

Lesson 01

BIBLICAL PANORAMA**1- INTRODUCTION****1.1 Introduction and objectives of the study:**

The objective of the **BIBLICAL PANORAMA** is to everyone who consults it a clear, didactic, chronological and systematic study of the **Sacred Holy Scriptures**. We hope this course will help you to understand the greatness of God and how much He loves us.

1.2 Questions:**a) Why are you here?**

You were brought here by God. No one seeks God; God seeks us.

⇒ **Romans 3:10~12**; *'There is none who seeks after God.'*

b) What is the Bible to you?

The Bible is not just a book for information; it is a book to be lived. At the beginning of the Gospel, preaching was a tumult; there were conversions and persecution. The Bible is not a book of religions or a religion, it is about discovering a person. The Bible is a book that transforms people.

⇒ **Acts 16:19~21**

⇒ **Acts 17:6**

c) What is revelation?

Paul asked God for the Spirit of revelation. The Bible brings God's revelation to us; until we read it seriously, it is not revealed to us. It's like a photograph; when you've used film before developing it, you can't see the pictures, but everything is there on the film. It's the same with the Bible, as long as we don't read it seriously, from the heart, it's not revealed to us, but everything is there.

d) What is truth?

Truth about what? Of what surrounds us? Where is the truth? Where did I come from? Where am I going? Who has the truth? What is my truth? What am I doing here on earth? Example of Jesus with Pilate (*Pilate asked Jesus: what is truth? Jesus answered nothing because Pilate was facing the truth, **Jesus is the truth***).

- The truth is a person. ⇒ **John 14:5~6**
 ⇒ **John 1:17**
- Only the Bible clearly defines who God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, man and Satan are. Only God could tell us about the creation. The Bible is the standard of truth.
 ⇒ **John 17:17**
- The Bible presents **truth vs. lies**, **not right vs. wrong**. The enemy of God and man, the Devil, is no 'fool'; the success of lies is to get closer to the truth. Without the Bible, we will be deceived. Bank tellers in England, for example, (*are trained by touch to identify real banknotes*).

1.3 The Bible is a bold book:

- It's not a book by someone talking about God; it's God himself talking about himself:
 ⇒ **Isaiah 46:9~10**
 ⇒ **Isaiah 48:17**
- Religions leave a strange cloud over who God is. We have to do strange things or acts to get closer to God, rituals, etc. God speaks to us directly through His Word:
 ⇒ **Isaiah 45: 21~22**
- Only God can fill the void that exists in the natural man. Man is free to decide whether or not he wants to live with God.
- We must expose ourselves to the Bible without preconceptions; the Bible is the 'treasure map' for the return of man separated from God by sin, to the only source of life which is God himself.
 ⇒ **Hebrews 3:7~8** *Do not harden your hearts*
- **Death = Separation** and not **extinction**. The natural man is separated from God; he is as a dead person. Look at the example of a fish when it dies, leaving the water it still appears alive, but it is dead. This is the man living without God.
 ⇒ **Ephesians 2:4~5**
- The world walks in darkness, groping. When we expose ourselves to the Word of God, light appears:
 ⇒ **II Peter 1:19**
 ⇒ **Proverbs 4:18~19**

1.4 The Bible is the way back to God:

- This title is the summary of the Bible.
- Anyone can understand the Bible, age, culture, education are not obstacles.
- The Bible shows that there is only one way, and, like the truth, the way is one person
 ⇒ **John 14:5~6**

1.5 The whole Bible points to Jesus:

- The cross is the center of history:
 OT ⇒ past
 Cross ⇒ center
 N.T. ⇒ future
- Jesus, even though he was a carpenter, is still known by everyone today.
- Jesus on the road to Emmaus after the resurrection
 ⇒ **Luke 24:25~27**
 ⇒ **Luke 24:44** division of the OT
- - He opened their minds; this should be our prayer.
 ⇒ **Luke 24:45**
- Jesus Christ is the Spirit of all prophecy.
 ⇒ **Revelation 19:10**

1.6 Information:

- God is not concerned with how good or bad you are, grace is for everyone.
- God has only one concern, that you believe in His Word and in the saving work of Jesus Christ. Jesus was given to us by God out of vital necessity and not to be contemplated,

⇒ **John 3:16**. Jesus was not given as a new philosophy.

Without Jesus we have no way back to God.

⇒ **Galatians 1:9**.

1.7 Who is the Author of the Bible:

⇒ **II Peter 1:20~21**

⇒ **II Timothy 3:16~17**

First of all, this is what we need to know: that no prophecy of Scripture was ever written by one man's particular interpretation. Holy men from God were moved by the Holy Spirit. The word; moved came from the Greek word 'phero'; the same root as 'pheromenai' which means funeral. The men who wrote the Bible were moved by the Holy Spirit in the same way that a dead man is moved at his funeral; he has no will of his own, although he uses his own way of writing and culture, without changing the foundation of what the Holy Spirit has inspired.

- God's message is for man, therefore God used men to write the Bible, however the author in fact, of whole Scripture, is the Holy Spirit of God, and He is who teaches us all the truth.
- The Bible needs no interpretation:
⇒ **Deuteronomy 29:29**
- - The anointing that is in you teaches you:
⇒ **I John 2:20 and 27**
⇒ **I Corinthians 2:12**
⇒ **John 14:16~17 and 26**
⇒ **John 16:7~13**
⇒ **II Corinthians 1:21~22**