, 14; Luke 21:24). Fulfilled prophecy is evidence that God is the author of the Bible.
5. Biblical Archaeology confirms the accuracy of Scripture. From the discovery of the Cyrus Cylinder in 1879, to the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1947, to the Pool of Siloam in 2004, archaeology has provided an independent witness to the truth of God’s Word.
6. The pragmatic test shows the Bible to be the Word of God (i.e., it performs what it promises). The principles and precepts of God’s Word work in actual human experience in response to faith. Paul characterizes the transformed life of a sinner as one that “proves” the Will of God for others to see (Rom. 12:2). Thus, it can and must be said, “It works!” Cf. Ps. 34:8; John 7:17. 

SERMON: “*After God’s own Heart!*”

TEXT: Acts 13:22 (1 Kings 9:4; 11:4,6,38; 14:8; 15:5).

Intro: David’s character is more fully portrayed than any other person in the OT. He was not perfect, yet he was said to be “a man after God’s own heart.”

1. **Personal:** He had Integrity of Heart—1 Kgs 9:4
2. **Spiritual:** He had Maturity of Heart—1 Kgs 11:4.
3. **Practical:** He had Fidelity of Heart— 1 Kgs 14:8.

Conclusion: What the world desperately needs now are Christian men & women that have godly character.

Pulpit Preview is sent for the purpose of sharing sermon ideas & useful illustrations. It is sent via email on a bi-weekly basis. Editor: **Mark N. Posey, D.D.**, preaching minister for the Austinville Church of Christ (2833 Danville Rd. SW Decatur, AL 35603) since 1994. Please send all comments to—pulpitpreview@austinvillecoc.org or address above. **Thanks, MNP.**



PULPIT PREVIEW

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SERMON: The Gospel in Seven Seconds!

TEXT: 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, “*Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.*”

Introduction: It takes more than seven seconds to present the gospel of Jesus Christ. Thus, it’s not seven seconds of time, but seven seconds of sequence.

Discussion: Notice seven things that pertain to the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

1. The Second Covenant – *Hebrew 8:6-13.*
2. The Second Birth – *John 3:3-5.*
3. The Second Command – *Matthew 22:39.*
4. The Second Man – *1 Corinthians 15:45-47.*
5. The Second Chance – *Acts 8:18-24.*
6. The Second Death – *Revelation 20:6.*
7. The Second Coming – *Hebrews 9:28.*

Conclusion: The Gospel is the Good News of Christ’s Death, Burial and Resurrection. His teachings, life and expectations are real and undeniable.

- We live under a second covenant.
- We can experience the second birth.
- We abide by a second command.
- We serve the second man.
- We can know that we can have a second chance.
- We can avoid the second death.
- We can live in hopeful expectation of the second coming.

-Mark N. Posey

SERMON: The Glorious Mystery!

TEXT: Colossians 1:27

1. The Mystery of the Incarnate God - Col.2:2-3, 9.
2. The Mystery of Iniquity - 2 Thess. 2:7.
3. The Mystery of the Transformation- 1Cor 15:51,52.
4. The Mystery of Babylon - Rev 17:5, 7.
5. The Mystery of the Church - Eph 1:9, 10; 3:3, 4, 5, 6,9; 6:19.
6. The Mystery of the Bride - Eph 5:23-32.
7. The Mystery of Israel's Unbelief - Ro 11:25.

SERMON: Let Us Reason Together!

TEXT: Acts 24:24-25

Introduction: Paul reasoned with Felix and Drucilla about three of the most important things in the world: righteousness, temperance (self-control) and coming judgment. Felix had an emotional response ("he trembled") and sent Paul away deferring to a convenient season. Regardless, Felix heard the truth but neglected it!

1. Paul reasoned with Felix about a Righteousness he did not possess.
2. Paul reasoned with Felix about a Temperance he did not practice.
3. Paul reasoned with Felix about a Judgment he could not prevent.

***Years ago my dad, Glenn A. Posey, gave me this outline and I've preached it on many occasions.**

SERMON: The Lifted-Up Christ!

TEXT: Numbers 21:4-9

Introduction: Like the Bronze Serpent lifted up in the wilderness, Christ was lifted up at Calvary. The problem, need and requirement are comparable. Notice the Shadows of the Savior in the Bronze Serpent.

1. The poison still is fatal (Rom. 6:23).
2. The antidote still is effective (Rev. 1:5).
3. The look still is required (Mk. 16:16).

SERMON: God's Immediate Judgment!

TEXT: Romans 14:12. God's immediately judgment is seen in examples like...

1. Nadab & Abihu - Lev. 10.
2. Uzzah - 2 Sam. 6.
3. Ananias & Sapphira - Acts 5.

Conclusion: Are you ready? Acts 17:31.

SERMON: Devotion Finds a Way!

TEXT: Joshua 24:15

1. Joshua was devoted to himself: Personal Accountability - "as for me."
2. Joshua was devoted to his family: Domestic Accountability - "and my house."
3. Joshua was devoted to his Lord: Divine Accountability - "we will serve the Lord."

