

The Bible – Book of Books

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“In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth.” Have you ever heard these words? The Bible begins with these unbelievable words. Here, I’d like to ask you one question. “How much do you know about this amazing book?” I’m sure that many of you will say to me, “Oh, I know. It’s the sacred book of Christianity.” But do you know exactly what it tells us? Many of you may never have heard what I am going to tell you, but today, please let me introduce this astonishing book to you.

The Bible is unique and one of a kind. It is a best-seller world wide. For 2,000 years, standing up to every persecution, it has been read by many, many people. By the year 2007, it had been translated into 2,377 languages. In the year 2000 alone, about 635 million Bibles were handed out or sold throughout the world. The 39 books of the Old Testament and 27 books of the New Testament were written individually by more than 40 authors over a period of 1,500 years. However, there is a great harmony and unity among those 66 books in the Bible. One of the main themes of the Bible is about the coming messiah who actually came into the world in the Person of Jesus of Nazareth, who was eventually called Jesus Christ, or Jesus the Messiah.

Moreover, it is hard to imagine how much influence the Bible has had on people and the history of human beings. This is what some famous people have said about it.

“I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this book.” Who said that? One of the best-known American presidents. Yes, Abraham Lincoln.

Napoleon Bonaparte once said “The Bible is no mere book, but a living creature, with a power that conquers all that oppose it.” Powerful words about a powerful book.

The third testimony is from a person who led his people peacefully and won independence for his country, once a British colony. Yes, it was Mahatma Gandhi. He believed in another religion, but he praised the Bible, saying, “The book which influenced my life the deepest is the Bible.”

The Bible is not merely a book of religion or morality. It is endorsed by historical facts and hundreds of fulfilled prophecies as well as reliable testimonies of contemporaries of Jesus Christ. Therefore I believe that it is safe to say that the Bible gives us the hope of salvation through Jesus Christ, in other words, it gives us the purpose to live and makes our lives meaningful here and forever.

I myself was also influenced and saved by this wonderful book of wisdom. When I was in the second year of junior high school, there came a time when I could not go to school any more. My whole mind and body simply refused to go. I knew people around me were worried about me. Still, I couldn't go. I had been trapped in my own small world for a long time. I heard a voice from nowhere, all the time, saying, "When are you going back to school again?" After being absent from school for almost a year, I was quite afraid of the reaction from my classmates when I returned. It was at this time that I came face to face one particular verse from the Bible. It was: "Don't be afraid of them or their words." Those words gave me strength and at long last I was able to go to school again, which nobody thought would happen.

Without such support from the Bible, I would not be standing here today making this speech. For me, the Bible is the powerful word of God who is living and working this very moment. I would like to say to everyone, especially those who are in trouble, "please read the Bible." The Bible has the fundamental solution for all problems if you only take time and look inside. I truly recommend it to you.

Thank you for listening.