

I. Review

We have been studying the book of Psalms verse by verse and we are really taking it seriously. We have been laying out each Psalms for about a year now and we have come to Psalms 14. We have been dealing with all of the pieces and all of the things that stand out that we need to know and understand. We have been looking at Psalms 14:1-7 for the last couple of weeks.

1. *The fool hath said in his heart, [There is] no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, [there is] none that doeth good.*
2. *The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, [and] seek God.*
3. *They are all gone aside, they are [all] together become filthy: [there is] none that doeth good, no, not one.*
4. *Have all the workers of iniquity no knowledge? who eat up my people [as] they eat bread, and call not upon the LORD.*
5. *There were they in great fear: for God [is] in the generation of the righteous.*
6. *Ye have shamed the counsel of the poor, because the LORD [is] his refuge.*
7. *Oh that the salvation of Israel [were come] out of Zion! when the LORD bringeth back the captivity of his people, Jacob shall rejoice, [and] Israel shall be glad.*

I told you when we started Psalms that the book breaks down into three biblical categories.

Historical – A Psalms of Davd as he goes through the midst of his struggles and trials,

Doctrinal – In this case in this chapter and many of the Psalms will be a tribulation Psalms. Prophetically it is Israel going through their trials.

You will find where it says a fool has said in his heart that there is no God. Then he goes down and lists how much corruption is going on. This will be in a prophetic sense the people that are connected to the Antichrist who have denied the knowledge of God. I showed you last week in Hosea 4:1 and through the example of 1 Kings 18 the story of Ahab and Jezebel how all this fits together. Verse 4 talks about as I've told you many times, they're practicing human sacrifices in the tribulation. In verse 7 the context and reference here is the second coming of Christ.

Inspirational – We have built our whole study so far around verse one where it says, "*The fool hath said in his heart there is no Go...*" I don't care if it's historically, prophetically or

inspirationally, **a fool is a fool**. A fool will be a fool in any dispensation of the Bible, and they will always follow the same patterns. Last week I just briefly went through them and that is when God worked in my heart about starting the syllabus and taking the people that want to go through and teach the patterns of human nature. Everything falls into a pattern. If you are going to be key in reaching people and doing what God wants you to do, you can't just fly by the seat of your pants. You must understand why people have the problems that they have. Once you understand that, you see the patterns in the Bible that illustrate those same very problems. If you are going to help people, and **the ministry is people**, then our job is to take people who have struggles in their lives and to help them be everything God wants them to be. So, you must understand and learn the importance of patterns. Then learning how to apply the patterns. What you find in your everyday life as you are a witness for Christ, and as we try to help people.

➤ Cult Religions Used by the Devil to Destroy, Disrupt & Get God's Plan off Track

As I said our key verse has been verse one about a fool in his heart saying that there is no God. I have been showing you how you can identify a fool. Proverbs tells us nine things that defines a wise man, and I gave them to you last week. But then it also gives us eight things that define a fool, and I gave those to you last week. By breaking them down into four basic categories in history and understanding them, I laid out all the cult religions down through history that has come up through the devil to destroy, disrupt, and get God's plan off track. We talked about the **Far East cults**. I showed you how every one of them never came into being until after Israel ceased to be the nation that God had it to be in 2 Chronicles 36. As we moved into the early part of the church age and up through the Dark Ages, we looked at the **European cults**. They all come out of the Roman Catholic church. I showed you how they dominated Europe during that period. But then around 1620 or so, the pilgrims come over and landed at Plymouth Rock. Now we see God beginning to work through America (**American cults**). Thursday night (8/22/2024) I walked you through the **Seven Great Awakenings** that God brought across America to keep the gospel alive and to keep people in the word of God.

I also showed you the **Seven American Cults** that the devil brings up to counter what God was doing during this time. Then the fourth one was **the wannabes** in life. The men and women who simply have no structure in their life with the Bible. They will come up with some absolutely goofy Disney World idea about something in the Bible that has never been taught down through history. They have no followers and are out there spewing their heresy.

