Q&A on "The Bible is God's Word"

Last week:

2 Timothy 3:16 – "All scripture is God-breathed" = the <u>inspiration</u> of Scripture

Q1: <u>General</u> revelation leaves people "without excuse." How is that fair? Explain?

Romans 1:18-23 Romans 2:12 (and Matthew 11:20-24) Romans 10:14-17

Q3: But <u>which</u> Bible books and passages make up "Scripture"? And who decided?

The story of the Old Testament books

What about the "apocrypha"?

The story of the New Testament books

What about the "Gospel of Thomas", etc?

Q4: Do we really know what the Bible texts said?

"textual criticism"

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Q2: What <u>proves</u> that Scripture is God's Word? What about our own <u>experiences</u>?

Distinguish:

(i) The Holy Spirit enables us to receive and to experience God's Word

e.g. 1 Corinthians 2:13-14, "And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

(ii) Our experiences do not sit in judgement on God's Word – it remains God's Word whether or not anyone believes it "Why trust the Gospels – an introduction" Immanuel Sunday School, 26 May 2024: Resources / Tough Questions / Why trust the Gospels

By Peter Williams:

"Can we trust the Gospels" – 40 minute video lecture https://academic.tyndalehouse.com/explore/videos/can-we-trust-the-gospels/

"Can we trust the Gospels?" - very readable book

"Can the Old Testament be trusted historically" – 20 minute video lecture <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lcgknT6TCQg</u>

Can we know the exact words of Scripture? 60 minute video lecture – complex... rewarding https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-6ELjQskXJc

Nothing but the truth: the inspiration, authority and history of the Bible explained – *by Brian Edwards*