***Big Questions: Looking to God’s Word for Answers
“…always being ready to make a defense…” I Peter 3:15***

**Can I Trust the Bible? What the Bible Says About Itself
Various Texts (Part 2)**

**What the Bible Says About Itself…**

**I. The Bible has God as its Author**

**A. II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 1:20-21**

**B. Old and New Testament, Matthew 4:4, I Thessalonians 2:13
(I Timothy 5:8 – Paul calls a quotation from Luke “Scripture, II Peter 3:15-16 – Peter calls Paul’s letters “Scripture”)**

**II. The Bible is True**

 **A. Psalm 19:7-9, “perfect, sure, right, pure, true”**

**B. John 17:17, “Your Word is truth”**

**III. The Bible is Authoritative**

 **A. Deuteronomy 18:18-19**

**B. Matthew 5:17-19**

**C. II Peter 3:1-2**

**IV. The Bible is Powerful**

 **A. Hebrews 4:12**

**B. I Corinthians 2:1-5**

**V. The Bible is about Jesus Christ**

 **A. Luke 24:27**

 **B. John 5:39**

**VI. The Bible Leads Us to Salvation**

 **A. I Timothy 4:16**

 **B. II Timothy 3:14-15**

 **Next Week: Can I Trust the Bible? The Testimony of Fulfilled Prophecy (Part 3)**

**Psalm 19**

    **1**The heavens are telling of the glory of God;
         And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.
    **2**Day to day pours forth speech,
         And night to night reveals knowledge.
    **3**There is no speech, nor are there words;
         Their voice is not heard.
    **4**Their line has gone out through all the earth,
         And their utterances to the end of the world
         In them He has placed a tent for the sun,
    **5**Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber;
         It rejoices as a strong man to run his course.
    **6**Its rising is from one end of the heavens,
         And its circuit to the other end of them;
         And there is nothing hidden from its heat.
    **7**The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;
         The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.
    **8**The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
         The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.
    **9**The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
         The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.
    **10**They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold;
         Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.
    **11**Moreover, by them Your servant is warned;
         In keeping them there is great reward.
    **12**Who can discern his errors? Acquit me of hidden faults.
    **13**Also keep back Your servant from presumptuous sins;
         Let them not rule over me;
         Then I will be blameless,
         And I shall be acquitted of great transgression.
    **14**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
         Be acceptable in Your sight,
         O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.

**Scripture Reading**

* **Read Psalm 19:1-14 (Slides)**

**Can I Trust the Bible? What the Bible Says About Itself (Header Slide)**

**I. The Bible has God as its Author**

**A. II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 1:20-21**

* **Read II Peter 1:20-21 (Slide 2)**
* **Two signers at the Passion 2011 conference, each signing the song and the message simultaneously – same message, different interpretation**

**B. Old and New Testament, Matthew 4:4, I Thessalonians 2:13
(I Timothy 5:8 – Paul calls a quotation from Luke “Scripture, II Peter 3:14-16 – Peter calls Paul’s letters “Scripture”)**

* **Read I Thessalonians 2:13 (Slide 3)**

**II. The Bible is True**

 **A. Psalm 19:7-9, “perfect, sure, right, pure, true”**

* **We already read this Psalm, where we see these attributes for the Bible**

**B. John 17:17, “Your Word is truth”**

* **Jesus says of the Word of God, “Your Word is Truth”**

**III. The Bible is Authoritative**

 **A. Deuteronomy 18:18-19**

**B. Matthew 5:17-19**

**C. II Peter 3:1-2**

**IV. The Bible is Powerful**

 **A. Hebrews 4:12**

**B. I Corinthians 2:1-5**

**V. The Bible is about Jesus Christ**

 **A. Luke 24:27**

 **B. John 5:39**

* **Read John 5:39 (Slide 4)**

**VI. The Bible Leads Us to Salvation**

 **A. I Timothy 4:16**

 **B. II Timothy 3:14-15**

* **That leads us to the text that we will focus our attention for the remainder of our time**
* **Read II Timothy 3:13 (Slide 5)**
* **There are false teachers Timothy, now what? What do we do with these false teachers in the world?**
* **Read II Timothy 3:14-15 (Slide 6)**
* **We cling to what we have been taught**
* **Read II Timothy 3:16-17 (Slide 7)**
* **All Scripture**
* **Inspired or God-breathed**
* **Read Matthew 4:4 (Slide 8)**
* **Proceeds from the mouth of God**
* **Read II Timothy 3:16-17 (Slide 9)**
	+ **For teaching – what we must know**
	+ **For reproof – what we must stop**
	+ **For correction – what we must change**
	+ **For training – what we must improve**

**Conclusion: (blank slide) the Bible comes from God. The Bible has God as its author and because God has authored this book, the Bible is true. Since God is our Creator, He has authority over us and has placed His Word as the mediating authoritative word in our lives as individuals and as a church. The Bible is powerful for the Word of God comes into our lives by the work of the Spirit of God and transforms us into the image of Christ. The Bible is ultimately about Jesus Christ and salvation that is found exclusively in Him. All of this truth, given by God to us, should change our lives.**