**All Things Desirable To Men Are Contained In The Bible**

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 “All things desirable to men are contained in the Bible.” – Abraham Lincoln. This statement made by Mr. Lincoln shows that he understood something that many today do not. Anything desirable, anything worthy of imitation or pleasing to God, is found in the Bible! Peter said God “has granted to us all things that pertain unto life and godliness” (II Pet. 1:3). If God has given us “all things,” then what do we lack? Why are men so pressed to find life’s “necessities” somewhere else? Truly, “all things desirable to men are contained in the Bible.”

 Within the pages of Inspiration, we find God’s instructions for life. “Fear God, and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man” (Ecc. 12:13). God’s word says treat others as we would want them to treat us (Matt. 7:12). No one has ever improved on this! God declares that we are to “pursue what makes for peace, and for mutual upbuilding” (Rom. 14:19). God instructs us to speak to others in an edifying way, and to not tear one another down through malicious words and gossip (Eph. 4:29, 31). Husbands and wives are to submit themselves to one another and love one another, cleaving to each other, and forsaking all others (Eph. 5:22-33). In any relationship, the Bible has the answer. It truly contains “all things desirable to men.”

 The Bible also contains God’s plan for the salvation of mankind. We see it unfolding from Genesis 3, and continue to take shape until the coming of Christ who died on the cross! The Bible teaches that Christ’s blood was shed to purchase us and take away our sin (I Pet. 1:18-19; Matt. 26:28; Jn. 1:29). God loved man so much that He allowed His Son to die on our behalf (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:6-9). Christ shed His blood, and resurrected on the third day, declaring Himself to be the Son of God with power (Rom. 1:4). The Holy Spirit was then sent to guide the apostles into “all truth” so that they could preach and teach the truth to all nations (II Pet. 1:20-21; Jn. 14:26, 15:26, 16:13; Col. 1:5-6, 23; Rom. 16:26).

 Now, it is man’s responsibility to do that which is right and submit himself to God’s will. He must believe that Jesus is the Son of God (Jn. 8:24) and repent of his sins (Lk. 13:3). He must confess his faith in Christ (Rom. 10:10), and then be baptized for the remission of his sins (Acts 2:38). Upon doing these things, the Bible reveals that man is saved (Mk. 16:16). Notice please that man is not saved simply by “doing something.” Man is not saved on his own merit. Man is saved by hearing and doing the will of God. He has done nothing of which to boast, but must do what Christ expects (Lk. 17:10; Eph. 2:8-9). He must then live a faithful life to God, doing the Lord’s will as His faithful servant (I Cor. 15:58; Rev. 2:10). The Bible teaches that when we submit to God, doing His will, and obeying His word, we become His servant or slave (Rom. 6:16-18). Still, this is a desirable position! What better place to be than in the loving care and mercy of a loving God whom you can now call your Father (Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:6)? What could be more “desirable” than this?

 The Bible contains the wisdom and power of God to salvation (Rom. 1:16). God has revealed things to us that belong to us and our children forever (Deut. 29:29). The Bible reveals our origin. It reveals our purpose for being here, and it reveals what shall become of us (the faithful AND unfaithful) at the end of time. Jesus said that this book will be our standard on the Judgment Day (Jn. 12:48). Seeing that this is true, how foolish it is to cast this book aside as “antiquated,” or “a book of myths,” etc.! The Bible is necessary, vital, and alive. Let us never forget that (Heb. 4:12)!!

 Yes, “all things desirable to men are contained in the Bible.” The question is: Will you accept or reject the Bible?

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