

45. The Bible Is Genuine and Trustworthy.

For the Word of the Lord is right, and all His works are done in truth. *Ps. 33, 4.*

To judge of a book, we must first examine its contents. The Jews would not believe Jesus because He testified of Himself; but He replied: "Though I bear record of Myself, yet My record is true." And He produced the most conclusive evidence, saying: "The works which the Father hath given Me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of Me that the Father hath sent Me." Jesus and His apostles wrought many divine miracles and thereby proved the genuineness of their message, as Jesus said to His disciples: "Believe Me for the very works' sake." John 14, 11.

Another proof for the genuineness of the Bible and the whole Christian religion we have in the preservation and extension of the Christian Church to this day. It has been attacked and persecuted persistently, but not even the gates of hell prevailed against it. Infidels and scoffers, critics and persecutors, passed away and are forgotten; but the Word of God and His Church has endured. And then there are the many prophecies which have been fulfilled. The Bible foretold future events, and the fulfilment of all of them proved the Bible true.

Furthermore, the Bible bears witness of itself that it is the Word of God, inasmuch as it teaches a sure and safe way unto salvation, a way in which sinners can be saved — the way of faith in Christ Jesus. The Bible lays before us a plan for the salvation of sinners of which man without the revelation of God could never have dreamed, a plan which God alone could devise and carry out. Search all religions, and not one of them will speak to you of a Savior, a mediator between God and men. The Bible alone brings us this wonderful message that God Himself came to this earth to suffer and die for the sins of all mankind and thus to purchase man from the slavery of Satan to be again His own for time and eternity. The Bible bears witness of itself. Open the Book and examine it. It will not fail to commend itself to you as the wisdom of God and the power of God.

Prayer.

We thank Thee, Lord God, heavenly Father, for the way unto salvation which Thou hast revealed in Thy holy Word. Such a thing no man could ever have imagined, and the Book which tells us of it cannot be of man's making; it was given to man by Thee, who alone couldst devise, execute, and make known such an eternally adorable plan. Thousands using the Scriptures have felt their power. Thy Holy Spirit, through the Bible, worketh in us the conviction that Thy Word is truth. And what a blessed influence this Word hath exerted on mankind! It is a true comforter of the soul. Let it always be unto us the joy and rejoicing of our hearts. Amen.

Let me be Thine forever,
Thou gracious God and Lord,
Let me forsake Thee never
Nor wander from Thy Word.
Lord, do not let me waver,
But give me steadfastness
And for such grace forever
Thy holy name I'll bless.

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