

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT YOU?

Psalms 145:14 ... "The Lord upholds all who fall, and raises up all who are bowed down."

Many people go to the Bible only when they face trials, challenges, and problems. They go looking for answers to why they are lonely, why they are sick, why they cannot find work, or why someone died. People look for the answers to their questions about which motorcycle they should buy, which college they should attend, or which guy they should marry. A young man once told me that he looked for the name of his girlfriend in the Bible as a sign to know if he should marry her. While the Bible may not directly answer every question you have about life, it does illustrate how God works, which is much more important. Billy Graham said: "The Bible is God's 'love letter' to us, telling us not only that He loves us, but showing us what He has done to demonstrate His love."

The Bible depicts God's nature, his plans for his creation, the differences between right and wrong, and – most importantly – his character. The Bible is not about you or me. Instead, it contains God's commandments that reveal the sins that separate us from God. It offers you and I certain promises and rewards for godly behavior. But you may never find your name in the Bible. You should be happy that the Bible is not about you. If it was, it would have to be about every person who ever lived. I prefer to know about God. I prefer to know about the majesty of God, his creative powers, his sovereignty, his victory over the devil and sin, his will for us as a people, and his plans for our future.

So, how does the knowledge of God's character help us navigate this complicated life? The Bible succeeds where self-help books and man's philosophies fail, because the centerpiece of the Bible is our creator who is fully in control of the universe and history. God does not have opinions or advice. He does not tease us, trick us, lie to us, or offer things he cannot provide. God has no competitors. There are no alternatives to God that can save us from hell. Of all the religions the world has ever seen (and there are thousands of them), not one of them can claim that their god died for them and still lives today and forever.

So, would it really bless you if your name was in the Bible in a list of billions of other people? Is it not better to rely upon the Bible to reveal to you the character of God, which alone gives you the promise of an eternal life of peace and joy after you die? If you understand God's character and develop a relationship with him, the guidance for your decisions will come directly from him through his Holy Spirit.

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