I showed you that down through history in its fundamental form is just two things from the Bible standpoint. It is God moving down through history to accomplish His plan and then the devil moving in opposition to God to stop that plan. Once you understand that truth and begin to view history through that truth, then you begin to see how it works.

I gave you a couple of **key verses** from Psalms 127:1, *Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it:*” **Showing you that if the foundation of what you believe isn't found in the word of God and then established down through the history of the church, you are wasting your time.**

➤ Two Different Ways You Deal with Fools

I gave you a great verse in Proverbs 26:4-5 where it looks to be a contradiction, but it is not. It is **two different ways you deal with fools**. Verse 4 says, “*Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him*” Proverbs 26:4. Then in verse 5 it says, “*Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit.*” Proverbs 26:5

I tried to teach you that when you are dealing with people, sometimes **you don’t answer them** and why. Then sometimes **you do answer them**, and why. It is all part of learning how to deal with people and understanding how the whole thing goes together.

➤ The Key to All History - Landmarks

I gave you in my own humble opinion what I think is **the key to all history**. Those are the **two landmarks**.

- 1.) Proverbs 22:28 says, “*Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.*”
- 2.) Proverbs 23:10 says, “*Remove not the old landmark; and enter not into the fields of the fatherless.*”

I told you the two key landmarks that all history is built around will be:

- 1.) The Old Testament, the nation of Israel.
- 2.) The New Testament, the church, the body of Christ.

It says in Proverbs 23:10 to remove not the old landmark; that will be the church and enter not into the fields of the fatherless. **What are the fields of the fatherless? The fields of the fatherless is simply that if you don’t have a landmark in history to know where you are at in relationship to God and the Bible; then you are an orphan when it comes to history, you have no roots.** You don’t know where you came from. You may believe something about God in the Bible, but you couldn’t explain why you believe it. You don’t know where it started. You couldn’t find the doctrine of it in the word of God. This is the fields of the fatherless.

➤ Old Paths Based on the Old Landmarks

When you came in here this morning you might have seen our sign out front. It says Old Paths Baptist Church. That is the name of our church. I have been asked many times why I call the church Old Paths Baptist Church. First of all, because it is found in the Bible in Jeremiah 6:16. I always know whenever I go anywhere and am talking to somebody, and they ask me, what is the name of your church. I say it is Old Paths Baptist Church. They say, Old Path what? I say Jeremiah 6:16. They say oh yeah, yeah. They don’t know where Jeremiah 6:16 is in the Bible. Why did I pick that? Because it says,

*Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for **the old paths**, where [is] the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk [therein]. Jeremiah 6:16*

The old paths are based on the old landmarks. I never want anybody in this church to ever become part of the fields of the fatherless. You may wind up there, but it won't be because I didn't try to show you and help you. **If you are saved this morning, God has a plan for your life. There is a reason why He saved you.** Most of God's people have no idea what that is, but there is a reason. **The reason is because God wants you to do something for Him. But you have got to be on the right path, and it has to be the old paths.**

You know what is wrong with Christianity today? Too many new paths. We need to get back to the old paths. We need to get back to the fundamentals of the Bible that have never changed for 2,000 years. We need to take a stand on them. We need to preach them; we need to teach them, and God's people need to incorporate them in their lives. When they do, it says it is a good way and when you walk therein you shall find rest for your souls. There is nothing in this life that will give you more rest to your souls in a world that is upside down in turmoil than being on the old paths. Getting the things of God in your life, but as verse 16 says, at the end we will not walk therein. If I have learned anything in over fifty years of ministry in dealing with people, is you can't make anybody do what they don't want to do. When it comes to the old paths, you are going to find some that do and some that don't. **Christianity today for the most part, is filled with men and women who are good people, but they are in the fields of the fatherless.**

➤ The Elijah Principle – Dealing with Unteachable People

Last week I topped it all off by giving you the **Elijah Principle** (1 Kings 18:17-40). Learning how you deal with unteachable people in the world. Some are into those cults, and some are just people who are confused. But you are going to find that some are saved, and some are lost. The big problem I run into in dealing with people is that the Bible has been replaced in people's lives by the internet. You find some of the most ridiculous, stupidest stuff on the internet. There is some good stuff on there. But every heresy, every piece of trash, is out there on the internet and some people will throw away their Bibles because they saw it on the internet. At the end of the day, you got to get back to what does the Bible say. **The Bible is the final authority**, not the internet.

