

Wonderful Words Of Life



Start with a Philosophy



You may agree or disagree.

The Philosophy

As Christians we believe that God's word is the only basis of truth.



Do you agree or disagree?



In Latin the philosophy is called Sola Scriptura.



In English it is translated as Solely the Scripture.

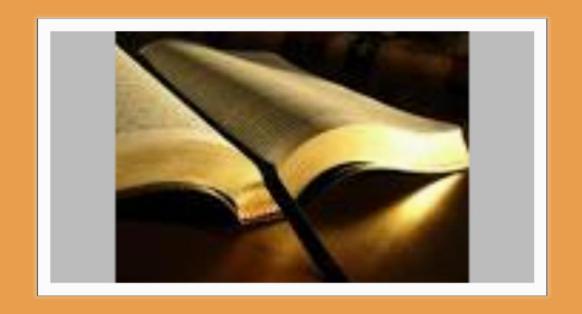
We believe in what the Bible says; not some man-made tradition or human invention and interpretations.

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation,

for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.



We believe the Bible to be the written Word of God.



Agree or Disagree?

We also believe that the Bible is written with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.



Agree or disagree?

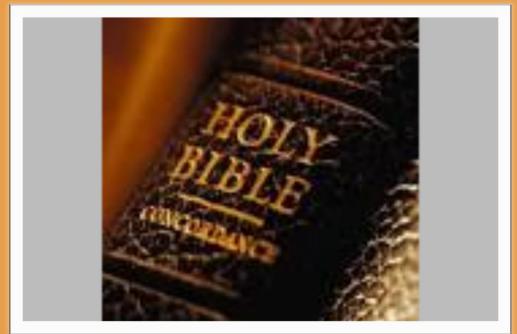
1 Timothy 3:16-17

16 God has breathed life into all of Scripture. It is useful for teaching us what is true. It is useful for correcting our mistakes. It is useful for making our lives whole again. It is useful for training us to do what is right. 17 By using Scripture, a man of God can be completely prepared to do every good thing.

The Bible contains the wonderful Words of Life

John 14:6

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."



The wonderful words of God are life and are the basis of truth.



Agree or disagree?

What if ...

someone teaches a doctrine that is not taught by Christ in the Bible should be believe him or should we ignore him?



A story to tell



In 1 Kings chapter 13 is a rather strange and peculiar story.



It is a story about
a prophet of God
who was deceived by another
prophet.

Extremely strange

As in all Bible stories, there is a vital lesson for us to learn.

What is the spiritual lesson we are to learn from the story?

History is dotted with people who listened to bad advices.

Timothy said people listen to ill advise not because they are fools rather because the is what their itchy ears wanted to hear.

2 Timothy 4:3-4

3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.



We should be careful on whom to listen.

We all know King Solomon, the wisest king ever lived.

In spite of God appearing to him twice, he still sinned against God because he listened to his wives.

Solomon's 700 wives and 300 concubines were extremely difficult to please.

The politician in King Solomon caused him to compromise his integrity. Solomon wanted to please his harem of wives, and he listened to each of their appeal.

Solomon built temples and high places of worship for his foreign wives.

He polluted the nation of Israel with idolatry.

Appeasing his wives maybe politically correct, but wrong and sinful in the sight of God.

Instead of converting his wives and concubines to the true religion, Solomon gave himself to worship the foreign gods.

Thus, Solomon did evil in the sight of God.

Because of Solomon's disobedience, God split the kingdom and give the northern ten tribes to Jeroboam, one of Solomon's high official, which became the nation of Israel.

The remaining two tribes then became the nation of Judah and remained under the leadership of Rehoboam, son of Solomon.

The error of Solomon was to listen to his wives than to God.

1Ki 11:1 King Solomon, however, loved many foreign women besides Pharaoh's daughter—Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians and Hittites.

1Ki 11:3 He had seven hundred wives of royal birth and three hundred concubines, and his wives led him astray.

1Ki 11:4 As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father had been. 1Ki 11:5 He followed Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and Molech the detestable god of the Ammonites.

1Ki 11:6 So Solomon did evil in the eyes of the LORD; he did not follow the LORD completely, as David his father had done.

