

THE SPIRITUAL BENEFIT OF THE BIBLE CONFERENCE
(THE CENTRAL PA BIBLE CONFERENCE)
1 TIMOTHY 4:13

INTRO: There was a time when the **BIBLE CONFERENCE MOVEMENT** had a great impact upon people in many places around the free world. But in recent years people have seemed to have lost interest in the movement. (Lady: "We do not attend because it is old-fashioned and out of date." – My answer: "Since when is the emphasis on the Bible old-fashioned and out of date?") Had it not been for the **BIBLE CONFERENCE MOVEMENT**, many ministries, including Mission Organizations, Bible Colleges, Youth Outreaches and Churches would NOT be here today. (Relate the history of the **BIBLE CONFERENCE MOVEMENT**). Here in Altoona, we have a BIBLE CONFERENCE, **THE CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA BIBLE CONFERENCE**, that as far as we can tell, is the **OLDEST, MOST CONTINUOUS BIBLE CONFERENCE IN AMERICA**. (Relate some of the CPBC History). This year, in 2023 the CPBC still continues and as we celebrate 103 years of CONTINUOUS MINSITRY. **PLEASE NOTE THAT ANY BIBLE CONFERENCE, THAT IS COMMITTED TO THE EXPOSITION OF THE WORD OF GOD, IS NOT OLD-FASHIONED OR OUT OF DATE, BUT IS VERY MUCH FASHONED FOR THE MODERN TIME IN WHICH WE LIVE, IS UP TO DATE AND IS BIBLICALLY PRACTICAL FOR BELIEVERS IN JESUS CHRIST, FOR THE LOCAL CHURCH, AND FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY IN WHICH IT EXISTS.**

I. THE BIBLICAL BASIS FOR A BIBLE CONFERENCE – 1 TIMOTHY 4:13

(A General Observation)

A. The Call to Attend to Reading – VS. 13a.

-The Continual Reading of God's Word – Isaiah 34:16; John 5:39; Revelation 1:3

B. The Call to Attend to Exhortation – Vs. 13b.

-The Communicating of God's Word either in a person-to-person manner or by public preaching and teaching – Acts 14:22; Titus 2:15

C. The Call to Attend to Doctrine – Vs. 13c.

-The Constant Emphasis on theological teaching about Who God Is, What God Expects and How God operates – 2 Timothy 3:16; 1 Timothy 4:15

II. THE BIBLICAL BENEFIT OF THE CENTRAL PA BIBLE CONFERENCE

(A Specific Observation)

A. From the Biblical Perspective

1. It is Biblically Correct
2. It Contributes to the Biblical World View

B. From the Personal Perspective

1. It Applies 1 Timothy 4:13
2. It Applies Hebrews 10:25
3. It Applies 1 Peter 1:22-2:2
4. It Applies Psalm 1:1-3
5. It Applies Psalm 119:9,11,30,33,52,97,105,130,160,165

C. From the Ecclesiastical Perspective

1. It Applies 1 Corinthians 1;17-21
2. It Applies 2 Timothy 4:2-4
3. It Applies 1 Timothy 3:15

LESSON AND APPLICATION

1) An Observation – Psalm 119:97-104

2) A Prayer – Psalm 119:126

The History of the **BIBLE CONFERENCE MOVEMENT** around the world generally, but in America specifically, shows that the **BIBLE CONFERENCE INFLUENCE** laid the foundation for THE **BIBLICAL WORLD VIEW** to grow in the lives of believers, ministries, missions, and local churches. However, when the interest in **BIBLE CONFERENCES** began to slack off, the commitment to **THE BIBLICAL WORLD VIEW** became reduced, individual and ecclesiastical compromise with the world increased, responses to personal full-time vocational ministry diminished, worldly dynamics in local churches prospered, pastoral exhortations in the pulpits weakened, and the sound presentation of the Gospel was muddled.

The History of the **BIBLE CONFERENCE MOVEMENT** shows that it began to diminish in the 1950's. Even a light observation of what has taken place since then reveals the detrimental effect that has taken place on society. For instance:

- The Removal of Prayer and Bible Reading from public schools
- The Increase of Immorality in society
- The Lack of respect of the sanctity of human life
- The Breakdown of the biblical family structure
- The Lack of interest in the local church ministry
- The Growth of corruption in all levels of society
- The Arise of the "WOKE" and other godless movements
- The Rejection of ABSOLUTE BIBLICAL TRUTH

THE CONCEPT OF THE BIBLE CONFERENCE MOVEMENT IS OUTDATED OR IRRELEVANT ONLY TO THOSE WHO DO NOT UNDERSTAND ITS HISTORICAL EFFECT OR PERSONAL IMPACT. LET'S COMMIT TO THAT WHICH GOD RAISED UP IN THE PAST TO STRENGTHEN HIS CHURCH AND IMPACT SOCIETY AND THEN WATCH WHAT HE WILL DO TO GLORIFY HIS NAME PERSONALLY, CULTURALLY AND ECCLESIASTICALLY. WE ALL CAN DO THAT THROUGH THE SUPPORT OF THE CENTRAL BIBLE CONFERENCE RIGHT HERE IN ALTOONA, PA!

WILL I? WILL YOU? WILL WE?