

### **TEACHING GOAL**

To establish the necessity of Special Revelation, God's Word, the Bible.

### **DOCTRINAL STANDARDS**

- Q.** What rule has God given us to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?  
**A.** The word of God which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.

S.C. 2; L.C. 2-4; W.C. of F. I; Young 14-15

### **SCRIPTURAL BASIS**

**Study Passage:** Psalm 19

**Support Passages:** Romans 1:18-32; I Corinthians 2;  
Hebrews 1:1-3; John 1:14

### **BIBLE STORY**

Exodus 32:1-21; Exodus 24:4, 7-8, 12: In the absence of revelation through Moses, the golden calf is made and worshipped.

### **MEMORY ASSIGNMENT**

*"The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether." (Psalm 19:7-9, ESV)*

### **APPLICATION**

If the only source of saving knowledge of God is the Bible, we must by all means study it and follow its precepts.

## SUMMARY

This lesson centers upon the absolute necessity for the Word of God for people have no other source of knowledge of God's means of salvation. Without exception people who are left alone to conjure up their own theologies and philosophies, deny the True and Living God and pursue after false Gods of their own creation. Even when many people are directly confronted with truth and beauty, they refuse it, for God's Word requires seeing eyes and hearing ears to comprehend it. The natural man does not receive the things of God.

Even those who have the grace of God to understand, find no other source of the saving knowledge of God than the Scriptures. While natural phenomena do set forth the glory of God so that people may never claim complete ignorance of God, yet these phenomena do not speak; they are silent. To the believer they say a great deal for God's word, which the believer comprehends, opens up their secrets, but the ungodly person hastens to his idols in spite of them. For this reason the psalmist says

*"Through Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way."*<sup>1</sup> The law of the Lord is perfect to the end that people are made wise unto salvation. God's natural creation in all its beauty and wonder cannot do this, it is silent.

Albert Schweitzer wrote, "The Jesus of Nazareth who came forward publicly as the Messiah, who preached the ethic of the Kingdom of God, who founded the Kingdom of Heaven upon earth, and died to give His work its final consecration, never had any existence." Schweitzer apparently did not understand the reason for Christ's death, but worse, he did not find his Jesus in concrete history. As a result, divorced from history and the Word of God, Schweitzer's Jesus was unreal, having been the product of his supremely egotistical mind, and Schweitzer pursued spiritual idolatry.

The unregenerate scientist will waste countless hours researching blind alleys and fruitless experiments simply because he rejects God's Word as folly. Vast resources are squandered to find that there is no life on the moon and planets, when God's Word has already instructed us in these things. People resort to sin and license to obtain pleasure when joy unspeakable through the Christ of Scripture goes begging. For their entertainment this generation resorts to the television set, when instead they could be and should be cultivating themselves in the beautiful things of the Bible. That which is beautiful in art and music is defined and derived from it and the life style subsumed by the Word of God is indeed delightful. One would suppose that the Christian would spend all his resources to obtain such delight and joy but as has been said, "The horse can be led to water, but it's another thing to make him drink it."

Let us feast our faith upon God's own word and whatever our desires or fears let us come to Him with this prayer for assurance, *Let Your mercies come also to me, O LORD; Your salvation according to Your word. So shall I have an answer for him who reproaches me, For I trust in Your word.*<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Psalm 119:104

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<sup>2</sup> Psalm 119:41-42