1Ki 11:9 The LORD became angry with Solomon because his heart had turned away from the LORD, the God of Israel, who had appeared to him twice.

1Ki 11:11 So the LORD said to Solomon, "Since this is your attitude and you have not kept my covenant and my decrees, which I commanded you, I will most certainly tear the kingdom away from you and give it to one of your subordinates.

1Ki 11:13 Yet I will not tear the whole kingdom from him, but will give him one tribe for the sake of David my servant and for the sake of Jerusalem, which I have chosen."

King Solomon's error was to listen to his wives and not to God who appeared and spoke to him twice.

1Ki 11:14 Then the LORD raised up against Solomon an adversary, Hadad the Edomite, from the royal line of Edom.

1Ki 11:26 Also, Jeroboam son of Nebat rebelled against the king.

1Ki 11:28 Now Jeroboam was a man of standing, and when Solomon saw how well the young man did his work, he put him in charge of the whole labor force of the house of Joseph.

1Ki 11:29 About that time Jeroboam was going out of Jerusalem, and Ahijah the prophet of Shiloh met him on the way, wearing a new cloak. The two of them were alone out in the country,

1Ki 11:30 and Ahijah took hold of the new cloak he was wearing and tore it into twelve pieces.

1Ki 11:31 Then he said to Jeroboam, "Take ten pieces for yourself, for this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'See, I am going to tear the kingdom out of Solomon's hand and give you ten tribes.

1Ki 11:37 However, as for you, I will take you, and you will rule over all that your heart desires; you will be king over Israel.

1Ki 11:38 If you do whatever I command you and walk in my ways and do what is right in my eyes by keeping my statutes and commands, as David my servant did, I will be with you. I will build you a dynasty as enduring as the one I built for David and will give Israel to you.

1Ki 11:42 Solomon reigned in Jerusalem over all Israel forty years. 1Ki 11:43 Then he rested with his fathers and was buried in the city of David his father. And Rehoboam his son succeeded him as king.

1Ki 12:1 Rehoboam went to Shechem, for all the Israelites had gone there to make him king.

1Ki 12:4 "Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but now lighten the harsh labor and the heavy yoke he put on us, and we will serve you."

1Ki 12:5 Rehoboam answered, "Go away for three days and then come back to me." So the people went away.

1Ki 12:6 Then King Rehoboam consulted the elders who had served his father Solomon during his lifetime. "How would you advise me to answer these people?" he asked.

1Ki 12:7 They replied, "If today you will be a servant to these people and serve them and give them a favorable answer, they will always be your servants."

1Ki 12:8 But Rehoboam rejected the advice the elders gave him and consulted the young men who had grown up with him and were serving him.
1Ki 12:9 He asked them, "What is your advice? How should we answer these people who say to me, 'Lighten the yoke your father put on us'?"

1Ki 12:10 The young men who had grown up with him replied, "Tell these people who have said to you, 'Your father put a heavy yoke on us, but make our yoke lighter'—tell them, 'My little finger is thicker than my father's waist.

1Ki 12:11 My father laid on you a heavy yoke; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions."

1Ki 12:12 Three days later Jeroboam and all the people returned to Rehoboam, as the king had said, "Come back to me in three days." 1Ki 12:13 The king answered the people harshly. Rejecting the advice given him by the elders, 1Ki 12:14 he followed the advice of the young men and said, "My father made your yoke heavy; I will make it even heavier. My father scourged you with whips; I will scourge you with scorpions."

1Ki 12:15 So the king did not listen to the people, for this turn of events was from the LORD, to fulfill the word the LORD had spoken to Jeroboam son of Nebat through Ahijah the Shilonite. 1Ki 12:16 When all Israel saw that the king refused to listen to them, they answered the king: "What share do we have in David, what part in Jesse's son? To your tents, O Israel! Look after your own house, O David!" So the Israelites went home.

1Ki 12:20 When all the Israelites heard that Jeroboam had returned, they sent and called him to the assembly and made him king over all Israel. Only the tribe of Judah remained loyal to the house of David.

1Ki 12:25 Then Jeroboam fortified Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim and lived there. From there he went out and built up Peniel.

Rehoboam made the mistake of taking the advice of his young friends rather than Solomon's older, wiser advisers.

