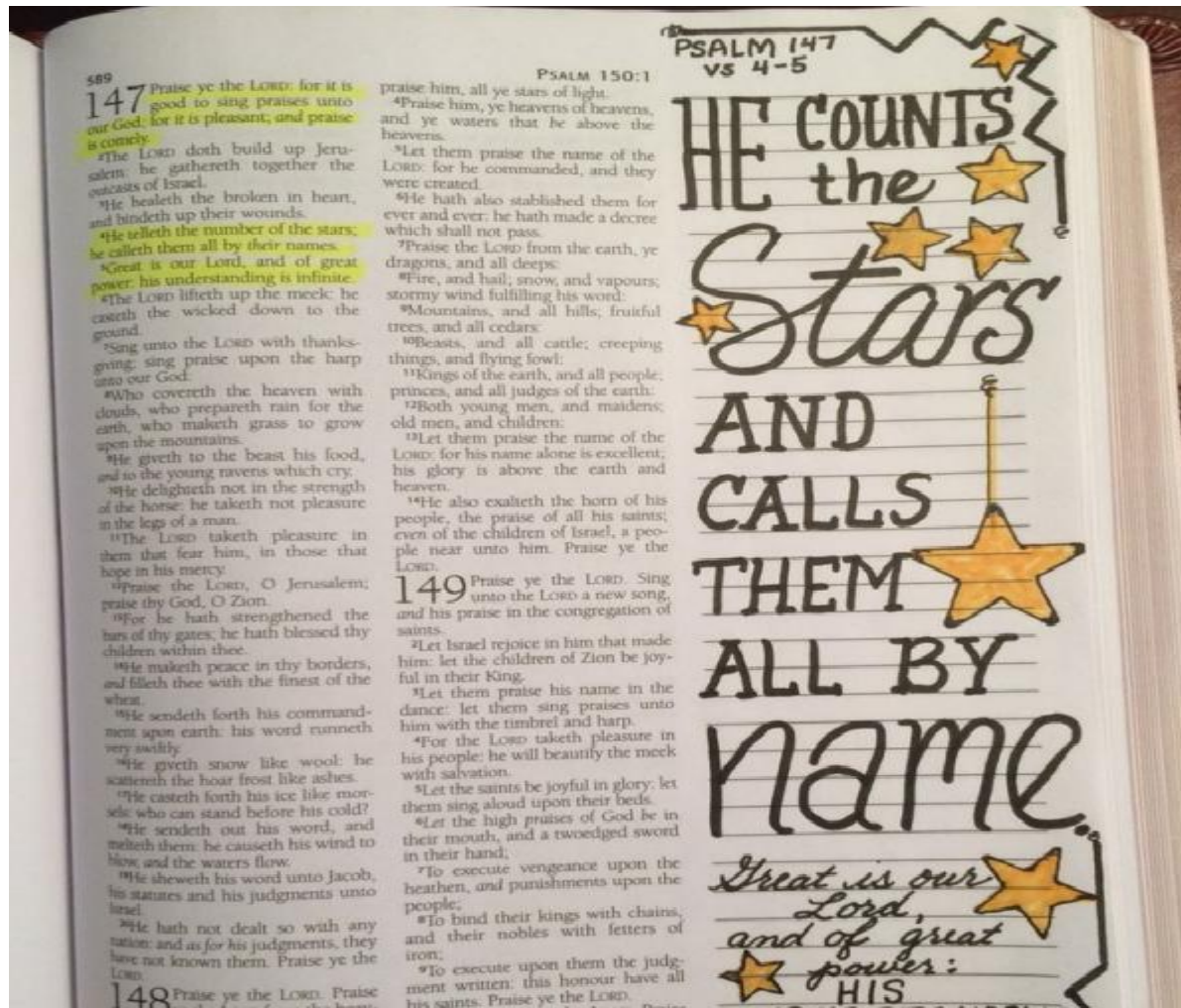


Is there any evidence that God is the Author of the Bible?



CREATOR
OF
THE
UNIVERSE
IS
THE
AUTHOR
OF
BIBLE

There are both internal and external evidences that the Bible is truly God's Word. The internal evidences are those things within the Bible that testify of its divine origin.

