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THE SURE WORD By Jonnie Hutchison

DO YOU KNOW THESE FACTS FROM THE BIBLE?

Did you know that the Bible was written by some forty different writers, each inspired by the Holy Spirit, over a period of some twenty-five hundred years? (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21). Yet, in spite of the time element, the Bible has one major theme and each book of the Bible harmonizes perfectly with that theme. The Bible contains no contradictions nor discrepancies as some allege. The supposed discrepancies of the Bible have been refuted and explained and the Bible maintains its perfect harmony in spite of man's attempts to destroy it.

Did you know the entire Bible is the revelation of God's plan to save us from the eternal consequences of sin? The Bible emphasizes the universality of sin declaring "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). It tells us that sin separates us from God and results in spiritual death (Isaiah 59:1-2; Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 6:23). The Bible gives detailed accounts of the lives of individuals to illustrate the devastating nature of sin and why sinners should seek forgiveness (Romans 15:4).

Did you know that the Bible reveals the identity of the One who came to provide the means for the forgiveness of sin? The Old Testament prophets foretold of a coming Messiah who would save His people from their sins (Isaiah 53:1ff). Galatians 4:4-5 reads, "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."

Did you know that the Bible teaches that the shedding of blood is necessary for the forgiveness of sins? (Hebrews 9:22). The fact is that Jesus shed His blood on the cross in order to provide the means for you and me to receive the remission of sins (John 3:16; Romans 5:8-9; 1 Peter 1:18-19; Revelation 1:5b).

Did you know the Bible teaches how to contact the blood of Jesus? God's plan requires faith in Jesus (John 8:24), repentance of sin (Acts 17:30), confession of one's faith in Christ (Romans 10:9-10) and immersion in water, into the death of Jesus (Acts 2:38; 22:16; Romans 6:3-5).

Did you know that the Lord adds the saved to His church? (Matthew 16:18; Acts 2:47). The church of Christ is the one spiritual body of Christ which He purchased with his own blood and of which He is the One Head (Acts 20:28; Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:4).

Did you know these facts from the Bible? Please do not ignore them. Your eternal salvation depends upon knowing these facts and acting upon them (James 1:22).