This bad advice precipitated the split as prophesied, and the ten tribes (Israel) remains separated from Judah to this day.

1Ki 12:26 Jeroboam thought to himself, "The kingdom will now likely revert to the house of David.

I King 12 [NIV]

1Ki 12:27 If these people go up to offer sacrifices at the temple of the LORD in Jerusalem, they will again give their allegiance to their lord, Rehoboam king of Judah. They will kill me and return to King Rehoboam."

I King 12 [NIV]

1Ki 12:28 After seeking advice, the king made two golden calves. He said to the people, "It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of Egypt."

Jeroboam did the unthinkable upon the ill advice of his advisors. He created idols and worshipped them because he listened to bad advice.

I King 12 [NIV]

1Ki 12:29 One he set up in Bethel, and the other in Dan.

1 Ki 1By the word of the Lord a man of God came from Judah to Bethel, as Jeroboam was standing by the altar to make an offering.

1Ki 13:2 He cried out against the altar by the word of the LORD: "O altar, altar! This is what the LORD says: 'A son named Josiah will be born to the house of David. On you he will sacrifice the priests of the high places who now make offerings here, and human bones will be burned on you."

1Ki 13:3 That same day the man of God gave a sign: "This is the sign the LORD has declared: The altar will be split apart and the ashes on it will be poured out."

1Ki 13:4 When King Jeroboam heard what the man of God cried out against the altar at Bethel, he stretched out his hand from the altar and said, "Seize him!" But the hand he stretched out toward the man shriveled up, so that he could not pull it back.

1Ki 13:5 Also, the altar was split apart and its ashes poured out according to the sign given by the man of God by the word of the LORD.

1Ki 13:6 Then the king said to the man of God, "Intercede with the LORD your God and pray for me that my hand may be restored." So the man of God interceded with the LORD, and the king's hand was restored and became as it was before.

1Ki 13:7 The king said to the man of God, "Come home with me and have something to eat, and I will give you a gift."

1Ki 13:8 But the man of God answered the king, "Even if you were to give me half your possessions, I would not go with you, nor would I eat bread or drink water here.

1Ki 13:9 For I was commanded by the word of the LORD: 'You must not eat bread or drink water or return by the way you came."

1Ki 13:10 So he took another road and did not return by the way he had come to Bethel.

1Ki 13:11 Now there was a certain old prophet living in Bethel, whose sons came and told him all that the man of God had done there that day. They also told their father what he had said to the king.

1Ki 13:12 Their father asked them, "Which way did he go?" And his sons showed him which road the man of God from Judah had taken.

1Ki 13:13 So he said to his sons, "Saddle the donkey for me." And when they had saddled the donkey for him, he mounted it 1Ki 13:14 and rode after the man of God. He found him sitting under an oak tree and asked, "Are you the man of God who came from Judah?" "I am," he replied.

1Ki 13:15 So the prophet said to him, "Come home with me and eat."

1Ki 13:16 The man of God said, "I cannot turn back and go with you, nor can I eat bread or drink water with you in this place.

1Ki 13:17 I have been told by the word of the LORD: 'You must not eat bread or drink water there or return by the way you came."

1Ki 13:18 The old prophet answered, "I too am a prophet, as you are. And an angel said to me by the word of the LORD: 'Bring him back with you to your house so that he may eat bread and drink water.'" (But he was lying to him.)

1Ki 13:19 So the man of God returned with him and ate and drank in his house.

1Ki 13:20 While they were sitting at the table, the word of the LORD came to the old prophet who had brought him back.

1Ki 13:21 He cried out to the man of God who had come from Judah, "This is what the LORD says: 'You have defied the word of the LORD and have not kept the command the LORD your God gave you.

1Ki 13:22 You came back and ate bread and drank water in the place where he told you not to eat or drink. Therefore your body will not be buried in the tomb of your fathers."

1Ki 13:23 When the man of God had finished eating and drinking, the prophet who had brought him back saddled his donkey for him.

1Ki 13:24 As he went on his way, a lion met him on the road and killed him, and his body was thrown down on the road, with both the donkey and the lion standing beside it. 1Ki 13:25 Some people who passed by saw the body thrown down there, with the lion standing beside the body, and they went and reported it in the city where the old prophet lived.

