The Christian Bible and It's Use

All Scriptures from The Old and New King James Versions

It seems the world is not using the Bible at all or is only using it for a loose reference. I see great problems with this. Many have claimed, that they believe the Bible, but only use parts of it. They think the Bible is inspired, but only to a degree. Some don't believe it is inspired at all. Some say they believe in God, but say his rules are written in the natural world around us therefore we don't need the Bible. Some say, we are using the wrong Bible other religions are the answer. Others say, how we can believe the Bible when it contradicts scientific teaching.

Let us address some of this. I do believe the creation is a strong evidence of God. I disagree that the natural world gives us all the answers we need to live. It does show many things we can learn for life.

Rom 1:20 For since the creation of the world <u>His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,</u>

The problem with using the natural world for answers is it does not answer all questions. It can be intrepid differently by anyone. Let's face it, men are not inspired, and they use their own opinion. The problem with opinions is, everyone has one, and they will always differ a little or a lot. Who believes we can make God in our image or opinion? If God is; then would he not tell us what pleases him?

The problem with using the Bible as a reference only; means you can bind nothing as God's will or command. This makes the Bible as an interesting book but of questionable usefulness. Believing that it is not inspired at all also makes it seem that it's not worth reading. This might make other religions seem more plausible but not really. All the teachings from other religions have the problems of inconsistency. There are so many other books of other religions, how could you read them all in one lifetime? This is why many become non-religious. For a book to be from God you would expect it to be infallible without contradictions. The Christian Bible is the only book which comes close to this claim. Although some claim contradictions are in the Bible, you will find these alleged contradictions to be easily explained by the text or history of how people spoke during the time of the writing. You would also expect it to be historically correct. So far it has been proven right historically. Older copies would remain consistent with the newer copies. Some claim things were added to the original. But you can find historically not all people could afford a scribe to make them a copy so they copied what they could on their own. More complete copies were found. Just because older copies did not have every verse does not mean new verses were added. Our present Christian Bible came from the Vulgate copy. I believe that this was caused by God preserving his word for man. Now another point is why are their so many translations? Has the Bible changed? No, it has not. Why do I say this? Our language has changed not the Bible. New translations come closer to our present-day language. The Bible has always been the truth.

Does the Bible really contradict science? I think it does not. Why? The teachings of science have always changed with new discoveries. Science is a changing system to understand the world around us. Scientist do make mistakes but usually not on purpose. The idea of scientific studies being perfect without flaw is not a view most scientist would hold to. Scientific theories are only tools to understand things with the information we have at a particular time. Scientific theories should never be taught as fact but only as the best idea known at the present time. Einstein proved this in his theories, by questioning many theories of his time. He proved many theories wrong. He gave many new theories. Most he taught is accepted today.

The age of the earth determined by many scientists, does not prove they are right because the methods used are based on theories not yet proven. Also, many things as age assessment are derived by assuming "uniformity in radioactive decay". Many factors have not been considered, as density of the sample, field variation, and other radiant energy, extreme temperature, cosmic energy, etcetera. To be true to these scientists, they can not prove these things because of the vast amounts of time required for definite proofs. Because of this they measure the decay rate under open conditions for a time they set for measurement. If they find it consistent in this time, they call it a consistent decay. Of coarse this does not prove it true because the time it takes to complete this experiment is unreasonable. Which means the experiment can not be completed because of the vast amounts of time. This also means you can't test how external forces over long periods of time might change the results. Scientist say the world is approximately 12 billion years old. If this is so, would not most radioactive elements already be decayed to no radioactivity? How can this be explained? Why do we still find them still radioactive? Are they being inconsistent? The author of the first carbon 14 radioactive decay dating said his findings were only good for 5,000 years. So, at best this type of radioactive dating is only good for relative dating sticking to only one type of isotope. People don't understand that there are also many isotopes of radioactive elements giving different dating. They can differ as much as several thousand years in one sample from the same place. I do believe these methods of radioactive dating do not totally accurate to general dates but do possibly show what came before the other. This is only good for relative dating.

I believe God is outside time. (The King James Version speaks of the end of time.) Our original measure of time was based on lunar and solar changes. God does not lie. If he said it was created in so many days then this is the truth. Also, we must understand God created time and is able to manipulate it any way he chooses. What was a day then? We do not know the first recorded time keeping was by solar or lunar change. The measure of time in the Bible is God's standard which we have no reference because the moon earth did not exist until God created it. Since this is before recorded time, I think it was as our idea of time. Surly this record is in our time but I can not prove this one way or the other.

Heb 6:18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us:

Evolution means change. We cannot deny man has changed because we see so many races today and we all do not look like Adam or Eve. How did we get genetic diversity from only two people unless God did it? We can not deny many animals have changed. Dogs and cats are a great example. We believe God is responsible for these changes. We do not think an Ape became a man. Why, because God created different "Kinds" of living creations. One kind does not change over to become another "Kind". In other words, a man is still a man and Ape is till an Ape. A Dog is still a Dog. In other words, evolution does not cause trans-species evolution. There are no true fossil evidences of this occurring. (If it were true, evidence would be abundant.) God used a design and used it in many animals.

1Co 15:39 All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds.

Ok what would happen if we reject the bible and only used the church leaders to determine what God wants? If they are inspired from God you would expect no contradictions between generations. You would expect these people to live perfect lives. Is this the fact? No, it is not.

History shows this is not true. Has God left us on earth without a way to know his will? No, it shows the bible is the only way to determine this. If you disregard the Bible where would be the standards for modern society? Our whole system of government has been derived from Christian principals. We would have societies as the Roman Empire without choice, if Christianity had not influenced the world. Nations, who have not accepted God, still today tries conquering each other. Whether you accept Christianity or not and its principals have only helped us as a society by law and freedom of choice. If these principals are rejected, the world would fall into chaos. Every person would want his opinion over other's opinions. Complete ciaos would ensue and war would flourish.

Rejecting the Bible is the same as saying God is not able to bring his message to man.

Consider the following Scriptures:

Scripture claims its self to from God and his word. It claims we use all of it to understand God's will.

2Ti 3:16 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 complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Nothing is too hard for God

Jer 32:17 'Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You. --- 27 "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?

Given by inspiration of God.

2Pe 1:20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, **21** for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

We have the mind of Christ in scriptures.

1Co 2:13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. 16 For "WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD THAT HE MAY INSTRUCT HIM?" But we have the mind of Christ.

Christ words are from the Father

Joh 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. 24 He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me.

Bible brings the word of truth.

1Th 2:13 For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

Beware of those twisting the scripture.

2Pe 3:15 and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, **16** as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

God's word will not pass away.

Mat 24:35 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

God's word will Judge us.

Joh 12:47 And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. 48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

His word is a living book must be used to understand ourselves and God.

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

His word is preserved forever.

Isa 40:8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever."

His word is reasonable thus provable.

Isa 1:18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.

His word directs us which path to take

Psa 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.

Questions: Contact Mt Olive Church of Christ. 205-631-9182 Or contact me Michael R. Rouse. 205-607- 4139 avoidsin2@gmail.com http://www.mikesbiblestudies.com/