

7/26/66

As we start I'd like to read a couple of vv. from the first ch. of 1 Peter. I'll read the last four vv. starting with v.25

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When I was studying in Germany, one time I made a trip to Isenach, the town - town where Martin Luther was as a school boy and sang in the streets, making money to carry on his studies, and where later on he was hidden in the Wartburg over the town as he made that great translation of the NT. There at the main square in Isenach there is a large statue of Luther up on a pedestal. On the pedestal there are these words in German: Das wort Gott is leib in die Eibescheit -- the word of God endures forever. The first half of this 25 verse in 1 Peter. Surely nothing could be more important to the life of Luther whose whole life was devoted to standing for God's Word and making it known. A few days after visiting Isenach I was interested to go to another German town -- the town of Fulda. There in Fulda I saw a great R.C. monastery, a great cathedral there, and this cathedral was in honor of St. Boniface. That intrepid man who hundreds of years before M. Luther came into the forest of Germany carrying the Gospel of Christ to those who lived in those forests, and eventually paid with his life for his testimony to Christ. There in front of that cathedral was a great statue to St. Boniface and he stood there holding a cross in his hands. On the pedestal of the statue I was interested to see a latin inscription ~~XXXXX~~ Verbum domine manet iterum.... The Word of God endures forever. The very same text that was on the foot of the pedestal of M. Luther.

So you can imagine my disappointment when just a few days ago I picked up a book by a RC about the OT and in the preface to the book written by a RC official, to read the statement: "The NT is not the foundation of the church, the OT is not the foundation of the church; the ~~NT~~ NT and the OT together are not the foundation of the church." What would St. Boniface think who brought the Word of God to Germany in those days and who based it upon the Word of God. I'm sure the Christian saints through the ages have maintained in all groups, that Christianity stands upon the Bible, upon the Word of God. Our only source of knowledge about Christ. Yes our only source of knowledge about eternal things, our only dependable source of knowledge about God. Our only source of knowledge about the things that determine whether our lives are to be worthwhile or not, is this Bible. God's Word. That being the case there is naturally nothing Satan hates more -- there is hardly anything he hates more than the Word of God. There is one thing he hates more, that is the teaching of the Bible that Jesus died on the cross thus bruising his head and the statement that teaches that He is coming back to carry His work to fruition and put an end of the works of Satan. Those Satan hates most of all, but those of course we know on the basis of the Bible. Next to that Satan hates nothing more than the Word of God, the foundation and standard of faith. It is natural Satan would do all he can to convince people this book is a fraud, a farce, it is untrue, and a book of myths and legends.

150 years ago we knew nothing of ancient history actually back of about 500 B.C. Before that we had a few Greek writings, but they were so full of myths and legends about the gods of Olympus