1Ki 13:26 When the prophet who had brought him back from his journey heard of it, he said, "It is the man of God who defied the word of the LORD. The LORD has given him over to the lion, which has mauled him and killed him, as the word of the LORD had warned him."

1Ki 13:27 The prophet said to his sons, "Saddle the donkey for me," and they did so.

1Ki 13:28 Then he went out and found the body thrown down on the road, with the donkey and the lion standing beside it. The lion had neither eaten the body nor mauled the donkey.

1Ki 13:31 After burying him, he said to his sons, "When I die, bury me in the grave where the man of God is buried; lay my bones beside his bones.

1Ki 13:32 For the message he declared by the word of the LORD against the altar in Bethel and against all the shrines on the high places in the towns of Samaria will certainly come true."

The Lesson

The man of God was deceived by the old prophet and paid with his life.

The man of God listened to a fellow prophet and not to God.

There is great value in determining truth from falsehood and what God said from what man said.

But, how do we determine truth from falsehood; from what God said compared to what man said?

For a Christian, the basis of truth is the Bible – sola scriptura – solely the scripture.

The examples

Exodus 20:8

REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY TO KEEP IT HOLY.

It is commonly stated that the 4th commandment is repealed. The Sabbath is not for Christians.

That the new day of worship is Sunday.

Nowhere can anyone find in the New Testament that the 4th commandment had been abolished.

If God did not plainly state that he has changed a law, why should we believe it was changed?

Who would you believe, the Bible which is the written word of God, or the minister who claimed to be a man of God?

Exodus 20

The Ten Commandments

If anyone tells you that God has changed the commandments from 10 to 2 and the law is no longer enforced today, you should insist to find out if it is indeed written in the Bible.

Deuteronomy 14

1 You are the children of the Lord your God. Do not cut yourselves or shave the front of your heads for the dead, 2 for you are a people holy to the Lord your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the Lord has chosen you to be his treasured possession.

3 Do not eat any detestable thing 4 These are the animals you may eat the ox, the sheep, the goat, 5 the deer, the gazelle, the roe deer, the wild goat, the ibex, the antelope and the mountain sheep.

6 You may eat any animal that has a divided hoof and that chews the cud. 7 However, of those that chew the cud or that have a divided hoof you may not eat the camel, the rabbit or the hyrax. Although they chew the cud, they do not have a divided hoof; they are ceremonially unclean for you.

8 The pig is also unclean; although it has a divided hoof, it does not chew the cud. You are not to eat their meat or touch their carcasses.

9 Of all the creatures living in the water, you may eat any that has fins and scales. 10 But anything that does not have fins and scales you may not eat; for you it is unclean.

11 You may eat any clean bird. 12 But these you may not eat: the eagle, the vulture, the black vulture, 13 the red kite, the black kite, any kind of falcon 14 any kind of raven, 15 the horned owl, the screech owl, the gull, any kind of hawk, 16 the little owl, the great owl, the white owl, 17 the desert owl, the osprey, the cormorant, 18 the stork, any kind of heron, the hoopoe and the bat.

All flying insects are unclean to you; do not eat them. 20 But any winged creature that is clean you may eat.

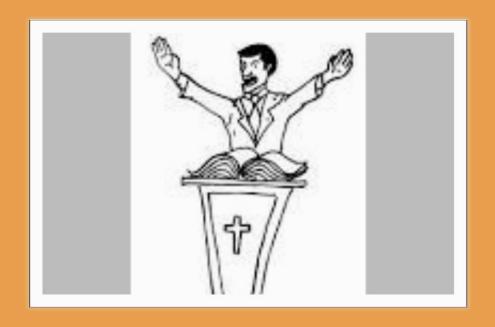
21 Do not eat anything you find already dead. You may give it to the foreigner residing in any of your towns, and they may eat it, or you may sell it to any other foreigner. But you are a people holy to the Lord your God.

If people tell you that the dietary laws had been cleansed, and all kinds of food are to be taken with thanksgiving, you have an obligation to examine the scriptures.

When people tell you things, doctrines and teachings different from those written in the Bible, remember what happened to the man of God in 1 Kings 13.

In today's vast and diverse world of religion, you do not know who to listen to.

