

(9-30-12)

RIGHT ABOUT THE BIBLE!

WHY BAPTIST SERIES

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TEXT: Acts 17:10 And the brethren immediately sent away **Paul and Silas** by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

11 These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received **the word** with all readiness of mind, and **searched the scriptures** daily, **whether those things were so.**

"The fundamental principle of the Baptists is their belief in the supreme authority and absolute sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures...This is the bed rock...God's Word is the supreme and infallible rule for our guidance...It is no partial revelation...This is the fundamental position of the Baptists; and every peculiarity which characterizes them is the practical outcome of this principle..."

(R.M. Dudley, "The Distinctive Baptist Why," *Baptist Why and Why Not*, 1900)

"...whatever religious truths may be found in other [so-called] sacred books or in works of philosophy, these same truths are found in the Bible, and here they are free from mixture with errors...No moral truth has been discovered beyond what is contained in the Bible..."

(T.T. Eaton, "Why the Bible and Not Other Standards," 1900)

Isaiah 41:21 Produce your cause, saith the LORD; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob.

22 Let them bring them forth, and shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things, what they be, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come.

23 Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods...

24 Behold, ye are of nothing, and your work of nought: an abomination is he that chooseth you.

Isaiah 42:9 Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them.

Isaiah 8:20 To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according **to this word**, it is because there is no light in them.

2 Timothy 3:14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

15 And **that from a child** thou hast known **the holy scriptures**, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

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 perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Revelation 2:2 I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and **thou hast tried them which say they are apostles**, and are not, and hast found them liars:

James 2:20 But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?

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"In my earliest years I constantly made the foolish supposition that conclusive proofs would change belief. But experience has long since dissipated my faith in man's rationality."

(Herbert Spencer, *Christian*)

Jude 1:10 But these speak evil of those things which they know not: but what they know naturally, as brute beasts, in those things they corrupt themselves.

John 10:35...the scripture cannot be broken;

Psalms 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to **thy word**.
11 **Thy word** have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: **thy word** is truth.

2 Peter 1:3 According as his divine power hath given unto us **all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him** that hath called us to glory and virtue:

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of **knowledge**: because thou hast rejected knowledge...seeing thou hast forgotten **the law** of thy God...

Colossians 2:8 Beware lest any man **spoil you through philosophy** and vain deceit, after **the tradition of men**, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

2 Timothy 4:3 For the time will come when they will not **endure sound doctrine**; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned **unto fables**.

1 Timothy 6:20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding **profane and vain babblings**, and oppositions of **science falsely so called**:

A letter from Bohemia to the Erasmus about certain Christians (1519):

"These men have no other opinion of the Pope, cardinals, bishops, and other clergy than of manifest Antichrists...Their own bishops and priests, they themselves do choose for themselves, ignorant and unlearned laymen, that have wife and children. They mutually salute one another by the name of brother and sister. **They own no other authority than the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament**. They slight **all the doctors, both ancient and modern**, and give no regard to their doctrine...Such as come over to their sect, must every one be baptized anew in mere water. They believe nothing of divinity in the sacrament of the eucharist...and, accordingly, that all that do knee down to it, or worship, are guilty of idolatry; that that sacrament was instituted by Christ to no other purpose but to renew the memory of his passion, and not to be carried about or held up by the priests to be gazed on...Prayers to saints, and for the dead, they count a vain and ridiculous thing...Eves and fast-days are, they say, a mockery and disguise of hypocrites..."

(Joannes Slechta Costelecius, Oct. 10, 1519)

"Baptists lay concealed in almost all the countries of Europe before the rise of Luther and Calvin."

(S.F. Ford, *The Christian Repository*, 1857)

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"...the rise of the 'Anabaptists' took place long prior to the formation of the Church of England, and there are also reasons for believing that on the Continent of Europe small hidden christian societies, who have held many of the opinions of the 'Anabaptists,' have existed from the times of the Apostles. In the sense of the direct transmission of Divine Truth, and the true nature of spiritual religion, it seems probable that these Churches have a lineage or succession more ancient than that of the Roman Church."

(Barclay, *The Inner Life of the Societies of the Commonwealth*, 1876; a Quaker historian)

"All that the United States is at this moment, all the superiority of her people in morals and in enterprise over the Roman Catholic States of this continent, she owes to the reliance of her people on the Bible as the standard of their faith. **This is the source and safeguard even of her liberties**...Baptists have been distinguished for their close attachment to the Scriptures."

(Curtis, *The Progress of Baptist Principles*, 1855)

"It will be found, upon strict inquiry, that the Baptists are the only people who take the Bible alone as their rule of faith and practice in church matters."

(David Ray, *Baptist Succession*, 1871)

The Catholic newspaper, *Church Progress and Weekly Catholic World* - the leading Catholic newspaper in the West. Endorsed by the Archbishop of Chicago, and other Archbishops:

Church Progress' Tenth Affirmative (July 4, 1891):

"...What is the rule of faith? We argue on the contrary, that the Bible alone cannot be the rule of faith...Christ gave us the Church as the rule of faith. Therefore the Church is the perfect rule of faith...The Bible alone, therefore, cannot be the rule of faith, and hence any church, which claims that the Bible alone is the rule of faith, cannot be the Church established by Christ...If every humble soul can go to the Bible, as the *Baptist* has repeatedly asserted, and know all that is necessary for him to know for salvation, what is the use or the value of a living ministry...?"

"...How does Rome teach truth with unflinching certainty, when she contradicts herself a thousand times? She is entirely destitute of Scriptural unity. Also, her 'apostolic succession' is a myth, unless it be a succession of false apostles...What Pope has ever been able to furnish the signs of his apostleship, 'in signs and wonders and mighty deeds.' 2 Cor. 12:12...The word of Christ as contained in the New Testament is the perfect rule of faith...Where in the Scriptures is the church made the rule of faith?..."

(Ray, *The Baptist*)

John 5:39 Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

Mark 7:13 Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition...

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