

A WORD OF INSPIRATION

Some time ago I read a story of a group of mountain climbers who were traversing a steep part of their climb. The lower climber happened to look up and see the lead man stepping on a snow surface that appeared stable from the top climbers position but from below and to the side, the last man could see that the snow was a false ledge that had no foundation under it and could give way at any moment with each new step. He passed the message up so the lead man stopped his progress and altered his course – and a human tragedy was averted.

A false foundation not only spells disaster for an unsuspecting mountain climber but also for mankind spiritually. With our diverse culture and so many religious foundations, people often find it difficult to know which one provides stability and security for their journey through life and their life after death.

Maybe I can inspire you with this “word of inspiration” to search the Bible and discover God’s truth. Jesus told the religious leaders of His day to “*search the Scriptures...it is these that bear witness to Me*” (John 5:39). He would later state, “*If you abide in My word...you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free*” (John 8:31-32).

There are many reasons people should read the Bible, but let me mention a number of them for you today.

The Bible is:

1. **The most sold book in the world.** Between 1816 and 1974 the American Bible Society alone distributed 850 million copies. It would be on the best seller list every month of every year if they listed it.
2. **The most read, studied, and memorized book in the world.** There are entire colleges (Bible colleges) given over to the study of this one book.
3. **The most published book in the world** (1,500 languages).
4. **The most quoted book in the world.**
5. **The most cussed and discussed book in the world.**
6. **The most influential book in the world.** The world’s calendar (BC = before Christ) is based on the Bible. Public education began in the U.S. with the goal of teaching children how to read the Bible. Many holidays; legal, medical, and educational systems; and humanitarian organizations began because of the Bible.
7. **The most inspiring book in the world.** More songs, poems, movies, paintings, statues, and books have been inspired by the bible than any other book and possibly all other books combined. There are whole bookstores given to books inspired by this one book.
8. **The most reliable ancient book in the world.** “There is more abundant manuscript evidence for the Bible than any other book in the world”. – Norman Geisler
9. **The most accurate book in the world.** Even though it is not a science, archeology, or history book, when it speaks on those subjects it does so with astounding accuracy. “Of the hundreds of thousands of artifacts found by the archeologist, not one has been discovered that contradicts or denies one word, phrase, clause, or sentence of the Bible, but always confirms and verifies it”. – Dr. J.O. Kinnamon. While science taught that the world was flat until after AD 1400, the Bible described it as being round in 700 BC (Isaiah 40:22)! Science failed to recognize that the world was suspended in space until 1687, yet the Bible said so as far back as 1500 BC (Job 26:7)! If science and the Bible seem to contradict, give science a few hundred years and it will catch up.
10. **The most honest book in the world.**
11. **The most unstoppable, indestructible book in the world.**
12. **The most unique book in the world.**
13. **The most interesting book in the world.**
14. **The most important book in the world.** It is important, not just for the 13 reasons given above, but mainly because it is God’s Word.

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