

The Transparent Gospel

God is the best communicator. In fact, He invented communication. Some people use the argument “the Bible can’t be completely understood.” The same often claim that no one can “get it right” because it is impossible to discern exactly what God wants us to do. The problem with that line of thinking is that the Bible claims that the will of God is perfectly understandable. Paul writes to the Ephesians a command to understand it.

Ephesians 5:17

17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*.

Why would God, through Paul, command us to understand His will, if it cannot be understood? To go even further, the academic theological world treats the Bible like it can only be understood by the intellectually elite. Jesus commanded His disciples to “go into the world and preach the gospel to every creature” (Mark 16:15). If the gospel were not easily understood by everyone, why did Jesus ask this of His followers?

It is a comforting thought that the Bible can be read, understood, and lived by the people who choose to obey and follow God. It is a demonstration of His love toward His children. However, in order for the Bible to be understood, there are a couple heart conditions and mindsets that need to be met.

1. The Bible is the inspired word of God and it is always right.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for ainstruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

God’s instruction comes from His word. It is important that we treat it with reverence, as though it came directly from His mouth, because it did!

2. When I understand what the Bible says, I will change my life to match it.
Rather than trying to find what I want the Bible to say.

Hebrews 4:12

12 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.

The Bible has the power to make us what God wants us to be, but in order for that to happen, we have to be open to His instruction. We have to change ourselves to meet the standard that He has set for us. Read the Bible, understand it, learn to love it, learn to love the changes it can make in your life.