

The Study Of Evidences (2) Importance and Nature

Matthew 7:24-29

INTRODUCTION

- A. Important Issues
 - 1. How did we get here?
 - 2. The existence of God?
 - 3. Is there a resurrection of the dead?
 - 4. Is the Bible reliable and inerrant?
 - 5. Is Jesus the Son of God?
 - 6. Why are we Christians?
- B. The Wise Man Built His...
 - 1. What have we built our faith upon?
 - 2. How will it hold up in the storms of life?
 - 3. Do we have the peace that passes description?

DISCUSSION

- I. DOES THE BIBLE PLACE EMPHASIS ON EVIDENCE?
 - A. MT 11:2-6.
 - B. LK 1:1-4.
 - C. JN 20:30-31.
- II. THE BIBLE.
 - A. The Sword of the Spirit. PH 1:16-17.
 - B. Is your Sword sharp? Jude 3.
 - C. Spiritual Benefits given. EP 4:15; CO 2:7.
 - D. Don't be sloppy with the Sword! 2 TI 2:2; 1 PE 3:15; PH 4:5.
 - E. The Power of the Bible. 2 CO 10:4-5; HE 4:12.
 - F. IS 55:11.
 - 1. Shall not return unto me void.
 - 2. It shall accomplish that which I please.
 - 3. It shall prosper whereto I sent it.
- III. TWO TYPES OF EVIDENCE.
 - A. Scientific-Empirical Evidence.
 - 1. "The theist advocates the view that evidence is available to prove conclusively that God does exist, and that this evidence is adequate to establish beyond reasonable doubt the existence of God. However, when we employ the word "prove," we do not mean that God's existence can be demonstrated scientifically in the same fashion that one might prove that a sack of potatoes weighs ten pounds, or that a human heart has four distinct chambers within it"...(Thompson).
 - 2. Such matters as the weight of a sack of vegetables, or the divisions within a muscle, are matters that may be verified empirically using the five senses. While empirical evidence often is quite useful in establishing the validity of a case, it is not the sole means of arriving at proof" (Thompson, Jackson).
 - B. Historical/Legal Evidence.
 - 1. "...For example, legal authorities recognize the validity of a *prima facie* case, which is acknowledged to exist when adequate evidence is available to establish the presumption of a fact that, unless such fact

can be refuted, legally stands proven. It is the contention of the theist that there is a vast body of evidence that makes an impregnable *prima facie* case for the existence of God—a case that simply cannot be refuted.”(Thompson, Jackson).

CONCLUSION

- A. The case for the existence of God:
 - 1. The Cosmological Argument – Cause and Effect.
 - 2. The Teleological Argument – Design demands a Designer.
 - 3. The Anthropological Argument – Morality and Ethics
- B. The Bible clearly demonstrates that whatever God does, commands, and approves is good. PS 119:39, 68; cf. GE 18:25.
- C. What God has commanded results from the essence of His being – Who He is – and therefore also is good. MI 6:8; 1 PE 1:15.
- D. You and I can be holy! How?