

Psalm 19:7-9. Bible Study questions

1. Coming from a Charismatic background, experience and not necessary the Word of God was sufficient and authoritative to tackle the issues of faith. I used to read the Bible but focused more on the narratives in the OT and the gospels in the NT. It was in 2002 after being a Christian for 11 years that I heard for the first time, the words 'sufficiency of Scripture'. I believe there is nothing greater than the Bible; it is the only tool given to men by God Himself to understand and deal with issues of faith and conduct/life.

- Is this your belief? If yes, when did you start to feel confident about the Scripture being Sufficient?
- Can you think and share of instances when it was difficult to stand on this truth (please be honest)?

2. **Psalm 19:7a says: "The law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul"**. In other words, the instruction of the Lord/the Word of God is complete, unscathed, impeccable, blameless, without fault or blemish, intact. Being this perfect, it is the only agent of transformation and salvation. **Romans 10:17: "Faith comes from hearing and hearing the Word of God"**.

- If we believe this to be true, why in our evangelism of loved ones (mainly) we find it easy to pray for them than to share the Scripture? (Not that I do not understand the importance and power of prayer)

3. **Psalm 19:7b says: "The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple."**

The term **"testimony"** refers to Scripture as divine witness or that which God bears witness to. The word of God bears witness to the past, the present and the future. It contains revelations about God – who He is and what He requires of us. It contains warnings, reminders to help us live right and make the correct decisions.

It gives us a comprehensive account of who we are, who we were or used to be and who we shall be. In respect to historical facts about the world, creation, anthropology, sin and its terrible effects on the world, depravity, God's grace and redemption, the current state of the world, the future and end times – all these things have clearly been spoken of by God before time as witness to history, that is unfolding to show His loving heart to mankind and urge him to make the right decision.

The Term **'sure'** means the Bible is reliable, firm, unwavering, unshaken, trustworthy.

"The term 'wise' refers to one who not only knows some fact, who is skilled in the art of daily godly living". He submits to Scripture and knows how to apply it to his circumstances.

- As a Christian, what do you think God is saying to South Africa after the elections we just had?
- If you were given an opportunity to address the nation, what would you tell them that would be consistent with the clear teaching of Scripture?

4. Psalm 19:8a says: ‘The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart.

The scripture contains God’s principles and guidelines every human being needs, to live in a way that pleases God. Those guidelines and principles are called “Precepts”.

Those precepts, guidelines and principles **are right**, meaning they show the true path and not only point out to what is right and wrong. God’s word/the Bible is the way! The Scripture is sufficient to give joy, true happiness and lasting contentment even in the midst of serious difficulty.

- If that’s the case, why is there discouragements and even depression among Christians?
- David says in **Psalm 119:50: “This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life.”**

Do you perhaps think that we do not experience godly joy and happiness because our view of God, of ourselves and of life in general is not that correct? Have we not perhaps been focusing more on a certain attribute of God and not see Him for who He really is and what He can do for His children?

5. Psalm 19: 8b: “The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.”

The term ‘**commandment**’ refers to the Scripture not being a book of suggestions. It is non-optional. It is the final authority over all matters of faith and conduct. In other words what it says goes! To treat it lightly is to run the risk of suffering eternal consequences such as spending eternity totally separated from God.

The Scripture is clear about the destiny of man, both believers and unbelievers. It is God’s only tool to give light to those who are in darkness and to show the way to those who believe.

- How comfortable would you be to declare the position of Scripture to an unbelieving friend or colleague? Can we be loving and clear in helping people see the light?
- The psalmist writes, “**Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path**” (**Ps 119:105**). Are our decisions taken in consultation with the principle and truth of Scripture or do we rely mostly on what’s practical or pragmatic, because it works for me?

6. Psalm 19:9: ‘The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever.’ the judgements of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

Scripture is without sin, without evil, without corruption, or error, it is permanent, needs no editing, updating, upgrading, refining or tuning. It is relevant to everyone in

every generation. It is God's standard for judging the life and eternal destiny of every person. The Scripture produces total righteousness to those who accept it. As believers, we have this truth and needs nothing else; no extra biblical prophecy, no vision, no revelation (2 Pet 3:15-16; Rev 22:18-19). The scripture is sufficient. There is nothing more glorious than the Bible!

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Close in prayer!