➤ Discernment is Knowing Which Side of your Two-edged Sword to Use and When – Hebrews 4:12

Up to this point I have given you everything and shown you what you need to be. In life in general there is one little phrase that I follow in everything that I do. **I try to be smarter than the problem.** I showed you last week in Hebrews 4:12 how the word of God, the Bible, says it is sharper than any two-edged sword. A sword has two edges to it. With one edge of this sword, you use it like a scalpel of a surgeon. To dissect into people's lives to what they need. On the other hand, when you are dealing with fools you must use the other edge of the blade, and you have to use it as a saber to cut and chop. Two edges to this sword in dealing with people.

➤ Building the Elijah's of Today

I will say it again, **the ministry is people**. The ministry is not a choir, it is not buses. It is not ball games. The ministry is people! All those things may be a means to an end, but at the end of the day, those of you who are sitting here this morning you are the most important aspect to God. In any church, with any pastor, in his mind you ought to be the most important aspect that he dedicates everything that God has given to him to help you. **Building you and your families to be the Elijah of today.**

We saw it last week. Elijah took on 450 prophets of Baal. He was outnumbered 450 to one and he stood on God's word and took them all on. What Israel needed at that time as a nation, was they needed a man like Elijah. I am going to tell you today with the church and the state that it is in, what Christianity needs today is some Elijah's. Some men and women who will take their stand. Some men and women who won't back down, who will stand all by themselves steadfast and unmovable. Men and women who because of what they know about the patterns and how things work in life through the word of God, that they never lose control of any situation. They never allow their emotions to get involved past a certain point. When they get into a situation dealing with people, they can guide that situation always right back to the word of God to try to help them. Sometimes it takes being fearless. Sometimes it takes you having to stand all by yourself. **But in every case, you stand to declare the truth to an unbelieving people by exposing everything in life that is not real and not right.**

➤ An Opportunity to Learn the Patterns of Human Nature

I told you Thursday night I had been thinking all summer long about what I wanted to do this fall. I had some options on the table, and we have talked about it. But I have watched the young singles and young married couples who work with me in the Alpha Bravo teams and the Timothy Ministry. I've watched the midline moms and dads who are so involved in people's lives by discipling and working with people. You are dealing with all the different aspects. And you older folks who are invaluable to this church as an example to the younger ones of what they need to be, and you too are supporting and helping everything that gets done. I am going to say it again, **the ministry is people**. It's about you and me looking at people out there who are hurting and who are struggling in a world that is utter chaos. **The tragedy is God's people have the answer, but we are not willing to give it out.** We have our own little world and our own little things that we do. Hey, I have my own little world, I really do. We all have our little hideaway where we can go and recoup and get our brain cells recharged. I get that! **But at the end of the day the ministry is people.**

That is why I decided starting this coming Saturday that I am going to take anybody in this church on whatever level you are on, and you and I are going to go to work going through every one of those human principles. I am going to show you the cause and effect of problems in people's lives and the principle in the Bible that illustrates that. Then I will show you how you take that and put it into their lives. It's going to be something that you and I are going to work at. It has developed even in the last week as I thought this through. I have them all cataloged in my Bible. I don't necessarily want you to do that. I want to develop for you a training manual, a

syllabus. Something that you can get your hands on. It will probably be five or six or even up to ten volumes before we are done. But you will have a library of those principles that you can constantly be going over and reach out and get when you are dealing with a situation. Because **the ministry is people**, and this is where you are at now. It would be almost spiritually criminal for me not to do this based on where this church is at and the people that God has given us. The excitement and the desire you guys have to be everything that God wants you to be. **Here we are!** I am going to take you up to the next four or five levels if that is where you want to go. I want to build into your life what has taken me over fifty years to understand in dealing with people. Because **the ministry is people, and we must love people**. We don't look at them and their problems and think they are terrible people, or they are not worthy of this. No, no. You never want to forget that none of us looked too good the first time God laid eyes on us. If God wouldn't have put in your life what He did to get you where you are at, where would we be? My dear friend, I love you to death, but everybody deserves that. That is what Old Paths does!

