

The Glory of God's Word

(Psalm 138:2)

- Introduction:
1. Ills. rock hold barn door open worth \$100,000.00
 2. How many Bibles do you have.
 3. If you're like me, you have several.
 4. Yet, how many of us value our Bibles as the treasure they are?

I. The Price Paid By Bible Writers

- A. Matthew - Ethiopia. Staked or impaled to ground, then beheaded.
- B. Mark - Alexandria. Tied a rope around his neck and drug him until he died.
- C. Luke - Hanged from an olive tree.
- D. John - Arrested in Ephesus. Thrown in boiling oil. Sent to Patmos for slave labor.
- E. Paul - Beheaded by Nero
- F. Peter - Hung upside down on a cross.
- G. James - Thrown from temple, then beaten to death
- H. Jude - Killed with an axe, along with Simon in Syria.

II. The Price Paid By Bible Translators

- A. John Wycliffe – body dug up and burned and scattered in a river approx. 50 years after his death – An archbishop said of his translation - The pearl of the Gospel is scattered abroad and trodden underfoot by swine.
- B. William Tyndale – Strangled and burned at the stake. “If God spare my life, ere many years I will cause a boy who drives a plough to know more of the scriptures than you do.”
- C. Burned at the stake (Matthew's Bible)
- D. “Do you not know that so much reading of Scripture ruins the Catholic religion?”
Pope Paul V, 1606
- E. List of prohibited books – 16th century
 1. During this time, many Bibles were burned by the church.
 2. This list was maintained up to 1966 when Pope Paul VI stopped it.
 3. The reason is that there were so many books and they no longer had the ability to enforce penalties.

III. Consider How God Values His Name and His Word

- A. (Exodus 20:7) Don't take God's name in vain.
- B. (Exodus 6:3)
 1. El-Shaddai – God Almighty
 2. YHWH – I Am
 3. YaHWeH – (JeHoVaH-Latanized)
 4. Adonai – LORD
 5. Used nearly 7000 times

C. (Psalm 138:2).

D. Are our priorities right?

1. (Hosea 6:6) God desires knowledge over burnt offerings.
2. (Psalm 138:2) God placed his word above his name.

- Conclusion:
1. Challenge to read the New Testament over the next three months.
 - a. Three chapters a day and two on Sunday.
 - b. I'll also provide a brief reading guide of some points to notice in the assigned reading.
 2. Let us grow together in respect and knowledge of God's word (2 Peter 3:18).