

Sermon Notes

TIP (Take It Personal)

April 28, 2013

Series: More Than a Survivor

Title: Why Trust the Bible?

Text: 2 Peter 1:11-21

It is no secret, Christianity is under attack in our nation. At numerous points and in many arenas our faith is being tested. Most often these pushbacks center around two areas of theology every believer should hold dear. The first is the person of Jesus Christ. The second is the Bible as God's Word.

Now lest we become fearful, please know this is not a new phenomenon. It has been happening for tens of centuries. Yet, Christ and the Word of God (Scripture) have stood the tests of time and attack. Jesus said that the gates of hell will not prevail against his Church. While there have certainly been set-backs in various locations, the Church continues to march forward under the guiding hand of its leader, Jesus Christ.

Peter writes his two letters because false teachers are attacking Christians by misrepresenting Christ and denying what Scripture has to say about Him. The emphasis of the verses before us is to counter what these teachers of false doctrine are trying to persuade believers to accept. Just like many in today's world who are denying the truth concerning Christ and or have tossed the Word aside as being irrelevant to today's society.

The key text in this first chapter is found in verse nineteen; "*And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, **to which you will do well to pay attention** as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts,*" 2 Pe 1:19 (ESV)

Are you doing well? Are you paying attention to what God reveals to us in his Word? Peter tells us there are two reasons we can trust the reliability of the bible. Your challenge is to discover those two reasons given in 2 Peter 1:16-21.

May God grant to you the wonderful joy of discovery as you mine the nuggets of truth from His Word. As you work through this study; ask God to increase your desire for His Word.

Blessings as you study,

Pastor Ed

What does Peter mean when he states “we have the prophetic word” (v. 20)?

According to Peter, what has happened to make the “the prophetic word more fully confirmed’?

What are some ways God has more fully confirmed Jesus Christ in your heart and life? What were the circumstances surrounding this (these) confirmation(s)?

How is the Word like a lamp shining in a dark place (v.19)? What is the dark place? How has the Word served as a light for your path? How long will this light shine? (v. 19)

What is the origin of Scripture (vv 20-21)? What role did man play in the writing of Scripture?

Why can you have great confidence in the reliability of the Scripture? What value does it have in our lives? (see 2 Timothy 3:14-17)

What role does Scripture play when a person becomes a believer in Christ? (see 2 Timothy 3:15)

How much time do you spend each week reading Scripture? How does this compare with things you do for leisure activity. For example, your favorite TV program. Playing sports etc. What would happen if you spent as much time reading Scripture as you do watching TV, surfing the internet or checking your Facebook page? Have you ever read through the entire bible. (see this website for various reading plans. www.biblegateway.com/reading-plans/)

What is the meaning of the doctrine of inerrancy? Pastor Ed gave a definition.

So What?

What is the main thing God is desirous of you learning from this passage? Why do you think that?