

# The Relevance of the Bible

2 Peter 1:1-4

Introduction: Many people claim that the Bible is not relevant to us today. It's a 2000 year old document that was written to the people that lived during that age. How could it apply to us today? Peter says that God has "given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness." Life pertains to one's physical life and godliness pertains to one's spiritual life. But skeptics ask, "Is it relevant to us today?" Let's look to the Bible and test its relevance to answer this concern.

I. Examples of the relevance of the gospel to great social issues today.

A. Racism (Mark 16:15; Col. 3:11; Matt. 23:8).

B. Individual rights.

1. The golden rule (Matt. 7:12). If we would only respect this rule, we would have no concern for individual rights.

2. Love (Rom. 13:10, Matt. 5:44, Matt. 22:39). If we would love even those who hate us, what individual rights need to be addressed?

C. Freedom (1 Cor. 7:20-22). We are free in Christ. That is the freedom that is most important (1 Cor. 9:19; 1 Pet. 2:16).

D. Security.

1. Civil security vs. crime (Rom. 13:1-4, Eccl. 8:11).

2. A functional family (Eph. 6:1-4; Eph. 5:25, 28, 33; 1 Tim. 5:4, 8, 16).

3. Material security (Matt. 6:31-33, Heb. 13:5). This is promised to the faithful.

4. Spiritual security in Christ (Eph. 1:3; John 10: 27-28; 2 Tim. 1:12).

E. Working relationships (Col. 3:22-4:1; Eph. 6:5-9; 1 Tim. 6:1-2).

F. Marriage (Rom. 7:1-3, Matt. 19:5-9). Would we have as many broken homes if God's laws concerning marriage were not disregarded?

G. Drinking alcohol (Rom. 14:21, Eph. 5:18, 1 Pet. 5:8). How many problems in life today are caused by drinking alcohol?

H. Morals (1 Thess. 4:3-7, 1 Cor. 3:16-17, 1 Cor. 6:18-20).

I. Mental health (Phil. 4:6-7).

If the proceeding is any indication of the Bibles relevance, then this is certainly the most relevant book man can refer to in matters concerning this life. 2 Tim. 3:16-17 makes it clear that the scriptures are relevant in all matters in life especially our spiritual life.

II. The Bible is relevant in our spiritual life even today.

A. The Bible reveals the reason and purpose for our existence (Eccl. 12:13).

B. The Bible provides a way to obtain forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38, 22:16).

C. The Bible provides spiritual food for growth (1 Pet. 2:2, Heb. 5:12-14).

D. The Bible provides comfort in times of trouble (2 Cor. 1:3-4, 1 Thess. 4:18).

E. The Bible is a source of joy (1 Pet. 1:8-9).

F. The Bible gives us hope in death (Titus 1:2).

Conclusion: The Bible provides everything we need pertaining to life both physical and spiritual. Not only is the Bible relevant in our lives today, it is the only relevant source of information that we need. It provides everything necessary to our whole life. Peter was right in 2 Peter 1:4. God has “*given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness.*” Don’t leave God and His Word out of your life. The Bible is the most relevant book in your life!