

THE REAL SOLUTION

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In today's world we often hear about things being worse now than they have ever been. Usually this theory amounts to an excuse for moral failure and the belief that the Scriptures themselves are no longer relevant or sufficient for a believer to escape the dangers of modern life. After all, how can the Bible really help, when Christians today have it so much worse than even Jesus did? One song often sung in churches goes so far as to express this sense of hopelessness in the words: *"Lord Jesus, you know, if you're looking below, that it's worse now than then."*

But are things really so bad that there is no answer or no solution? The truth is the Word of God is as relevant as tomorrow's newspaper, and it is sufficient for our needs because humanity today is no more or less sinful than it has been since the Fall and God's solutions are still available. Yes, there certainly are more expressions of sin and more opportunities to indulge in sin, but it is still true that, "There is no temptation that has taken you, but such as is common to man" (1 Corinthians 10:13). Whether we face problems that affect the conscience of a nation, the life of a church or the destiny of a soul, they are all problems and dangers of which we are warned in Holy Scripture. Even more importantly, they are dangers which we can conquer, if not altogether avoid, if we will follow the directions God has left us in His Word.

There is no book that could be more appropriate, nor more needed, for the twenty-first century than the Bible. Fortune 500 executives can fight God with no less abandon than the Old Testament Philistines. Those who reduce the Bible to just a human book are no less in danger than Amaziah who tried to give a supernatural message a naturalistic explanation. Furthermore, our whole culture thinks God is lucky to get whatever worship we may choose to throw His way, like Cain and Esau of old. The pitfalls and hazards we face are not really different at all.

Yet the greatest message of the Bible is the irrepressible hope that it offers. Along with the well-marked road map that warns us of the dangers, the Bible clearly identifies the places where we may find life, overcome dangers and obtain salvation and forgiveness.

In a world that desperately looks for joy and peace, it is such a tremendous comfort to know that they can be found in the pages of God's Holy Word—THE REAL SOLUTION!

This article appeared in the January 9, 2008 'Missourian'.