

Is Scripture Enough?

Psalm 19.7–9

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Scripture Reader and Reading: Paul Hannan – Psalm 19.1–6

Song Leader and Song Suggestions: Billy Henshall – Any songs on the Bible

Prelude:

I. How do I know that the Bible is the word of God?

“The devil and his agents have been blowing at Scripture light but could never blow it out, a clear sign that it was lighted by heaven.”

– Thomas Watson

A. The devil did not begin this attack in recent times, but

B. he started it clear back with Grandma Eve,

1. when he asked her:

“Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?”

– **Genesis 3.1**

2. With every generation,

a) he tries again

b) to blow out the light of Scripture,

(1) making people question what God has said, and

(2) persuading many that Scripture is inadequate to guide us in life.

II. However, the devil cannot blow out the light of Scripture, because

A. Scripture came from God and

B. he is stronger than the devil.

1. My evidence for that is history.

2. Scripture

a) survives and thrives, but

b) man's words come and go.

III. Man has various new doctrines and philosophies every generation,

A. which to try to blow out the light of Scripture, but

1. they all fail and
2. later fade away.

B. Therefore, I want to show you today,

1. the sufficiency of Scripture for daily living.
2. Whatever issues challenge you at the present,
 - a) I want you to know
 - b) that the Holy Spirit has given us a perfect guide
 - (1) for navigating those troubling times and
 - (2) for making us successful at living.

IV. We will look at Psalm 19.7–9, but first

A. we should look at the first six verses of Psalm 19 briefly

B. to get an idea of what is going on in the Psalm.

V. Psalm 19 shows the revelation of God in nature and in Scripture.

A. David first spoke of God's revelation in the heavens and the sun.

B. Some call this General Revelation.

1. It is a revelation, but
2. only in a general way.
 - a) You cannot read it
 - b) the same way that you would a book and gain knowledge.

VI. Next, Psalm 19.7–14 shows us

A. God's Special Revelation in Scripture.

B. I will preach on verses 10–14 at another time.

Persuasion:

I. Psalm 19.7–9 • The Sufficiency of Scripture

- 7 **The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;**
8 **The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;**
9 **The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.**

A. Notice how this part is arranged:

1. David wrote six of different things of the Scripture.
2. Each has three parts:
 - a) A title for the word of God.
 - b) A trait of the word of God.
 - c) A blessing of the word of God.

B. The titles of the word of God:

1. Law
2. Testimony
3. Statutes
4. Commandment
5. Fear
6. Judgments

C. The nature of the word of God:

1. Perfect
2. Sure
3. Right
4. Pure
5. Clean
6. True and Righteous Altogether

D. The action of the word of God:

1. Converts
2. Makes Wise
3. Rejoices
4. Enlightens
5. Endures

E. The object of the word of God:

1. The Soul
2. The Simple
3. The Heart
4. The Eyes

F. Scripture provides all the resources

1. for whatever I need, and
2. the Scriptures do it perfectly.

II. The Law of the LORD Is Perfect, Converting the Soul

A. Scripture is the Law of the Lord.

1. What would nature be like without laws?
2. What would society be like without laws?
 - a) So it is with the soul.
 - b) The soul needs a law.

B. Scripture is the perfect Law.

1. James referred to it as the perfect Law of liberty (Jam 1.25).
2. Perfect means not only without sin, but whole or complete.
 - a) Since it is perfect, or whole and complete,
 - b) it covers all of the issues of life that encounter us.
3. When David said

- a) that the Law of the Lord is perfect,
 - b) he meant that it is comprehensive,
 - (1) covering everything in life and
 - (2) does not lack one tool that we need.
- C. Since Scripture is perfect it converts the soul.
- 1. Follow the teaching of Scripture and
 - 2. it will transform your life radically.

III. The Testimony of the LORD Is Sure, Making Wise the Simple

- A. Scripture is the testimony of the Lord.
- 1. When I think of someone giving testimony,
 - 2. I think of a trial in court with witnesses.
 - a) The witnesses can testify of what they know
 - b) based upon what they saw or heard.
 - (1) A witness can testify because
 - (2) he was at the event.
 - 3. Hence, when we read Scripture
 - a) we read God's testimony because
 - b) he was there, and tells us what he saw and heard.
- B. The testimony of Scripture can make the wise simple.
- 1. Without the word of God,
 - a) we are simple.
 - b) We may be standing right next to danger, but not even realize it.
 - (1) We are simple when we do not know how to make decisions, or
 - (2) we make decisions that make our life worse.
 - 2. The Creator can testify of the right way of life, because
 - a) he knows us as the Creator, but

- b) he has also seen and can see what hurts us.
 - (1) Those who hear the testimony of the Lord
 - (2) have a perfect understanding or wisdom on the issues of life.

