

The Bible Tells Me So

SERMON NOTES

Week 1 January 9, 2022

“Making Sense of the Bible”

Romans 16:22; II Timothy 3:16-17;

John 1:1-3,14; Matthew 4:1-4



I. The Human and Divine Components of Scripture

A. There is a _____ component of the Bible.

- a. Each of the first 5 books of the Bible were written during different time periods and then compiled together.
- b. Some of the historical books are quoting from other documents.
- c. You see the Psalmist’s humanity when they cry out to God.
- d. The Gospel writers are addressing different audiences.
- e. The epistles were written to various people or churches.

B. There is a _____ component to the Bible.

C. The Bible is a story that gives _____.

II. How to Use the Bible

A. God speaks through the Bible when we _____

B. The unmitigated word of God is _____. (John 1)

III. Wrestling with the Bible

A. It’s okay to _____ with the Bible.

B. _____ wrestled with the Hebrew Scriptures.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *January 10-15, 2022*

INTRODUCTION

The Bible contains some of the loftiest and most beautiful verses in literature. Millions look to it for inspiration and guidance. At the same time, some parts are confusing and others are deeply disturbing. So how do we make sense of the Bible? Is it okay to wrestle and question Scripture?

Monday: Jeremiah 1:1-3; 2 Peter 1:16-21

Some have said that the Bible is the word of God as heard after passing through a human filter. We may understand this better when we realize that each of us might read the same scripture and yet interpret it somewhat differently based on who we are and what we have experienced. When have you felt that the Bible was speaking directly to you?

Tuesday: 2 Timothy 3:10-17

These verses say the Bible's role in our lives is to teach, correct and equip us to live in the ways God calls us to. What parts of the Bible have been most instrumental in shaping your faith and character? What parts have not seemed to contribute or have challenged or stretched your faith? Have you seen situations in which someone has used the Bible to create dissension and even hatred? Why do you think this happens? How has the Bible made you a better person?

Wednesday: John 6:53-69

After Jesus was done teaching, v. 66 says many people no longer followed him. They appeared to either not like what he said or were confused by it. It's possible that you or someone you know left their faith because of something in the Bible. What is it that you or they didn't believe?

Thursday: Genesis 17:9-14, Acts 15:4-19, Galatians 5:1-6

Peter and Paul saw that God himself had changed things long after Genesis was written. This transformation meant that Christians were not to be burdened by "the Law," but were freed by Christ. Have you seen other ways in which, in more modern times, "rules" were thought essential for salvation? Why did Peter, Paul and James decide to deal with the Gentile converts in the way that they did, rather than following Genesis? What was their basis for their decision? Do some people try to apply old "rules" to new converts today?

Friday: John 20:30-31

How does John describe his purpose for writing? What do you think John meant by "have life in his name"?

MOVING FORWARD

The Bible is a collection of 66 ancient documents written over 1,400 years. These documents have both a human and divine component and they become the primary way in which God speaks to us. But we must remember that the unmitigated Word of God was Jesus Christ. So we need to view scripture through the lens of Jesus. The Bible is a story that gives life, so let's read it, sometimes wrestle with it, and be shaped by it.

*Answers to the sermon notes: IA) human, B) divine C) life. IIA) listen, B) Jesus.
III A) wrestle, B) Jesus.*