

**Evidence that The Bible is The Infallible Word of God**  
**~ Ten Reasons to Believe ~**  
**Lesson #11**  
**• Reasons to Believe #10 •**  
**“The Bible’s Life-Transforming Power”**  
**• H A N D O U T •**

▶ Reason to Believe #10, Lesson #11 is the final lesson in this series. The life-transforming power of God's Word, in many ways, is a summary statement of the entire series. But, as a stand alone Reason to Believe, the Bible's ability to change and transform people's lives is perhaps one of the most miraculous elements of all.

Q: What does the Bible reveal about God and the way He views man?

Q: What prevents us from living in harmony with God and His message?

Q: Since the Messiah paid the penalty of sin, why is further transformation needed?

Q: Is “transformation” another word for “salvation?”

2 Timothy 4:6b-8 • ...the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Note: The way Jesus dealt with the people He encountered was different for each person. He so often highlighted the specific situation or thing in each of their lives that was hindering them from gaining a true relationship with God. From the multiple examples available in the Bible, the “Rich Young Ruler” was selected as an example of this:

Mark 10:17-22 · As He was setting out on a journey, a man ran up to Him and knelt before Him, and asked Him, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone.

You know the commandments, ' Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness , Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother .'" And he said to Him, "Teacher, I have kept all these things from my youth up."

Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, "One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But at these words he was saddened, and he went away grieving, for he was one who owned much property.

Q: Was it his wealth that was hindering the Rich Young Ruler?

Note: **Nicodemus**, who was a Pharisee and a member of the Sanhedrin, also had an encounter with Jesus. This encounter is recorded below:

John 3:1-3, 9-12; 19-21 · Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him." Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?

“This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.”

Q: Nicodemus opens his dialog with Jesus by telling Him that “they” [the other Pharisees] know He is from God because of His miracles, and Jesus bluntly replies that no one will ever see the Kingdom of God unless they are born again. Why is Jesus so blunt with Nicodemus?

Q: What is the main problem which is reflected in this meeting between Nicodemus & Jesus?

Q: How does Jesus handle the real reason behind Nicodemus' visit?

Q: What is especially interesting about the portion of scripture which begins with: *"This is the verdict?"*

Q: How do we know that Nicodemus not only heard Jesus's words with his heart but that he was indeed transformed?

John 19:38-42 · Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away.

He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs.

At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.

Q: In what way is the Bible's message different from any and every other religion of the world?

**Other religions:**

**But the God of the Bible:**

Q: How is this transformation made manifest?

Matthew 5:6; 11:28-30 · John 4:14; 10:10b-11 [NIV & NET] ·

· "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

· ...Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give him will become in him a spring of living water welling up to eternal life."

· Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

· I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Q: What is the strongest evidence for the transforming power of the Bible?

► **Bottom line:**



**This completes the series:  
Ten Reasons Why We Can Trust that the Bible is the Infallible Word of God.**

