

The Kingdom Perspective What's the Point of the Bible?

Hello this is Pastor Don of Christ Redeemer Church. Welcome to The Kingdom Perspective.

There's a lot of things we can learn from science and other fields of study, but some things can only be learned from direct communication from God. Why is this the case? Well, it is one thing to study the works that someone creates, but it is quite another to have direct communication with the one who created it. So, by way of illustration, you might be able to learn a few things about a particular painter by studying one of their paintings, but we probably are not going to discern everything the artist intended without also consulting the artist directly. Likewise, we can learn a lot about an artist by studying their works, but we will never know the artist *personally* until we hear from them *directly*.

This is why Christians put such emphasis on the Bible. Classical Christianity holds that the Bible gives us a message we cannot get anywhere else. In a profound sense, it comes from the very heart of God. As the Apostle Paul says: "All Scripture is God-breathed...." It's the intimate breath of God Himself.

And so, the Bible tells us God's will for our lives—what we are to do and not do.

It explains our sin—how we've failed to fulfill God's will in our lives.

But most significantly, it tells us of God's heart of mercy. It reveals how God Himself has come to us in the person of Jesus Christ, to take our sin and to give us Himself. It shows the love of God.

Let's be clear, we would not know this apart from the Bible. That's why we sing the simple truth of that children's song: "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so."

Something to think about from The Kingdom Perspective.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

~John 3:16-21 (ESV)

*Below, we are appending some basic catechism questions that go along with this Kingdom Perspective. A catechism is a classical Christian teaching device, helping both children and adults better understand the unique claims of the Bible. Below, you will find questions taken from both a children's catechism and a more advanced catechism. For the full catechisms, you may go to our website by clicking here.

Questions for Kids: A Basic Catechism for Children

4. How do we learn about God?

God tells us about Himself.

5. Where does God tell us about Himself?

In nature and in His Word.

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6. What does God tell us about Himself in nature?

His character, law, wrath and glory.

7. What special message does God tell us in His Word?

The good news of God's love and mercy toward His people.

8. Where can we find God's Word today?

In the Bible alone.

An Advanced Catechism

5. What rule has God given to direct us how we may glorify Him? The Word of God which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments (Ephesians 2:20; 2 Titus 3:16) is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify God and enjoy him. (1 John 1:3)

6. What do the Scriptures principally teach?

The Scriptures principally teach what God requires of His creatures and how Jesus Christ has fulfilled that requirement on behalf of all who trust Him. (Luke 24:44-49; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; 1 Timothy 1:15)

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