

SERMON QUESTIONS

Dr. Timothy Laniak

Weekend of May 3, 2020

INTRODUCTION

- Describe something personal that you lost and were elated to find?
- What is one thing that has been handed down to you for which you are thankful.
- As we begin our time in the Word, let's begin with praise to the Lord for his Word and how he has protected and provided it, and handed it down to us throughout the centuries. Here are some truths for us to meditate upon as we begin:

The instruction of the LORD is perfect, renewing one's life;

The testimony of the LORD is trustworthy, making the inexperienced wise. The precepts of the LORD are right making the heart glad; the command of the LORD is radiant, making the eyes light up.

The fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever;

the ordinances of the LORD are reliable and altogether righteous.

They are more desirable than gold—than an abundance of pure gold; and sweeter than honey dripping from a honeycomb.

—Psalm 19:7–10 CSB

INTO THE BIBLE

Dr. Laniak made this statement, "We will discover how this discipline has corroborated and verified what the Bible says." The discipline he was referring to was the discipline of archaeology. Dr. Laniak fascinatingly presented to us evidence for the Bible from an archaeological perspective. He showed us evidence after evidence of the proof that the things spoken about in the Bible were actual places and people and decrees and structures.

- Of all the facts and findings presented by Dr. Laniak, which one resonated with you or stirred your heart? Why?

After examining these scientific and archaeological findings and proof, let's take a look at the Bible and read about these real places, people, and decrees.

Read Luke 4:16-22

- What are your observations about Jesus and his view of the ancient scriptures written approximately 800 years before his birth?
- What are some of the claims Jesus presents about who he is?
- In what ways do these verses provide support to the archaeological discoveries we have learned about?

Read Luke 24:25-27 (for greater context and deeper understanding read 24:13-17)

- In what ways does Jesus confirm the scriptures that were written in the Old Testament?
- How might these truths (from Luke 4 and Luke 24) increase our faith and trust in God's Word?

Read Hebrews 1:1-4.

- In what ways are these verses connected to our series *Why Trust the Bible?*
- What are some of the different descriptions and truths about Jesus?
- Which one of these descriptions of Jesus is most meaningful for you today? Why?

APPLICATION

- Today we have looked at a lot of facts and information regarding the Bible and archaeology. We have also looked at a number of verses that support the truth that Jesus believed and claimed that the Old Testament scriptures were from God. In what ways do these understandings affect the way you will approach reading God's Word?
- What might be some of the resources you look to for truth *in place* of the Word of God?
- We know from the Bible that the Holy Spirit helps us to understand the words from God in the scriptures. 1 Corinthians 2:12-13 says,

Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. (ESV)

NEW CITY

- Take a minute to thank the Lord for the Holy Spirit that provides the insight and faith we need to understand scripture and apply it to our lives.
- As you pray, write down any scripture that comes to mind. Ask the Lord to direct your thoughts to any teachings or commands or behaviors that need to be seen or heard through the grid of the truth of God's Word.