

Nothing Above The Bible

Ponder: Is the Bible above everything else to you?

Scripture: "The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold" (Psalm 19:9b-10a, NKJV).

I once knew a brother in Christ who wouldn't put anything on top of his Bible. If you laid so much as a scrap of paper on it, he would remove it vigorously while protesting, "Nothing should be above the Bible!"

We can appreciate that symbolism and sentiment. But does keeping the paper and ink uncovered really accomplish the goal of exalting God's word above all else?

I could have taken this brother more seriously if not for the fact that he wouldn't get out of bed on Sunday morning in time to assemble with the saints. On rare occasions he managed to attend with his family, but he couldn't be counted on to serve day-to-day in any significant way. Was he really putting the Bible above everything else?

The Bible is "above" everything else inasmuch as its teaching surpasses anything and everything produced by mere humans. Innumerable volumes have been written by scholars and philosophers. Even if a hundred of those books were stacked on top of a Bible, the Bible would still be "above" them in the truest sense.

Let's understand clearly that the message printed on the Bible's pages is holy. The ink and paper are tools to help us read and understand that message. Trusting obedience to that message shows infinitely more respect for God and His word than merely refraining from physically placing anything on top of the book.

Hymn: "How Precious Is The Book Divine"

Prayer: Father, we thank you for revealing Your will to mankind and for having that message committed to writing so we can read and learn it. Help us to honor You through our trusting obedience to Your holy word. In Jesus' name, Amen.