

# BIBLICAL HISTORY

- The Bible is the written Word of God.
- The cornerstone of faith will and should always be the Bible, God's inspired, written Word.
- The Church is not like a legally constituted and incorporated body where one person or group of directors has the authority and power to replace or modify the standards on which it was built.
- The Bible is our Manuel we have for guidance.
- Threw the Bible God talks to us.
- He gives us history (HIS STORY), present, and future.
- The preservation of the people of Israel is only one example of God's revelation through History.
- We read about God's dealing with Egypt in Exodus; Assyria in Isaiah. A0:5-19); with Babylon in Jeremiah. 50: 1-16); Medo-Persia in Isaiah. 44:24-45:7); and the Roman Empire in Daniel. 8: 1-21).
- There is some kind of relationships that one can observe:
  - a) Grammatical relationships: How are words put together in the text? Basic observations would include relationship between tenses (past, present, future), number (singular, plural), and gender (masculine, feminine, neuter).
  - b) Logical relationships: How are thoughts put together in text? How does the author build a case or argument for his point?
  - c) Chronological and/or geographical relationships: What are the times and places that are involved in the text? The Book of Jonah lends itself easily to a chronological and geographical study. Jonah in Israel ministering (1:1-2); Jonah on the boat fleeing to Tarshish (1:3-14); Jonah in the fish praying (1:15-2:10); Jonah at Nineveh preaching (3:1-10) Jonah under a shelter (outside Nineveh), pouting (4:1-11).
  - d) Psychological relationships: Are there any psychological aspects to this text, which are stated or implied in the words?
  - e) Contextual relationships: In what context does this text occur? You will need to take immediate and wider context into account: The context of the Bible; the context of the book; the contexts of the text.
  - f) Relationships in genre: Relationships in genre have to do with the kind of Biblical literature in which a passage is found. Here are some kinds of literature that are found in the Bible
    - Teaching: didactic or discourse material like Jesus' sermons or the epistles.
    - Narratives: narration of historical events
    - Poetry: Psalms, Proverbs, Song of Solomon, and others.
    - Parables: primarily in the parables of Christ.
    - Miracles: primarily found in three periods of Biblical history: Moses and Aaron, Elijah and Elisha.
    - Prophetic: futuristic books like sections of Daniel, Ezekiel, and also the major and minor prophets of the Old Testament,
- When we read the Bible, it is always good to read a scripture also in context with the chapter.
- There are key words in a text.

- The author or writer of the book builds a case or argument for his point.
- The word “Bible” comes from the Medieval Latin *Biblia*.
- The singular word *Biblia* was originally a Greek plural, meaning “books”, and this is a good description of the character of what we know as the Bible.
- It consists of a number of different writings or “books” dating from approximately 1000BCE to 100 CE or a little later.
- The books are very diverse in nature.
- The books of the Old Testament of the Hebrew Bible can be classified into several broad categories.
- The Bible has been seen as fostering the view that the way in which God has made Himself known to humanity.
- The Bible is for all people.
- God’s Word is changeless and is as powerful and applicable to us and our circumstances today as it was to those living thousands of years ago.
- Jesus is not physically here on earth today as He was in the days before the crucifixion.
- If we want to be good disciples of Jesus, we must follow His principles in His Word that He prepared for us to have, so that we can be disciplined.
- Man, in his own wisdom, has developed a vast number of philosophies and theories seeking to explain one’s thoughts, words, and actions.
- In doing so, man has pride-fully sought to deny his own sinfulness and has confused any clear definition of God’s standards of right and wrong.
- God’s Word clearly shows that man’s way of living is futile.
- Man has very serious shortcomings that he cannot change by himself.
- We cannot live according to God’s design in our own way or by our own wisdom.
- The natural man is self-centered and rebel against God’s way.
- We need Jesus’ discipleship.
- God put us here on earth for a time period to represent The Kingdom of heaven here on the kingdom of earth, as stewards and ambassadors.
- The wisdom of this world deceptively teaches that believing in the inherent goodness of one’s “self” is foundational to a fulfilled life.
- However, this erroneous viewpoint overlooks the devastating results of Adam and Eve’s failure to obey God.
- Everything we want to know about God; principles; right or wrong; Christianity; can be found in the Bible.
- The Bible is a manual for us to guide us in the ways of God that will help us discover our destiny and purpose.