Internal Evidence:

The Bible is one book, and yet it is made up of 73 books, was written by at least 40 different authors over a period of about 1500 years, in 13 different countries and on three different continents. It was written in at least three different languages by people in all professions. The Bible came from some forty different authors from diverse vocations in life. For instance, among the writers of Scripture were Moses, a political leader; Joshua, a military leader; David, a shepherd; Solomon, a king; Amos, a herdsman and fruit pincher; Daniel, a prime minister; Matthew, a tax collector; Luke, a medical DOCTOR; Paul, a rabbi; and Peter, a fisherman..

Even though Bible contains 73 books written by 40 different authors over a Period of 1500 years, yet it still forms as one beautiful temple of truth that does not contradict itself theologically, morally, ethically, doctrinally, scientifically, historically, or in any other way. This unity is unique from all other books and is evidence of the divine origin of the words which God moved men to record. There is no other book in this world that would tell the name of the first human person, his sons and their successive generations. It has the complete genealogy of SON OF GOD born as a human and HE has the root to the first human person on earth who has been called Adam. You would find more details of the genealogy of the first person (ADAM) to SON OF GOD (JESUS CHRIST) in one of the links given later in this article. This book is so unique

that it not only tells the history from first man(ADAM) until the end times(FUTURE PROPHECIES), but also elaborates the surroundings & happenings of that history period(for example kings names, prophet names, city names, person names connected to the history, life span of the persons listed in the genealogy from first person until SON OF GOD, and on and on....). Interestingly most of it has historical and archaeological proofs which are verified by various government & private agencies, scientists, detectives, historians, and archaeologists. One of the First internal evidences that the Bible is truly God's Word is seen in its unity. All these 73 books in the Bible Unanimously refers to One God in three divine persons – The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit and this is the God Christians do believe and worship. The Golden thread that starts from creation(Genesis -First Book of Bible) and Ends in the throne of God in Revelation book(last book of Bible) details the covenant of God weaving in and out throughout the Bible's many books. When we look at the notion of covenant that way, it quickly becomes obvious that God has always desired humanity to enter freely into an ongoing relationship of love with him.

"If a fragment of stone were found in Italy, another in Asia Minor, another in Greece, another in Egypt, and on and on until seventy-three fragments had been found, and if when put together they fitted perfectly together, making a perfect statue of Venus de Milo, there is not an artist or scientist but would arrive immediately at the conclusion that there was originally a sculptor who conceived and carved the statue. The very lines and perfections would probably determine which of the great ancient artists carved the statue. Not only the unity of the Scriptures, but their

lines of perfection, suggest One far above any human as the real author. That could be no one but God.”

It is apparent that many of the writers did not know of the other writers of Scripture and were unfamiliar with the other writings, inasmuch as the writers wrote over a period of more than fifteen hundred years, yet the Bible is a marvelous, unified whole. There are no contradictions or inconsistencies within its pages. The Holy Spirit is the unifier of the seventy three books, determining its harmonious consistency. In unity these books teach the trinity of God, the deity of Jesus Christ, the personality of the Holy Spirit, the fall and depravity of man, as well as salvation by grace. It quickly becomes apparent that no human being(s) could have orchestrated the harmony of the teachings of the Scripture. The divine authorship of the Bible is the only answer.

The first Bible contains 73 books and still has the same number of books which the early Christians and the Early church, the Mother church(Roman Catholic Church) continually use. But sometime during 15th century the protestants who split from Catholic Church(the early Christians church) reduced the number of books in the bible. See more details of the history of bible in the listed below three links

In about 367 AD, St. Athanasius came up with a list of 73 books for the Bible that he believed to be divinely inspired. This list was finally approved by Pope Damasus I in 382 AD, and was

formally approved by the Church Council of Rome in that same year. Later Councils at Hippo (393 AD) and Carthage (397 AD) ratified this list of 73 books. In 405 AD, Pope Innocent I wrote a letter to the Bishop of Toulouse reaffirming this canon of 73 books. In 419 AD, the Council of Carthage reaffirmed this list, which Pope Boniface agreed to. The Council of Trent, in 1546, in response to the Reformation removing 7 books from the canon (canon is a Greek word meaning “standard”), reaffirmed the original St. Athanasius list of 73 books.

Please do **CLICK** the below link(s) to know the Facts about BIBLE :

A Catechism of The Bible

<http://drbo.org/catechism.htm>

The Bible - 73 or 66 Books?

<http://www.catholicbible101.com/thebible73or66books.htm>

The 7 books took away by protestants during 15th century AD are - Tobit, Judith, Baruch, Wisdom, Sirach, First Maccabees, and Second Maccabees, as well as additional verses of Daniel and Esther. These books are called the “deuterocanon”, or second canon, by Catholics, and the “apocrypha”, or hidden/obscure, by Protestants (Christians who protest against the Catholic Church).

