

A wooden head silhouette is shown on a dark wood background. Inside the head, several gears of various sizes and colors (brass, steel) are visible. A magnifying glass with a brass frame and handle is positioned over the head, focusing on a large brass gear. The text 'Do we really want to be wise?' is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Do we

really

want to be

wise?

What did Jesus think of the Bible?

Matthew 5.17-20 (NIV11)

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them.

For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

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1 For Jesus, the Bible is a story that reaches its climax in him and his life – so we read it the same way

43% story/narrative
33% poetry
20% letters/teaching

#2 For Jesus the Bible is
scripture, so it is for us too

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2Timothy 3.16-17 (NIV11)

For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2Peter 1.21 (NIV11)

#3 For Jesus the Bible is in constant need of debate, rethinking, rereading in order to get back to the heart of what it is saying – we must treat it in the same way

#4 For Jesus the Bible wasn't just meant to be read and believed but lived out too – that's how we need to be with it

...anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. v19

The Bible is how the authority of
Jesus is passed on to his
followers

Central creed of the church
through history –
Jesus Christ is Lord

An invitation

Jesus- will you follow me?