

Intro: Mail

Why the bible is all you need

1. Scripture is all you need to last

Before we dive into the text, let's look at the context to get a better understanding of what Paul is trying to say here.

If you didn't know, this is the last letter Paul wrote in the bible. Now there are other letters that come after 2 Timothy written by Paul such

as Titus and Philemon, but nevertheless in terms of chronological order, 2 Timothy is Paul's last letter. It was his last letter because he was imprisoned again during the reign of Emperor Nero who was infamous for burning Christians at night to use them as lamps on the streets. You can probably guess where this is going, Paul was executed after this letter.

Writing this letter, Paul knows that this time he wouldn't be released. He knew that because at

this time the world became increasingly darker and intolerant of Christians, seeking to destroy Christians. But not only were there external persecution from the Roman government but also internal attacks from false teachers within the church.

Look at the top of ch.3 where it says, 'in the last days difficult times will come' and then the following verses Paul explains why and

mentions false teachers and their practices in v.6.

However unlike those false teachers, Paul reminds Timothy in v.10 that he 'followed my (Paul's) teaching, conduct, purpose, faith etc.'

But then reminding in v.13 that 'evil men and imposters will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived'.

So this is the world of 2 Timothy. A world of darkness and increasing hostility against Christians. A world where the answer to all of life's problems is 'quit Christianity.' A world where the answer says, 'you need money, you need sexual immorality, you need security'.

Paul's answer is, 'you need scripture'!

1. Scripture is
what you need
to last

Scripture is what you need! And when your
tank is almost empty, scripture is what you
need to last!

Look at v.14 *Read*

Unlike those false teachers, Paul calls out
Timothy to continue in things that he has
learned. These are things he also was
convinced of which. He learned from Paul

himself when it says, 'knowing from whom you have learned them'.

Now what are these 'things'? It's obviously scripture which we see explained as 'sacred writings' in v.15 and also again in v.16 when Paul describes 'all scripture' as 'inspired'.

So what Paul is saying to Timothy is, 'continue
in what you learned from the scripture!'

Continue!

Don't stop running the race. Don't stop reading your bible. Don't stop going to church like it says in Hebrews 10:25 to 'not forsake the assembly of ourselves', especially in August when we will be meeting every week!

Think about it, why is Paul telling Timothy to continue? Because many people have stopped!

Some of you listening to this have stopped. This fear and panic of COVID has caused you to stop reading your bible, or stop coming to church, or stop coming to bible study, or stop praying.

No.

Continue! Continue in what you learned!

Remember what you learned! Remember when

you were so on fire and convinced of the
scripture! Continue that!

Because scripture is all you need to last.

Scripture is all you need to hang on.

Turn to Matt 4:1-11. Let's relook at Jesus being
tempted in the wilderness by Satan. (read)

When Jesus was tempted with hunger, when
Jesus was tempted with glorying in his own

power for angels to catch him when he falls,
when Jesus was tempted with the world's
treasures what was the only thing he needed?

Scripture.

To Jesus, scripture was all he needed to last, to
endure the temptations of Satan. And if all
Jesus needed scripture how much more we?

When the world is telling you, no. All you need to last is this dirty thing on the internet, all you need is money, all you need is this relationship, all you need is to survive.

Remember Jesus! That all he needed to last was scripture!

2. Scripture is all you need to be wise

(v.15)

a.Read v.15

b. Objection

i. Isn't there wisdom to learn even
from successful unbelievers?

1. Like Elon Musk

2. Bill Gates

3. Etc.

ii. Yes

iii. But sometimes our standards are
also too low

c. Because what is wisdom to God?

- i. The ultimate wisdom is to repent
and put your faith in Jesus Christ
that he died for your sins and rose
again and that you are too sinful to
earn it but you received this by
faith alone
- ii. Real wisdom is getting saved
- iii. Mark 8:36 says, 'For what does it
profit a man to gain the whole world
and forfeit his soul?'

1. What wisdom is it to gain all the riches by listening to all the wisdom of the world's most successful people?
 2. But then go to hell?
 3. That's not wise, that's stupid
- d. Wisdom of the world
- i. When you follow the wisdom of the world
 - ii. You are left with foolishness
 - iii. Evolution as an example

1. Evolution seems to make sense
2. But what are the foundations of evolution?
 - a. Atheism
 - b. Evolution was created to support atheism
 - c. To explain how things came to existence without God
 - d. What does scripture say about that?

i. Psalm 14:1 The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they have committed detestable acts; There is no one who does good.

ii. Scripture says that those who say there is no God is foolish

e. Discerning wisdom

i. Whenever you are unsure whether

something is truly wisdom or not

1. Just ask

2. 'Is it biblical?'

3. Simple

4. Are the foundations of this

statement biblical?

5. Evolutions foundations =

atheism

6. 'Life is too short' foundations

= atheism = there is no life after
death

a. The truth is the 'life is too

long' that's why Jesus said

what does it profit a man to

gain everything but lose his

soul?

i. Because hell is too long

7. Whenever you hear

something ask in your mind,

a. Is it biblical?