One of the most powerful ways of proving that the deuterocanonical Books (the seven books the protestant church took away in their Bible) are legit is by showing that Jesus and Gospel writers quoted themselves. Please do read below for more proof:

Matthew 6:12, 14-15---"Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; if you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, neither will your heavenly father forgive your transgressions."

Sirach 28:2---"Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven."

Luke 1:17 (describing John the Baptist)---"He will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of fathers towards children and the disobedient to the understanding of the righteous, to prepare a people fit for the Lord."

Sirach 48:10---"You are destined, it is written, in time to come, to put an end to wrath before the day of the Lord, to turn back the hearts of fathers towards their sons, and to re-establish the tribes of Jacob."

Luke 1:28, 1:42---"And coming to her, he said, 'Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you!'.....Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

Judith 13:18---"Then Uzziah said to her: 'Blessed are you, daughter, by the Most High God, above all the women of the earth; and blessed be the Lord God, the Creator of heaven and earth.'

Luke 1:52---"He has thrown down the rulers from their thrones, but lifted up the lowly."

Sirach 10:14---"The thrones of the arrogant God overturns, and establishes the lowly in their stead."

Luke 12:19-20---"I shall say to myself, 'Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!' But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?'"

Sirach 11:19---"When he says: 'I have found rest, now I will feast on my possessions,' he does not know how

long it will be till he dies and leaves them to others."

Luke 18:22---"When Jesus heard this, he said to him, 'There is still one thing left for you: sell all that you have and distribute it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven.'"

Sirach 29:11---"Dispose of your treasure as the Most High commands, for that will profit you more than the gold."

John 3:12---"If I tell you about earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?"

Wisdom 9:16---"Scarce do we guess the things on earth, and what is within our grasp we find with difficulty;but when things are in heaven, who can search them out?"

John 5:18---"For this reason the Jews tried all the more to kill him, because he not only broke the Sabbath,but he also called God his own Father, making himself equal to God."

Wisdom 2:16---"He judges us debased; he holds aloof from our paths as from things impure. He calls blest the destiny of the just and boasts that God is his Father."

John 10:29---"My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand."

Wisdom 3:1---"But the souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them."

Romans 2:11---"There is no partiality with God."

Sirach 35:12---"For he is a God of justice, who knows no favorites."

Romans 9:21---"Or does not the potter have a right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for a noble purpose and another

fo an ignoble one?"

Wisdom 15:7---"For truly the potter, laboriously working the soft earth, molds for our service each several article: both the vessels that serve for clean purposes, and their opposites, all alike; as to what shall be the use of each vessel of either class, the worker in clay is the judge."

Romans 11:24---"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counsellor?"

Wisdom 9:13---"For what man knows God's counsel, or who can conceive what the Lord intends?"

1 Thessalonians 2:16---"(The enemies of Christ persecute us), trying to prevent us from speaking to the Gentiles that they may be saved, thus constantly filling up the measure of their sins. But the wrath of God has finally begun to come upon them."

2 Maccabees 6:14---"Thus, in dealing with other nations, the Lord patiently waits until they reach the full measure of their sins before he punishes them; but with us he has decided to deal differently"

James 1:13---"No one experiencing temptation should say, 'I am being tempted by God'; for God is not subject to temptation to evil, and he himself tempts no one."

Sirach 15:11-12---"Say not: 'It was God's doing that I fell away'; for what he hates he does not do. Say not: 'It was he who set me astray'; for he has no need of wicked man."

James 5:2-3---"Your wealth has rotted away, your clothes have become moth-eaten, your gold and silver have corroded, and that corrosion will be a testimony against you; it will devour your flesh like a fire."

Judith 16:17---"The Lord Almighty will requite them; in the day of judgement he will punish them: he will send fire and worms into their flesh, and they shall burn and suffer forever."

Now, of course, you may say that these don't sound like exact quotes, and you'd be right; but there are thousands of allusions in the New Testament from the Old, both Deuterocanon and not, which are not

exact quotes. Romans 11:34, for example, also has an allusion to Job 15:8, but ironically the allusion to Wisdom 9:13 is closer in actual wording to it than Job is. And, of course, if you want to get into loose allusions, we could expand the above list to ten times the size it is. Then there are also the cases of outright error in some New Testament quotes, such as Matthew 27:9, in which Matthew quotes "the prophet Jeremiah", when the allusion is actually found nowhere in Jeremiah but rather in Zechariah 11:12-13.

