



“God, why should I believe the Bible is true?”

## Does The Bible Claim To Be From God?

*"All Scripture is God-breathed" (2 Tim. 3:16-17 NIV)*

### 1. 80% of the books have direct claims

*"The Spirit of the Lord speaks through me; his words are on my tongue" (2 Sam 23:2)*

*"This is what the Lord says" or similar phrases occur 3800 times*

*"This is a revelation from Jesus Christ...to God's servant John" (Rev. 1:1)*

### 2. All others are written by prophets or quoted by the New Testament

*"no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophets themselves...It was the Holy Spirit who moved the prophets to speak from God" (2 Peter 1:20-21)*

Paul considers Luke's writing to be Scripture (1 Tim. 5:18); Peter considers Paul's writing to be Scripture (2 Peter 3:15-16); Jude considers Peter's writing to be Scripture (Jude 18,19)

## Did Jesus Trust The Bible?

### 1. He said scripture was true

*(Jesus) "teach them your word, which is truth." (John 17:17)*

*"Scripture cannot be set aside or cancelled or broken or annulled" (John 10:35 Amp)*

### 2. He quoted & taught from scripture

*"Then Jesus quoted passages from the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining what all the Scriptures said about himself" (Luke 24:27)*

### 3. He equated His words with scripture

*(Jesus) "I tell you the truth...not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law." (Matt 5:18 NIV)*

*"Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will remain forever" (Matt. 24:35)*

## Is What We Have Is What Was Written?

### Old Testament Evidence:

1. Precision of the copyists
2. Accuracy vs. the Dead Sea Scrolls (70AD)  
95% letter accuracy; 99 % word accuracy

### New Testament Evidence:

3. Eyewitness accounts: written early & circulated widely in 20-50 years
4. Early manuscripts  
*130 AD*: parts of John; *200 AD*: 2/3 of NT; *330 AD*: entire Bible
5. Continuous manuscripts: 5,500 Greek mss, total 25,000
6. Accuracy vs. manuscripts: 99.5 %  
Of 20,000 lines only 40 have real variance; no major doctrine

## Does Archeology Support The Bible?

### Old Testament Evidence:

# of biblical sites located, dating back to 2000BC: 500  
David's Palace & Nehemiah's Wall, Jericho, King Solomon's mines, Hittites

### New Testament Evidence:

Tomb of Ciaphas, Inscription of Pilate, Residence of Pilate, House of Peter, Jesus boat, Crucified man, Pool of Siloam, Pool of Bethesda, Jacob's well, Luke: refers to 32 countries, 54 cities, dozens of names & titles without error

## Is There Internal Evidence?

### 1. Unique Quality

Unity: 66 Books written over 1800 years by over 40 authors

Authority : Universal appeal & influence (2400 languages)

Durability: Surviving persecution and criticism

Story : Matchless message, timeless truth

### 2. Fulfilled Prophecy

25% of Bible was prophetic when written

*"If the prophet predicts something...and it does not happen, the Lord did not give the message" (Deut. 18:22)*

55-100 about Jesus; 57 about 12 nations & cities, all fulfilled centuries later  
Israel's destruction and regathering (Hosea 9:17; Jer 31; Ezek 36)

### 3. Life Changing Power

*"For the word of God is full of living power" (Hebrews 4:12)*