II. Questions that Fools are Going to Ask You

Today I want to start the next part of this study. I told you last week I wanted to begin to look at the questions that the fools are going to throw at you who don't believe in God. You are going to come into contact with them, if you haven't already. There are about 30-40 of them. Like I said, I have them cataloged in my Bible. Every time I come across one over the years, I just write it back there and put the date next to it. These questions are patterns, and this is why you must learn patterns. For the next couple of weeks on Sunday morning I am going to show you the patterns of a fool and the way that they want to get around God. Then I am going to show you every first Saturday of the month, the patterns that people get into that cause them problems when they make the wrong choices in life.

➤ Be Ready Always to Give an Answer to Every Man that Asketh

The Bible tells us in 1 Peter 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and [be] ready always to [give] an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

The Bible says that we are to be ready! To answer any man! When he sees your life and my life, and he sees there is a difference, and he knows he doesn't have what you have, he is going to throw some questions at you. Sometimes those questions will be legitimate questions. Like, why are you so happy all the time? How did your family turn out so good? Sometimes there will be questions like these. Other times there will be the questions of a skeptic. Somebody who doesn't believe and is a fool in his heart. The bottom line is they want to discredit what you believe. This is where 1 Peter 3:15 comes in to be ready always! **Be ready always!**

When you are armed with all that I have given you up to this point and what I am about to give you today, then on Saturday you are going to learn how to deal with these kinds of people. You are going to understand not only what they are going to throw at you, but you are going to have the time to analyze it and know why they come up with the answers that they do. **Being smarter than the problem!**

Last week I showed you in 1 Kings 18 that Elijah went up against Ahab. Ahab says to him when he sees him. You are the guy from God who is causing all these problems. Elijah stuck his finger right in his face and said, “Look pal, you are the problem.” **You know what you are going to learn today by the questions that these people ask, you are going to see they are the problem not the Bible. Not Christianity.**

When I give these to you, we will just get through a few today and then we are going to work on them every week. But I want you to know that as I lay these out, you may not lay them out in the same way as I have given them. My goal is to give you the information, show you both sides and then you take that information and repackage it. But I have got to get you the information and I am going to show you the cold hard facts that are undisputable and then I am depending on you to take it from there.

In these questions you are going to see why God calls them fools, saved or lost. It is obvious by these questions they have absolutely no understanding, no knowledge of God. I take that for granted and I don't hold it against them. I expect them to be that way. But that gives me the insight of how I can better help them. In these questions you will find the two kinds of fools that Proverbs 26:4-5 talks about. Some of them you will not answer and some of them you will. For me and you these are stupid questions. You would look at somebody and say, you got to be kidding me. But they are invaluable because you learn the inside working of how you deal with them. Most questions people ask about the Bible that are skeptics, to us who know the Bible, they seem to be dumb questions. But to them, it is where they are at. I want to teach you not only today, but starting next Saturday, how to understand where they are at. I want you to be able to broaden your depth chart, broaden your ability to see and understand people. Develop your skills with the word of God and with people. Because you are going to find that **the ministry is people.**

Let's look at a couple of these today and learn them. Because in time you are going to get these thrown at you. The skeptics are always going to be throwing these questions to you. I said earlier you are going to get some good honest questions by people who just don't know. But then again, you are going to run into these guys where they need to leave their encounter with you understanding that **they are the problem not you. Here is where you got to be smarter than the problem.**

#1 Question: How did Cain get his wife?

This first one is a goofy question for sure. I have heard this question lots of times. Some intelligent idiot who thinks he is smarter than the Bible and thinks he has got it all figured out, will sit there and look at me and say, so you believe the Bible, huh? I say, yes sir, I do. He says, well let me ask you a question. I said go ahead. He says, where did Cain get his wife? My first response is the same way you got yours. Courting! This is where they come from. When you read Genesis 4 about Cain, Abel and Seth, then three or more verses later somehow Cain gets a wife and builds a city. They say, that can't be the way it is, your Bible is full of errors.

