

April 20, 2019

THE SURE WORD by Jonnie Hutchison

HAVE YOU READ THE BIBLE?

Many who deny the existence of God and the divine origin of the Bible have never read or studied the Bible for themselves. How can anyone form a legitimate conclusion about God's existence or that the Bible is the divine Word of God unless he or she has carefully examined the evidence?

In our nation Bible's are abundant and easily obtained. Most households have at least one Bible but more often than not it sits on the shelf unread. As a result, ignorance of what it teaches prevails and the application of its message is negated. We look around at the evil in this world and wonder why there is so much immorality, crime, unbelief, violence, divorce, abuse, division, unkindness, drunkenness, drug addiction, depression, covetousness, hatred, malice, envy, murder, etc. The answer is obvious, the vast majority of people are not reading the Bible nor applying its teaching to their lives.

One who reads and applies the teaching of the Bible to his or her life finds an infallible guide - "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psa. 119:105). This guide provides direction for marriages (Eph. 5:22ff; 1 Cor. 7:2-6); for parenting (Eph. 6:1-2); for helping others (Gal. 6:10); for dealing with the trials and sorrows of life (1 Pet. 5:7); gaining freedom from the bondage of sin and the hope of eternal life (John 8:32; 17:17; Phil. 4:7; Tit. 1:2). God's Word provides step by step directions to receive forgiveness of sin through the precious blood of Jesus (Rom. 10:17; Mark 16:16; Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 1:19). Will you read the verses cited? Will you study them diligently to see how they apply to your life and how they can help you to be, not only a better person and make your relationships with others improve, but to have the hope of heaven? If you want to avoid sin and its consequences, both in this life and in eternity, then read your Bible! Let it direct you down the paths of this life. "Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You" (Psalms 119:11).

Have you read your Bible? Have you studied the abundant evidence for the existence of God? You owe it to yourself and to those over whom you have an influence to do so. We offer free Bible courses through the mail and in-home Bible studies. Contact us for more information. Visit our webpage at greenplainchurchofchrist.org or call us at 270-978-7569. Email us at greenplain@greenplainchurchofchrist.org. You are always welcome to visit our services at the Green Plain church of Christ.