But, there is only one source of truth - God, and the Bible is His living word.



People will come to you with a different doctrine.

Here are the warnings of the Apostles.

Galatians 1:6-7

6 I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, 7 which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ.

Galatians 1:8-9

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. 9 As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

Jude said to always defend and contend for the faith once and for all delivered to the saints.

Jude 3-4

3 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints. 4 For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ.

How do you discern what God said and what man said?

In the Old Testament it is "The Lord said".

In the New Testament the red letter texts are the words of Christ.

With this rule you will never go wrong.

In any discrepancy between what the Bible says and what the minister preaches, always go for the word of God written in the Bible. That is your defense against deception.

Jesus prophesied a time when there will be so much religious deception in the world. Jesus even said that it would even deceive the elect? When people tell you Jesus is here. Do not believe them.

Matthew 24:24

For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect.

How can anyone escape from such deception? The simple answer is in the word of God.

Read the Bible.

Intriguing as the story maybe, but it carries a vital lesson.

The lesson is we listen to God and not to man.

It reminds us to be wise and circumspect.

Anyone can be deceived, including a man of God if he is not careful. Jesus warned that even the elect will be deceived.

Therefore, it becomes our personal and individual responsibility to search the scriptures.

Paul said in 1 Thessalonians 5:21

"Test all things; hold fast what is good." Consider those of Berea who check the preaching of Paul against the scriptures.

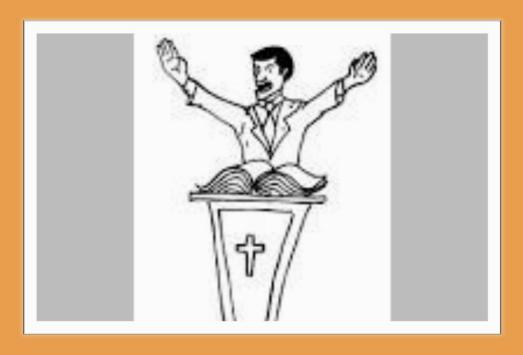
Acts 17:11

The Bereans were very glad to receive Paul's message. They studied the Scriptures carefully every day. They wanted to see if what Paul said was true.

Who do you listen to; your minister, pastor, priest, friend, neighbor, boyfriend, girlfriend, officemate, other websites or to God through His written word?

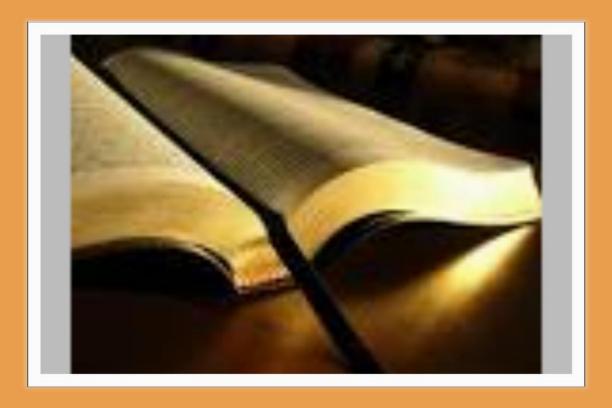


Please don't get fooled by false ministers who teach you false things.



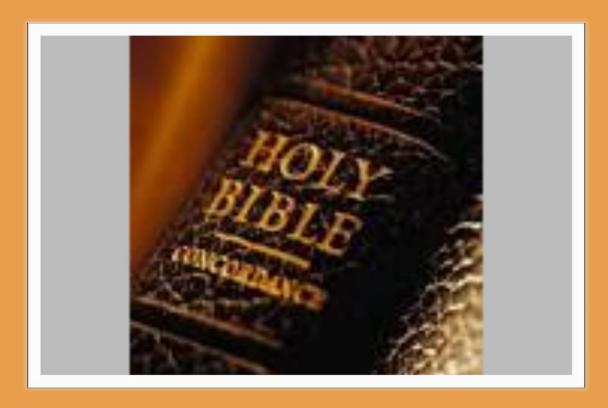
If someone deceives you into disobedience, the consequences are sole and solely yours.

Stay alert, be faithful and true to God.



Only and only to Him shall we listen and obey.

We owe it to ourselves this responsibility.



Only listen to the Words of God.