➤ Usher's Chronology – A Valuable Resource

A couple of weeks ago I talked to you about **Usher's Chronology**. Archbishop Usher was a man who took the genealogies in the Bible and worked out the chronologies of dating everything in the Bible chapter by chapter. He did this in 1600, and it was the standard history of the human race based on a King James 1611 Authorized Version for 400 years. Nobody buys it today. Nobody believes it today, except those of us who understand the fields of the fatherless. It is invaluable when you find questions like this. I am sure when I said that question, where did Cain get his wife, some of you thought, what are you talking about? Let me show you something about your Bible. You need to learn this is how you deal with these guys. Ushers Chronology is invaluable when you start to deal with things like this.

When you look at Genesis 4:1, Adam and Eve have two sons, Cain and Abel. There are only twenty-six verses in this chapter but in verse 8 on down through verse 16, Cain kills Abel, and God confronts Cain. Cain says my sin is greater than I can bear. Then the Bible says he leaves the presence of God and within that chapter between verses 17-26 we are now told that he finds a wife and builds a city. The skeptics look at that and say how could that be? Your Bible must be full of errors. That is impossible! Well, if you are a fool, probably so. But you will need to look at chapter 4 verse 3. Mark these places in your Bible. In verse 3 it says, **in the process of time**. Now watch the Bible closely. Usher's chronology from Genesis 4:1 to Genesis 4:26 is 325 years, a process of time.

A skeptical fool has no understanding of time in the Bible. He just sees the chapter, turns the page and says oh, that can't be. He doesn't have the ability to know that from verse 1 to verse 26 is 325 years. Given the fact that the Bible says you are told that Adam lives to be 930 years old and for 800 years he has sons and daughters. People are living to be 800-900 years old. So, at 300, people were still in their prime of having kids. There probably were two-three million people on the Earth by then. By the time Cain leaves after killing Abel and heads out and then gets a wife, it has been 325 years, in the process of time, based on the time element in the Bible that is absolute. **Fools have no understanding of how the Bible unfolds itself.** That is something that as you deal with a person who is a fool and they bring that up to you, now you are armed with the truth. You can show them how big a fool they are by not giving the Bible the benefit of the doubt.

#2 Question. Why does God allow tragedies?

You are going to hear this one all the time. Why does God allow babies to die? Why does God allow earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes? Why are little kids born with terrible birth defects? Why in places like Africa and the Congo by the thousands, babies starve to death? Why does God allow that? **If you get this one down, it will open up a real opportunity to witness.** The question is why does God allow all of these terrible tragedies to happen? The answer is found in 1 Kings 18:17-18 on Elijah to Ahab. Elijah says, I'm not the problem, pal, you are. **You see God never intended for there to be world disasters. When He originally set it up it was a perfect world** with no death, no disasters, no diseases, no birth defects. No cemeteries or funeral homes. No wars. His plan was perfect! But then man messed it up. You want to know

why there are disasters out there? Because we disobeyed God and by one man sin came into the world and then sin to all men. It brought a curse on this Earth.

There again, Elijah to Ahab, I'm not the problem, you are. **You want to know why God caused the disasters? He didn't, you did.** His plan was perfect, His plan was sinless, His plan was the most incredible paradise that you could ever want to have. Man through his free will looked at God and looked at the Devil and said see you God, and went with sin. Here is where you can preach. What did God do? We now know it wasn't God's fault it was our fault. God would be totally justified to say hey, I gave you the best shot I had, and you said no thanks. You chose the devil over me and all of this hurt and disease and problems you wanted that more than my perfect world. Hey, have at it! It is all yours! But you know what God did? This is where you can preach it. This is where you can use it. God looked at us in our fallen state, alienated from God by the sin of this world. Yet God through His love for His creation sent His own Son down to die on the cross to fix it for us. We disobeyed God, it was our choice. God had every right to throw us to the backside of the universe and let us annihilate each other. But you know what He did? He loved every one of you. He loved the fools, He loved the skeptics, He loved the atheists. He loves us to the point that He said no matter what they did I love them, and I am going to make a way for them. God said I can't take the curse off the Earth, but through my Son's death on the cross I will make a way through the curse. See how you can really preach that to a skeptic? Talk about getting the gospel to him over his question of why God allows tragedies. Wow!