IV. The Statutes of the LORD Are Right, Rejoicing the Heart

- A. How much of what we hear is false?
- B. Yet, we want to know the truth,
 - 1. we want to know what is right, and
 - 2. when we discover it,
 - a) that makes us happy.
 - b) That is what Scripture does for us, because
 - (1) Scripture reveals the statutes of the Lord.
 - (2) The Statutes of the Lord give
 - (a) principles,
 - (b) precepts, and
 - (c) guidelines.
- C. Scripture gives us a chart with a compass for daily living.
 - 1. If
 - a) anxiety,
 - b) doubt,
 - c) temptation,
 - d) depression,
 - e) challenges,
 - f) fear
 - (1) fill your heart,
 - (2) do not despair, but
 - (a) listen to the Lord

(b) speak to you in the Scriptures.

V. The Commandment of the LORD Is Pure, Enlightening the Eyes

A. Scripture is not optional.

1. Nor can we modify it.
2. It is not about us.
 - a) Scripture reveals the commandment of the Lord.
 - b) Scripture shows what he expects from us.
 - (1) Scripture is what the Lord wants done.
 - (2) We simply do it or obey it.

B. Scripture is pure.

1. The teachings of men have not polluted it.
2. It is purer than the purest silver.

**6 The words of the LORD are pure words,
 Like silver tried in a furnace of earth,
 Purified seven times.**

– Psalm 12.6

- a) We need the purity of the commandment of the Lord.
 - (1) He has made his commandment clear.
 - (2) Now we can know what he wants.

C. That leads to enlightenment.

1. The world is dark.
2. Therefore, the Lord has provided for us a way to see.
 - a) Show me a man or a woman
 - b) who obeys the commandment of the Lord, and
 - (1) I will show you
 - (2) one whose eyes have been enlightened.

VI. The Fear of the LORD Is Clean, Enduring Forever

- A. Scripture produces in us the fear of the Lord.
 - 1. Watch someone read Scripture over the years and
 - 2. watch what it does to their view of the Lord.
- B. Scripture is clean.
 - 1. It has no impurities in it.
 - 2. Fear the Lord and you will be clean.
 - a) Scripture will lead you away from sin, and
 - b) into that which is clean.
- C. Scripture endures forever.
 - 1. We still have Scripture,
 - a) including Psalm 19,
 - b) although David wrote it 3,000 years ago.
 - 2. Since Scripture endures forever,
 - a) it can make you endure forever.
 - b) All the things of man,
 - (1) including his doctrines and philosophies,
 - (2) come and go, but
 - (a) the fear of the Lord
 - (b) is always with us.

VII. The Judgments of the LORD Are True and Righteous Altogether

- A. Scripture reveals to us the judgments of the Lord.
 - 1. He has stated the way things are and should be.
 - 2. He expects us to follow his judgments.
 - a) In fact, there is a Day coming
 - b) that we know as the Day of Judgment.

(1) On that Day,

(2) he will see how we have treated his judgments.

B. If you search Scripture,

1. read and meditate on what it says,

2. you will discover what David did:

a) It is true and righteous altogether,

b) It is one harmonious whole.

(1) No matter what it talks about,

(2) you will discover that it is always true and righteous.

Exhortation:

I. Let me show you the Day of Judgment.

A. Revelation 20 shows what will happen on that Day:

11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

– Revelation 20.11–15

B. Scripture shows us precisely what is going to happen:

1. Everyone will stand before God.

2. Books, three for each person, will be opened:

a) The Lamb's Book of Life, revealing whether your name is in it.

b) The Scriptures, for that is how he shall judge us.

c) Your Book, that contains the story of your life.

II. The whole point of the ministry of Jesus,

A. especially of his death,

B. is that we can have the bad parts of our lives erased.

1. Don't go before God with sin.

2. Seek the forgiveness that comes through Jesus right now.