

Let Me Introduce You  
"To the Heart of God"  
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Thread: **Let me introduce you to the heart of God. (The Bible Part 2)**

*"In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He existed in the beginning with God.<sup>3</sup> God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. <sup>4</sup> The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.<sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it... <sup>9</sup> The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. <sup>13</sup> They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. <sup>14</sup> So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son... <sup>17</sup> For the law was given through Moses, but God's unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup> No one has ever seen God. But **the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart.** He has revealed God to us." John 1:1-18 NLT*

**Key Thought #1** – The heart of God revealed in the Bible, \_\_\_\_\_ our knots.

*"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. <sup>17</sup> God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT*

**Key Thought #2** – We CAN TRUST our SOURCE; we can stand in faith upon its teachings with great confidence!

*"Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God's promises to be fulfilled." Romans 15:4 NLT*

*"Go...make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all I have commanded you." They were entrusted with the words of Jesus "the words of eternal life."  
Matthew 28:19 NLT*

**Three goals for this week and next:**

1. To have \_\_\_\_\_ in our SOURCE.
  - In a generation full of questions, we can trust our lives to His teachings.
2. To know the \_\_\_\_\_ and be set free.
  - Jesus gave it to us when He said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:31-32 NLT
3. To \_\_\_\_\_ the current generation to the next by our living example.

**Why were the New Testament books and letters originally written?**

- To be an \_\_\_\_\_ witness of the \_\_\_\_\_ and teachings of Jesus.

**How was the New Testament compiled in its present form?**

- With **sober** judgement.
- Over the years there were other writings, letters, books and accounts of Jesus that would surface.
  - **Lost books** or (secret) books – **Gnostics** (These were written between 150-400 AD)
    - **Gospel of Philip, Judas**
  - **Pseudopigrapha** – Written under the name of someone credible by a discredited source.
    - Were written mostly from 150 AD to 400 AD as well.
      - **Wisdom of Solomon**
      - **Gospel accounts (Jesus' stories) about 40 surfaced over the first 250 years of the church.**
    - **Apocrypha** – Refers to a group of books added to the Old Testament by the Roman Catholic Church at the Council of **Trent (1548)**.
      - "Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose. <sup>18</sup> I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved."  
Matthew 5:17-19 NLT

- The churches were brought together for councils in Rome (382), Carthage (397), and Laodicea (419) not deciding which books were Holy scripture, but to officially recognize as a whole what book the churches had always been using.

### **Takeaways:**

1. No matter how many facts we bring regarding the Bible, we enter into its teachings by faith in Jesus Christ.
2. We have the Bible because the early disciples fulfilled their responsibility to connect Jesus to the next generation after them.

### **Challenge:**

- TRUST the SOURCE with your life.
- What are you knocking on God's door for?
- Follow Jesus to the life He means to lead you to.
- Pray for the opportunities to come like Paul's - introduce rather than exclude.

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