#3 Question. If there is really a God, why doesn't he show himself?

Well, this is about as stupid a question as you could ever ask. But fools are noted for not having any understanding of God and that kind of question just shows you where they are at because the answer to that my friend is, He did!

➤ God Has Revealed Himself in Two Ways in History (two manifestations)

God has revealed Himself in two ways in history. The problem is not God, the problem is man. The Bible tells us in 1 Timothy 3:16

*And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.***

God did reveal Himself; you just have never wanted to believe it. You got some other information, probably off the internet and you just didn't want to follow what the Bible says. He did reveal Himself and the Bible says without controversy! There is no controversy about it! He revealed Himself. The Bible says He was seen of the angels, He was preached to the Gentiles. He was believed on in the world. Where were you at when all that took place? God was manifested in the flesh. God revealed Himself to the world through Jesus Christ. God is a spirit and we that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth. So, when God revealed Himself to man, He revealed Himself through Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ was the visible appearance of the invisible God. He did reveal Himself, He showed Himself to man.

Then the second one is found in John 1:1 it says:

*In the beginning was **the Word**, and **the Word** was with God, and **the Word** was God.*

Verse 14 of John chapter 1 says:

*And **the Word** was **made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*

You will want to get this. Jesus Christ came to this Earth (Matthew, Mark, Luke & John). He was God manifested in the flesh, without controversy, the mystery of godliness. And then He went back to heaven. His body is no longer here, it is up in heaven seated at the right hand of God the Father. So, then what happens? **Here comes your second manifestation. His revealing Himself to man, the Word of God.** In the gospels, God has a body, Jesus Christ. After the resurrection (Acts 1) He goes back to heaven. Here it comes! **He now comes in a Book.** You are holding it in your hands which in 1 Corinthians 2:16 and Philippians 2:5 says is the mind of Christ. If you have a Bible in your hands today, a King James 1611 Authorized Version, you have the very mind of God that He replaced Himself with.

➤ We are the Manifestation of God's Body in a Human Form

At the first coming of Christ when He revealed Himself, God came down and took on the body of a man, Jesus Christ. After the resurrection He goes back to Heaven. There is no more body of Jesus Christ here on Earth. So, he sends us the Book which is His mind. He needs a body, so now He starts the church, and He wins men and women into the kingdom of God, and they are now called the body of Christ.

You and I, if you are saved, we are the manifestation of God's body in a human form. You have the mind of Christ when you have the Bible in your hands. **There are two manifestations. The main one is Jesus Christ Himself and the other one should be us, because we are the body of Christ.** That is why the Bible says, "*Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.*" (Philippians 2:5) "...*But we have the mind of Christ*" 1 Corinthians 2:16. Do we? Could have fooled me. The body made up of saved believers that have a Bible that is His mind. We are the manifestation of God.

#4 Question. Why do you believe everything in the Bible?

❖ I believe it Because the World Hates it

You know I am not the smartest guy in the world, and you know I don't have a lot of natural intelligence, but I have common sense. If I didn't know the Bible was the word of God and perfect in every way, I'd know it was the word of God because of the crowd in this world that hates it! In your own life have there been people who did terrible things to you? Things that hurt you? Have there been people who have said things about you to purposely hurt you? I am sure that is true of almost everybody here, if you are past 20 years of age. Did you ever stop and think about this? Jesus Christ is the only man that ever came to planet Earth that never one time

ever hurt anybody. All he ever came to do was to help you and be there for you and give you everything that you need. Human man hates him with a passion. Why is that?

Why do they hate him? The man (Jesus Christ) who never did one thing to hurt you, who came down and died for you, who covered your sins in His own blood, if you will accept it.

