

May 7, 2023  
Matthew 5: 17-18, Luke 16: 27-31  
John 17:17, 2 Timothy 3:16

### Recording What Is Important

- I. The story of a Navy Seal
  - A. Killed saving friends
  - B. Honored in many ways
  - C. Years from now, who will know his story?
  - D. Unless someone writes about his life and death
  
- II. The followers of Jesus wanted you to know about Messiah
  - A. Recorded some of Jesus' life and ministry
  - B. Revealing some of what He did
  - C. Reminding us of the hope we have in Him
  - D. Relating to where we are in life
  - E. Ransom was paid by Him
  
- III. The amazing claim
  - A. That we have life in Him
  - B. As we admit our sin, believe in Him, confess He is Lord, risen from the dead
  
- IV. Why this is so important to all people
  - A. The story of Lazarus and the rich man
  - B. Rich man, at his death found himself in Hades (the place of the condemned until judgment)
  - C. He is aware of his circumstances, surroundings, condemnation and family
  - D. He wants to warn his family
  - E. He pleads with Abraham
  - F. The response, they have the scriptures
  - G. Rich man fears, they don't believe it
  
- V. Why don't people believe the Bible (5 primary reasons)
  - A. They don't understand the message
  - B. They heard some things that were critical, that sounded scholarly, and believed it without investigation
  - C. They claim that they only believe what science can prove
  - D. They don't want to believe it or see it as authoritative because it interferes with their lifestyle
  - E. They believe it was "made-up" not true and just a myth
  
- VI. The Bible answers our most important questions
  - A. Origin
  - B. Purpose
  - C. Destiny

- D. Morality
  - E. Eternity
- VII. Can we believe the Bible?
- A. We are told in the bible to examine all things
  - B. How do we test an ancient document?
  - C. Same as testing a "cold case"
  - D. Using indirect or circumstantial evidence
- VIII. Using the Acronym SSAMPLE
- A. Savior Jesus
    - 1. Matthew 5:17-18
    - 2. Luke 11:51
    - 3. Luke 24:44
    - 4. John 17:17
    - 5. Eyewitness accounts
  - B. Science
    - 1. Cause and effect = Genesis 1:1
    - 2. Expanding universe = Psalm 19:1
    - 3. D.N.A. = Genesis 1:24-25
    - 4. Flood of Noah = Genesis 7
    - 5. Anthropic Principle = Colossians 1:17
  - C. Archeological discoveries (a small sample)
  - D. Manuscript evidence
    - 1. 24,000 manuscripts
    - 2. A million quotes by disciples, disciple of scripture
    - 3. Written by eyewitnesses
    - 4. Verified by eyewitnesses
    - 5. Students of disciples declared same teaching
    - 6. Non-Christian historians
  - E. Prophecies fulfilled (on the horizon)
    - 1. Jesus
    - 2. Israel
    - 3. End times
  - F. Life changing
  - G. Eternal – hope
- IX. Its message
- A. God loves you
  - B. Jesus came for you
  - C. There is power, purpose, passion in following Him
- X. His Word answers our question

There Is Reason To Believe  
But Will You?