

Can We All Understand the Bible Alike?

Introduction:

- A. The common attitude toward the Bible is that we just cannot see it alike.
- B. But the Lord desires His people to be one. - John 17:20-21
- C. Can we all understand the Bible alike?

I. Do people misunderstand the Bible?

- A. There is division over what people think the Bible teaches. - e.g., Ask different preachers, "What must I do to be saved?"
- B. There is division between Christians over what they think the Bible teaches. - e.g., divorce and remarriage
- C. Division proves misunderstanding.
 - 1. A syllogism proves the point.
 - a. Truth is consistent, i.e., it never contradicts itself.
 - b. The Bible is truth. - John 17:17
 - c. Therefore, the Bible is consistent, i.e., it never contradicts itself.
 - 2. There are important applications of this conclusion.
 - a. If we understand the Bible at all, it will be alike. - 1 Corinthians 1:10; Is God a liar?
 - b. If we accept conflicting answers, someone is wrong. - 1 Timothy 6:3-5; e.g., math problem
 - c. It is not a matter of personal opinion or interpretation. - 1 Peter 4:11

II. Can we understand the Bible?

- A. Is the Bible an understandable book? - If not, either God could but wouldn't, or He would but couldn't.
 - 1. God wants us to understand. - 1 Timothy 2:3-4
 - 2. He revealed an understandable book. - Ephesians 3:1-6
- B. Is man capable of understanding the Bible.? - Ephesians 5:17; John 6:44-45
- C. Are things different today?
 - 1. God's teaching is unchanged. - 1 Peter 1:24-25
 - 2. Man's nature is unchanged. - Ecclesiastes 1:9-10
- D. It is mainly a matter of attitude. - Acts 28:24-27

Conclusion:

- A. Yes, we can all understand the Bible alike.
- B. How wonderful if we did! - 1 Corinthians 1:10
- C. The means is very simple. - 1 Peter 4:11