8. Because scripture is all you
need to be wise

a. Proverbs 9:10 says, 'The fear
of the LORD is the beginning
of wisdom, And the
knowledge of the Holy One is
understanding.'

3. Scripture is all you need to be complete

(v.16-17)

a. Read v.16-17

- b. Ignoring certain books of the bible
 - i. Now hopefully you are starting to really understand why scripture is all you need
 - ii. But many think scripture is just the New Testament
 - 1. Just Matthew, Mark, Luke
John
 - 2. Or Ephesians, Colossians
 - 3. Revelation? Just skip over
that

iii. When we hold the bible

1. We say this is God's word
2. But with our actions we only

treat a few pages in it as the

bible

c. Accepting all of the bible

- i. But Paul says
- ii. 'All scripture is inspired'
 1. The Greek word for inspired

means 'breathed out'

2. Meaning all scripture is God
breathed
3. That all scripture comes from
the very mouth of God
4. And that's right 'all' scripture
 - a. Not just the NT
 - b. But the OT as well
 - i. Luke 24:25-27 25 And He
said to them, "O foolish
men and slow of heart to
believe in all that the

prophets have spoken!

26 Was it not necessary

for the [f]Christ to suffer

these things and to enter

into His glory?” 27 Then

beginning [g]with Moses

and [h]with all the

prophets, He explained

to them the things

concerning Himself in all

the Scriptures.

ii. Jesus on the Emmaus

road taught the disciples

that the scriptures are

about him

iii. And Matthew, Mark,

Luke, John weren't even

written yet

iv. They only had the OT

5. Application

a. Do you read only certain

parts of the bible?

b. Do you avoid others?

c. Do you only pick and choose
verses?

d. Read the entire bible!

i. Because 'all' scripture is
God breathed!

e. And that's why scripture
makes you complete

i. Because nothing else in
the world is God
breathed

ii. Nothing else in the world
is perfect but scripture

iii. That's why you can trust
the bible

iv. People ask how can you
trust the bible?

1. Because God
wrote it

2. Because God
affirmed it with signs
and miracles

3. But most importantly the bible itself is the standard of truth

4. You place anything else other than the bible as the standard of truth

a. Whether it's another religion

b. Or atheism

which is also

religion

i. Just believing

in yourself

c. Then everything

doesn't make

sense

i. Because every

other belief

system has

contradictions

within them

ii. But not

scripture

iii. Because it is

God breathed

iv. That is why

when Pilate

said what is

truth?

v. Jesus stopped
responding

vi. Because if you
reject the
Bible as truth,
then
everything
becomes
illogical

iii. The areas in which scripture is
profitable

1. Paul then goes on to explain
what exactly makes scripture
profitable

a. Teaching

b. Reproof

i. Meaning to rebuke

ii. Many people do not
rebuke with the bible
anymore

iii. Instead only talk about
how much you are a
good person

iv. And that you have the
power within yourself to
do good

v. Bible says that scripture
is not for puffing people
up but for correcting

vi. We are too afraid of
telling people that they
need to repent

vii. To afraid to tell people
that they are sinners in
need of Jesus

c. Correction

i. Meaning to restore

ii. Some people are on the
extreme end and just

beat up people with the
bible

iii. Like beating a dead horse

iv. The dead horse is not
getting back up

v. This is why Paul reminds
that scripture is also
correcting

vi. We can't just rebuke all
the time

vii. And we can't just
correct/restore people all
the time

viii. We need both

d. Training in righteousness

i. Muslims like to fast for all
of Ramadan

ii. Catholic priests like to
avoid marriage

iii. Both of these try to train
in righteousness

1. But are

completely unbiblical

iv. Scripture alone is what

makes you righteous

v. Without scripture you

can try to make yourself

a good person all you

want but you will fail

vi. Proverbs 14:12 There is a

way which seems right to

a man, But its end is the
way of death.

iv. These are all the ways scripture
makes you complete

1. Application

a. Do you believe the bible is all
you need for teaching?

i. Or do you feel like you
need to add some
evolution in there to
explain Genesis?

b. Do you believe the bible
is all you need for training in
righteousness?

i. Or do you only listen to
motivational speakers?

v. Paul's conclusion

1. These are all wonderful

benefits of scripture

2. But they lead all to one thing

3. Read v.16

4. They lead you to be

‘adequate’

a. Adequate means ‘enough’

b. Or ‘sufficient’

c. Or in other words ‘complete’

5. Paul is saying that scripture is

all you need to be complete

6. Paul is saying that you don’t

need anything else but scripture

7. And Paul also says that it makes you equipped for every good work
8. Scripture is all you need to a complete Christian
9. Scripture is all you need to obey God and overcome sin
10. This is the exact opposite of Roman Catholicism
 - a. Who also have the authority of the pope

b. Or even our culture

c. Who says scripture is not
enough

d. But just some man made
document

11. Application

a. Who are you going to
believe?

b. God's word or man?

d. Conclusion

i. That's the challenge today

ii. Is scripture all you need or not?

iii. Gospel