

The Terre Haute

SPEAKER

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).

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IS THE BIBLE TRULY GOD’S WORD? #3

John Edwards

EVIDENCE TO SUSTAIN SUCH A CLAIM: ITS SCIENTIFIC ACCURACY

“Science” means to know, and there is nothing any man can prove he knows that contradicts anything the Bible says.

Genesis 1:1-2 contains the five facts of science in scientific order: “*In the beginning*” (Time), “*God created the heaven*” (Space), “*and the earth*” (Matter), “*And the Spirit of God*” (Force), “*moved upon the face of the waters*” (Motion).

Isaiah, who lived 700 years B.C., said the earth is spherical. “*It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth...*” (Is. 40:22). The common man held the earth was flat until the introduction of the compass and improved sailing vessels made possible the voyages of Columbus, Magellan, and others.

It is recorded in the book of Job (about 2000 B.C.), “*He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing*” (Job 26:7). Until the invention of the telescope, the world’s scientists

thought the earth was rigidly supported.

There are many other such facts that were not discovered until centuries after the Bible was written. What we read in God’s word agrees with what we see in God’s world. Truly, God is the unseen author of the Bible.

WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES TO GOD?

John Edwards

Since God made man (Gen. 1:26-27; 2:7), isn’t it reasonable to think He might expect some things of us? What are my responsibilities to God?

KNOW GOD. David charged his son, “*And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father...*” (1 Chr. 28:9). How well do we know God?

FEAR GOD. “*Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man*” (Eccl. 12:13). To fear God is to reverence Him.

LOVE GOD. “*And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might*”

(Dt. 6:5). Loving God requires “*...that we keep his commandments...*” (1 Jn. 5:3).

SERVE GOD. “*And now, Israel, what doth the Lord thy God require of thee, but to fear the Lord thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul*” (Dt. 10:12).

OBEY GOD. “*Thou shalt therefore obey the voice of the Lord thy God, and do his commandments and his statutes...*” (Dt. 27:10). Those who do not obey will “*...be punished with everlasting destruction...*” (2 Th. 1:7-9).

WORSHIP GOD. “*God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth*” (Jn. 4:24).

Have we been meeting our responsibilities to God?

GETTING CLOSER TO GOD

John Edwards

I want to get closer to God, but I don’t want to commit to going to church right now. How do I do that?

“*Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse*

your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded” (Jas. 4:8).

SIN SEPARATES MAN FROM GOD. *“Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear” (Is. 59:1-2).* To get close to God, we must get rid of our sins.

DRAWING NEAR TO GOD. *“But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ....And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross...” (Eph. 2:13, 16).* Those near God are *“in one body”, “which is the church” (Col. 1:24).* It is impossible to be near God without being in the church of God. We are brought near *“by the blood of Christ”* by being *“baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus” (Acts 19:5).* We remain close to God by continuing in the gospel. *“And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body*

of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in his sight: If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel...” (Col. 1:21-23).

CAN FAITH ONLY SAVE?

John Edwards

“What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? can faith save him” (Jas. 2:14).

FAITH WITHOUT LOVE WILL NOT PROFIT. *“...though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing” (1 Cor. 13:2).*

THE COWARDLY RULERS BELIEVED. *“Nevertheless among the chief rulers also many believed on him; but because of the Pharisees they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: For they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God” (Jn. 12:42-43).*

FAITH ALONE IS DEAD. *“Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone” (Jas. 2:17). “But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?” (Jas. 2:20). “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also” (Jas. 2:26).*

THE DEVILS BELIEVED. *“Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble” (Jas. 2:19).*

NOT JUSTIFIED BY FAITH ONLY. *“Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only” (Jas. 2:24).*

THE FAITH THAT AVAILS MUST WORK. *“For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love” (Gal. 5:6).*

“Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness”

—PSALM 65:11

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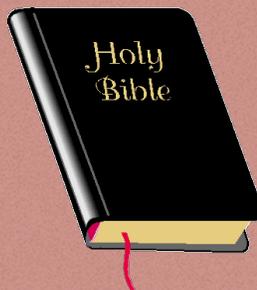
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Terre Haute, IN 47803
[Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46,
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We Do Bible Things in Bible Ways.

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