

The Best of Books

On a visit to our local library recently, I decided to browse in the section labelled “Religion”. I found a wide range of books covering world religions: Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, atheism, agnosticism, even magic. There were very few on Christianity and not a single Bible.

It is a sad reflection of society in many parts of the world today. Of course we don't want to return to the days of compulsory adherence to State religion but hasn't the pendulum swung too far the other way? Is it really the case that nobody wants to know what Christianity is all about?

Self-Improvement

The next section of books was labelled “Mind Management” and contained books on self-help, feeling good, Yoga, etc. There are innumerable theories on offer to help us feel better but, if effective, they only have a temporary benefit. They may help us cope with the strains and stresses of daily living but they can't solve the basic problem of our human frailty. Nor can they show us how to face the ultimate problem of life: death and oblivion.

Only God can do that and He has revealed the reason for our existence and has explained why we are mortal creatures. Fortunately, He has also provided the solution to all our problems – in the Bible.

Bible Reading

Why are we so resistant to opening the book of books and reading it for ourselves? Do we think that we know what it says already and that it has nothing for us? Just look at what it claims:



All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work (2 Timothy 3:16–17);

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart (Hebrews 4:12).

Why not start reading the Bible, with an open mind? If you don't know where to start, I suggest the short gospel of Mark which will give you an overall picture of God's message to us through the life and death and resurrection of His son, Jesus Christ. Why not start reading it today?

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