

How Can You Take the Bible Literally - Psalm 19:1-11 **Notes, Family Worship, Bible Reading**

Notes from the Sermon

In consideration of how to address this question from Rebecca McLaughlin's book, I kept thinking back to the first verse of Genesis 3:

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" (Genesis 3:1)

As we live out our lives on this earth we are engaged in a spiritual conflict. Satan is constantly tempting us to doubt the goodness of God and his promises to us. If he can push us to doubt the reliability and authority of God's revelation through the scriptures, he has us in a position to doubt our faith.

The motivation behind the question "How can we take the bible literally", seems to be can I find a way out of not trusting the Bible. Can I just apply the parts of God's word that I like? Can I place more trust in my feelings and in the cultural consensus on topics of morality?

In the Psalm that we studied this week, David walked us through how the Law of the Lord is perfect, sure, right, pure and that it endures forever. The Psalm taught us how the conversion of our soul to begin a new life in Jesus, starts with the word of God. This truth is confirmed by other authors in scripture. Here are just a couple:

James 1:18

Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

1 Peter 1:23

Since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

In verses 7-11 of the Psalm, David describes the benefits of God's word, an overview of the sanctification that God brings through his precepts. Because the scriptures are the word of the Lord - they have effects on us that are better than anything else we can read or study.

Not everything about God can be known. The Bible does not answer every question about life. It reveals what He has chosen for us to know. From a high level, we can understand that Our God loves us and wants what is best for us. Even more than parents want what is best for their children. Through the scriptures we are able to learn a great deal about His will and His character. We can also understand His plan of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. The gospels provide us with biographies of how Jesus lived out his ministry and served people with a loving heart. The Bible provides us with wisdom to set our hope on a new place, a restored earth that is no longer befallen by sin. A place that will prove to be superior to anything we experience here on earth.

Bible Reading for the Week

Daily Bible Readings

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Deuteronomy 12	Deuteronomy 13	Deuteronomy 14	Deuteronomy 15	Deuteronomy 16	Deuteronomy 17	Deuteronomy 18

Reading from this past week: Psalm 19:1-11

Reading in preparation for this coming Sunday: Luke 16:19-31

Family Worship

Song - *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

<https://youtu.be/OYKP2p6uEkM>

Gospel Project

Unit: The Teachings of Jesus

Story: We are Part of God's Kingdom

Big Picture Question: What did Jesus teach when He was on earth?

Answer: Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. He taught that all Scripture is about Him.

Scripture: Matthew 22

New City Catechism

Question #33: Should those who have faith in Christ seek their salvation through their own works, or anywhere else?

Answer: No, everything necessary to salvation is found in Christ.

Verse: Galatians 2:16

Scripture

Psalm 19:1-11

- How would you answer the question for this week, "How can you take the Bible literally?"
- How can we know that the Bible is trustworthy and actually what it claims to be, the Word of God?
- What does Psalm 19 tell us about the nature and importance of God's Word?
- What are ways and even rhythms we can implement to show the importance of the Word of God in our lives?

Prayer

Pray that we would be a people who love God's Word and handle it accurately.

*Pray for missionaries who give their lives caring for the poor, marginalized, and oppressed.