

The Bible claim

The Bible claims that it is the only book inspired by the only God (John 14:6; Revelations 22:18-19).

That's a big call!

Many regard the Bible as just a collection of stories and fables, although perhaps with good advice about how to live a worthwhile life and care for each other.

But could it really be 'The Word of God'?

Does it really describe the only way to God?

How can we even trust that it is true?

Evidence that you can trust

When God becomes part of our lives, miracles start to happen.

We no longer have to believe just with our minds. We are able to experience God in very real and physical ways.

We learn that we can trust the Bible, when the promises that God makes are fulfilled for us.

God still does miracles

The God of the Bible wants to restore and make us whole, and healing is one of His promises to everyone who believes in him (Matthew 4:23-24).

Throughout the Book of Acts, the disciples brought God's power to people, preaching how individuals can be 'born again' into His family, and praying for everyone with needs.

Healings and miracles are a normal part of a Christian's life. They are described as gifts in the church (1 Corinthians 12:8-9). The sick are told to call for the elders and the prayer of faith will save the sick (James 5:15-16).

See some of our *True stories pamphlets* for examples of God's miraculous provision.

Bible prophecy

Nearly one third of the Bible is prophecy. Many of its prophecies have already happened, but there are still some yet to occur.

Including the big one about Christ's return.

Some of the many Bible prophecies that have already been fulfilled include:

- The birth, life and death of Jesus;
- The rise and fall of world empires like the Assyrians, Greeks and Romans;
- The return of the Jews to Palestine.

There are even some very specific prophecies, like the effect on Egypt of the construction of the Aswan Dam that was built in the 1960s (Isaiah 19).

The Bible's main outstanding prophecy is that Christ is going to return to rule and reign on the earth for a thousand years, before a great and final judgement of everyone.

Christ's return will be preceded by great conflict, including the use of nuclear weapons (Joel 2:30-31).

Then when Christ stands upon the Mount of Olives, it will be split by a great earthquake and Jerusalem will become a sea port (Zechariah 14:4-8).

Finally, Christ will establish a new kingdom forever, where there will be no more pain, crying or death.

Yes, we can trust the Bible!

When we see miracles in our own lives, and how many Bible prophecies have already come to pass, we can be sure of its prophecies about our future.

Such a book could only have been inspired by a God who could see the future.

We can truly be confident that it is what it says - the inspired Word from the only true God.

So what is the meaning of life?

That we are created by God to live forever. To be loved by God and to love Him back.

Knowing God provides a wonderful purpose for our lives. It brings comfort, healing and the confidence that we are truly His loved and blessed children.

Meeting details

Main website: www.therevivalfellowship.com ACT/NSW churches: www.revivalnsw.com.au Podcast: www.revivalontheairtoday.com



A NEW GOD LIVING WAY

TODAY

Is there a meaning to life?

The Bible says that people are 'made in God's image' (Genesis 1:27). That may sound far-fetched. How can it even be possible, if God isn't flesh and blood like us?

It's because we have a soul. That essence of who we are, and the part of us that God created to live forever. It's what causes us to wonder about the big questions:

- Is there a God?
- Which of the many opinions about God are true?
- What is the point of my life?
- Is there anything beyond the grave?

We are designed for a relationship with God

The Bible says some very direct things about God and our relationship with Him.

It says that we're made to live forever (John 3:16).

It says that God wants us to be His family. That He wants to adopt us as sons and daughters (Romans 8:15) so that He can love us, and be loved by us (1 John 3:1).

We can even become His friends (John 15:15).

Knowing God completes us in a very special way.

He then provides a wonderful purpose and direction for our lives and helps us through all of life's difficulties and circumstances (John 10:10).

But can we ever be good enough for God?

God's standard is perfection, and a penalty must be paid when His laws are broken. That's a problem for us, since perfection is impossible for any human.

Which is why Jesus Christ is so important. By dying on the cross, the perfect Jesus Christ paid the penalty for our sin so that we are no longer liable (Ephesians 1:4-5).

Thus God's perfection is maintained, while at the same time His love is demonstrated (Romans 5:8-9).

Even though we don't deserve any good thing from God, He made a way to cancel our sin and restore our relationship with Him.

So what do we need to do?

The first thing we need to do is to believe in God. To acknowledge that He exists.

It may seem impossible to believe in a God you've never seen. But God promises that if we sincerely look for Him, He will reveal Himself to us (Jeremiah 29:11-13).

But it is vital to understand that believing in God is more than just acknowledging God with our mind.

Believing in God results in action. We start doing what God asks us to do. We repent and are baptised in water. Then God gives us His Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38), which we recognise by miraculously speaking in other languages. And we start to live a different life – a much better one.

It's not always easy

God does not promise a life without trials and struggles, or even heartache. But He does promise to always be with us and help us during those tough times.

In fact it is through such times that we can grow stronger in faith, deeper in commitment, and happier in overcoming:

- In even the most difficult of circumstances. God provides peace. (Phillipians 4:6-7)
- Through trials we develop patience, and then perfection. (James 1:2-4)
- Those that overcome will inherit all things and live with God forever. (Revelations 3:5)

All of this is now possible for us, because God gives us His Holy Spirit and power to help us, and to make sure that we're up for any challenge.

Advice for a great life

Here is some good advice that is worth taking to heart so that you can enjoy the 'abundant life' that God promises:

- Put God first in everything you do. (Matthew 6:32-33)
- Get connected into the family of God be involved in church. (Hebrews 10:25)
- Have a healthy and regular prayer life. (Ephesians 6:18)
- Read your Bible and get to know it well. (2 Timothy 3:16)
- Serve God with your time, your energy and your abundance. (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

If you've never read your Bible, or would like to get a basic idea of what it's about, read the books of Mark. Luke and Acts. They are a great introduction to the story of God and man.

The start of a journey

Being a Christian – in word and deed, is the most important and fulfilling thing we can do in our lives. It makes us complete and fills a hole that is in each of us who have been 'created in the image of God'. Salvation is not just a one-time thing. It is the start of a brand new life with a brand new purpose.