

Can we understand the Bible alike?

By: Eric Whitaker

- I. Introduction:
 - a. The bible tells that there's one faith
 - b. (**Jude 3**) "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend **for the faith** which was once delivered unto the saints."
 - i. There was one faith that was delivered
 - ii. The faith – system of doctrine
 - c. (**Eph 4:4-6**) "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, **one faith**, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."
 - i. One faith - system of doctrine
- II. Since there is one faith we must be able to understand the bible properly
 - a. (**Gal 1:6-9**) "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed."
 - i. If we don't accept that one faith we will be lost
 - b. (**Eph 4:11-14**) "And he **gave some**, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; **For the perfecting of the saints**, for the work of the ministry, for the **edifying of the body** of Christ: Till we all come in the **unity of the faith**, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be **no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;"
 - i. By the teachers God gave us we are able to be united in the faith were we will not be tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of the doctrine
- III. Who wrote the bible?
 - a. (**2 Peter 1:20-21**) "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any **private interpretation**. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God **spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost**."
 - b. God controlled what they said
 - c. (**2 Tim 3:16-17**) "All scripture is given **by inspiration of God**, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."

- i. θεόπνευστος theopneustos (teh-op'-nyoo-stos “divinely breathed in:”
 - ii. God wrote the bible through men by inspiration
- IV. Would God write in a way that all mankind can understand?
 - a. God loved us so much He sent His own Son
 - b. (**John 3:16**) “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”
 - c. (**Rom 8:31-32**) “What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?”
 - i. How much is God for us? God is for us so much that He gave His own Son
 - ii. He has given us also freely all things
 - iii. Doesn't it seem logical that if he gave us his Son that he would give His will in a way that we can understand?
 - d. God is our Father
 - i. (**Matt 7:8-11**) “For every one that **asketh** receiveth; and he that **seeketh** findeth; and to him that **knocketh** it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?”
 - 1. Since God is our Father He will give us all that we need in our spiritual life and the ability to understand His will
 - 2. We have to ask
 - a. (**James 1:5**) “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that **giveth to all men liberally**, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”
 - 3. We have to seek
 - a. (**Heb 11:6**) “But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently **seek** him.”
 - 4. We have to knock
 - a. (**Luke 13:25**) “When once the master of the house is risen up, and hath shut to the door, and ye begin to stand without, and to knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open unto us; and he shall answer and say unto you, **I know you not whence ye are:**”
 - b. We must knock before its too late
 - e. We must not blame God for our failure to understand the bible alike
- V. It is Possible to understand the Bible alike
 - a. First There's only One Faith – Therefore we must understand alike
 - i. One of two things occur when we disagree about this One Faith

1. One is in error
 2. Both are in error
- b. Second God wrote it
 - c. Third He sent his only begotten Son which shows His love for us and His care for our soul
 - d. Fourth God is our Father and gives freely good gifts
 - i. We must ask, seek, and knock