SERMON: What the Lord means to ME!

TEXT: Psalm 23:1-6

1. The Lord is Shepherd - vs.1.
2. The Lord is Satisfier - vs.2.
3. The Lord is Salvation - vs.3.
4. The Lord is Sustainer - vs.4-5.
5. The Lord is Security - vs.6. **adapted*

SERMON: What to do when you don't know what to do!

TEXT: 2 Chronicles 20:1-19

1. Keep on TALKING vs. 6
2. Keep on TRUSTING vs. 15
3. Keep on THINKING vs. 3
4. Keep on THANKING vs. 18-19
5. Keep on THIRSTING vs. 2

Conclusion: Matthew 5:6. **adapted*

SERMON: Why we love NOT the World!

TEXT: 1 John 2:15-17

1. We know the DEFINITION of the world: "the world of sin."
2. We know the DETERMINATION of the world: "lust of the flesh & eyes, pride of life."
3. We know the DESTINATION of the world: "the world passes away."

Illustration: I remember the sugar-coated pills mom used to give me when I was sick. At first, the pills tasted so sweet, but when I had sucked the sugar off, they were so bitter that I wanted to spit it out. Sin's pleasure are like that: sweet to the taste, but remorseful to soul. At first—pleasure; at last—pain! Cf. Heb. 11:24-25; Jam. 1:13-16; Rom. 6:23.

→ *Kerusso* ("preach" 2 Tim. 4:2) means to make a formal or an official announcement and thus to announce by means of a herald or one who functions as a herald.

SERMON: Offering Spiritual Sacrifices to God!

TEXT: 1 Pet 2:5, "you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

Introduction: God does not need our worship (Acts 17:25). He does, however, seek our worship and invite us into His presence (Heb. 10:22).

1. **WHO**—*"holy priesthood."*
2. **WHAT**—*"offer up spiritual sacrifices."*
3. **WHERE**—*"spiritual house"*(i.e., Church).
4. **HOW**—*"acceptable to God."*
5. **WHY**—*"you...are being build up."*

SERMON: Offering Spiritual Sacrifices to God!

TEXT: 1 Peter 2:5

Introduction: We must present to God our best!

1. We offer ourselves—Romans 12:1.
2. We offer praise—Hebrews 13:15.
3. We offer service—Hebrews 13:16.
4. We offer prayer—Psalm 141:2.
5. We offer broken hearts—Psalm 51:16,17.

Conclusion: God deserves our BEST!

SERMON: Present Yourself a Living Sacrifice!

TEXT: Romans 12:1-2

Introduction: God want us to be life Him! What must we give to God in order to be godly?

1. **Give God you BODY:** *"present your body a living sacrifice"*(12:1b).
2. **Give God your MIND:** *"be transformed by the renewing of your mind"*(12:2b).
3. **Give God your WILL:** *"that you may prove what the will of God is"*(12:2c).

Conclusion: We must NOT let the world squeeze us into it's mold (12:2a).

POWERPOINT: Integrity is to personal or corporate character what health is to the body or 20/20 vision is to the eyes. People with integrity have nothing to hide and nothing to fear. 📖

Illustration: He died on January 28, 814. Many years later, archaeologists discovered the tomb of Charlemagne, the great king and emperor of

France. When the tomb was opened, after being closed for centuries, the men who entered it found something amazing. They found certain treasures of the kingdom, of course. But in the center of the large vault was a marble throne, and seated on the throne was the skeleton of Charlemagne, with an open Bible on his lap, and a bony finger pointing at Matthew 18:26, "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" What a tremendous lesson from history to those of us who follow! Take a lesson from one who is gone! 📖

SERMON: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

TEXT: Psalm 100:1-5

Introduction: Ps 100 is messianic; it looks forward to the Lord's coming & His Sovereignty.

1. The Lord is the Song: We are His singers (Psalm 100:1-2).
2. The Lord is the Creator: We are His creation (Psalm 100:3a).
3. The Lord is the Shepherd: We are His Sheep (Psalm 100:3b).
4. The Lord is the Blessed One: We are His blessed ones (Psalm 100:4).
5. The Lord is Love: We are His loved ones (Psalm 100:5).

Conclusion: We Praise Thee oh God! **adapted*

SERMON: Giving God Loves!

TEXT: 1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7

Introduction: *Our Giving Should be...*

1. **Purposeful** - 16:1, *"for the saints."*
2. **Periodic** - 16:2, *"upon the first day of the week."*
3. **Personal** - 16:2, *"let everyone of you."*
4. **Proportionate** - 16:2, *"as God has prospered him."*
5. **Preventative** - 16:2, *"be no gatherings when I come."*
6. **Planned** - 2 Cor. 9:7, *"every man...as he purposes."*
7. **Pleasurable** - 2 Cor. 9:7, *"God loves a cheerful giver."*