❖ I Believe it because of Its Power

If I didn't know the Bible was the word of God any other way, I would know it was because of its power. People all the time say, well why do you think the Bible is so powerful? I tell them because the bible is more powerful than any nuclear weapon. Because I know six countries right now that will outlaw a Bible. I don't know one that outlaws nuclear weapons. **That Bible is something! It is the word of God. I believe everything in it! I believe it from cover to cover, including the cover. It is without proven error.** There have been men and skeptics down through history that have tried to destroy it, they have tried to get rid of it, they have tried to do everything they can. But the Bible says, "*Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.*" (Luke 21:33) There is not one mistake that has ever been found by the crowd who hates the Bible in over 5,000 years.

❖ I Believe it Because of its Accuracy

Harry Rimmer back in the 1920's was a Bible believer, and he wrote a book called The Harmony of Science and Scripture. In 1930 to 1950 he had a standing offer of \$50,000 to anybody who could prove an error in the King James Bible. He was taken to court over 30 times and never paid a dime. The Bible is the accurate account of the history of man. The Bible is the accurate account of the future of man. The Bible is the accurate account of everything that we do in life. I have said it many times, life is about the choices we make. Life is about looking at God, looking at the Bible, hearing what the preacher says, then deciding to go somewhere else and not listen to what he says. Life is choices. Most of you, hopefully all of you, at some point in your life made **the right choice to trust Jesus Christ as your own personal savior.** Most Christians think that is the biggest choice they will make in their life. I would agree with that. But it is only the first choice you are going to make in your life. The next choice comes with God and the Bible God has given you. **Are you going to make your choices in life out of that Book?** It's perfect! When I take you guys through those patterns, I am going to show you how through the choices people make, they get their lives in a mess. I am going to also show you how the Bible has the answer and then how you take it and apply it to their life. Like a wound on your arm. You have a bandage with medicine on it and you put it on the wound. That is why the Bible is called the balm of Gilead. It's healing. There is no other Book in the history of the world.

❖ I Believe it Because I've Seen it Work

I believe in the Book that God wrote. I believe it. You know why? Because I've seen it work in my own life. God only knows where I would be if it wasn't for that Bible. I would have probably been dead 30-40 years ago. I will tell you another reason I believe it. I thank God every day for my family, for my kids, and grandkids who all work with me in ministry. I don't say a lot about it. But I thank God that my whole family works together with me in ministry.

Where would they be if it wasn't for that Book. It's not because I am a great parent. Barb is a much better parent than I am. It's not because we were great parents.

It is because **we believe the Book cover to cover including the cover.** We believe the Book that gave us the principles of training up a family. **I believe it because I have seen it work.** From the day I dropped to my knees and asked Jesus Christ to come into my heart, to today as I stand before you preaching the word of God. For over 50 years I have seen it work. Not only in my life and my family's life, but I have seen it work in your life.

I believe everything in the Bible because of you! Because of where some of you were before you found God. God reached down and touched you. You think you did that on your own because you just got it within you to pull yourself up by your bootstraps? "...*There is none that doeth good, no, not one*" (Romans 3:12). You saw it in Psalms 14 we are all corrupt. The reason I believe everything in it is because of the ones that I know standing out there who are part of my ministry who stand with me in the work we do here. I watch what God does in your life and I saw where you came from. Look at you now! **I believe everything in it, the book of miracles!** It will do for you and for me what no other Book can do.

❖ I Believe it Because History was Changed Because of God's Son

I don't care what you believe or how you reject the Bible, you are stuck with the fact that the **history of the world was changed when God's son came to this planet.** It changed everything. It changed life on planet Earth because history before God's son's birth is called BC, before Christ and after He goes back to Heaven it is called AD which is Latin for in the year of our Lord. Every fool on this planet who rejects God is bound by the history of the world that is based on before He is born and after He is born. Everybody who was on this planet had to correlate time around the birth of one man. God being manifested in the flesh.

III. Summary

It doesn't matter what you think, or how you try to get around it. He is God! He is real! Today if you are a believer, we need to be that manifestation. We are the body of Christ. He has given us the mind of Christ. We need to put the two together.