There is also the case of some Old Testament books not being quoted by Jesus in the New Testament: He didn't quote from Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Ecclesiastes, or the Song of Solomon. And yet they are still considered to be canonical Scripture even though He did not reference them.

MORE ON THE DEUTEROCANONICALS(The SEVEN books in OLD TESTAMENT omitted by Protestants)

<https://www.ewtn.com/library/ANSWERS/DEUTEROS.HTM>

<http://www.ewtn.com/v/experts/showmessage.asp?number=351097&Pg=&Pgnu=&recnu=>

<http://www.catholiceducation.org/en/religion-and-philosophy/apologetics/5-myths-about-7-books.html>

<https://www.churchmilitant.com/news/article/know-the-faith-the-old-testament-canon>

http://www.iamonetruth.com/septuagint_used_by_jesus.html

What do you mean by Bible scriptures are Inspired?

<http://catholicexchange.com/agon-y-ecstasy-scripture-inspired>

One of the objections raised by critics of Biblical inspiration is that the Bible is not the Word of God but that it contains the word of God. Is this accurate? No. First of all, this doesn't fit what the Bible says about itself. The collection of 73 books that the Christian Church recognized as being inspired speaks as the very words of God in many places.

In hundreds of passages, the Bible declares or takes the position explicitly or implicitly that it is nothing less than the very Word of God. **Some thirty-eight hundred times the Bible declares, “God said,” or “Thus says the Lord”** (e.g. Ex. 14:1; 20:1; Lev. 4:1; Num. 4:1; Deut. 4:2; 32:48; Isa. 1:10, 24; Jer. 1:11; Ezek. 1:3; etc.). Paul also recognized that the things he was writing were the Lord's commandments (1 Cor. 14:37), and they were acknowledged as such by the believers (1 Thess. 2:13). Peter proclaimed the certainty of the Scriptures and the necessity of heeding the unalterable and certain Word of God (2 Pet. 1:16-21). John too recognized that his teaching was from God; to reject his teaching was to reject God (1 John 4:6).¹⁷

For other passages which either declare or assume the Bible as God's Word see Deuteronomy 6:6-9, 17-18; Joshua 1:8-9; 8:32-35; 2 Samuel 22:31; Ps. 1:2; 12:6; 19:7-11; 93:5; 119:9, 11, 18, 89-93, 130; Prov. 30:5-6; Matthew 5:17-19; 22:29; Mark 13:31; Luke 16:17; John 2:22; 5:24; 10:35; Acts 17:11; Romans 10:17; Colossians 3:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 2:15; 3:15-17; 1 Peter 1:23-25; 2 Peter 3:15-16; Revelation 1:2; 22:18.

But isn't this a circular kind of argument, and is that a VALID argument? In a court of law, the accused has the right to testify on his own behalf. That testimony should be considered in the light of the evidence. In this case, the evidence, both external and internal, strongly supports the claims of the Bible.

In response to those who would reject the above-mentioned argument, it should be noted that the writers who made those claims for the Scripture were trustworthy men who defended the integrity of the Scripture at great personal sacrifice. Jeremiah received his message directly from the Lord (Jer. 11:1-3), yet because of his defense of the Scripture some attempted to kill him (Jer. 11:21); even his family rejected him (Jer. 12:6). Counterfeit prophets were readily recognized (Jer. 23:21, 32; 28:1-17). However, the Bible's claims should not be understood as arguing in a circle or by circular reasoning. The testimony of reliable witnesses—particularly of Jesus, but also of others such as Moses, Joshua, David, Daniel, and Nehemiah in the Old Testament, and John and Paul in the New Testament—affirmed the authority and verbal inspiration of the Holy Scriptures

The ever present assumption of the writers of the Bible is that the Bible is the God-breathed Word of God. A good illustration is seen in Psalm 19:7-11 which not only declares the Bible to be the Word of God, but identifies six perfections with corresponding transformations of human character that the Bible will produce in those who study and apply it in faith.

"Thus says the Lord" occurs over 400 times in the Old Testament.

"God said" occurs 42 times in the Old Testament and four times in the New Testament.

"God spoke" occurs 9 times in the Old Testament and 3 times in the New Testament.

"The Spirit of the Lord spoke" through people in 2 Sam. 23:2, 1 Kings 22:24, 2 Chron. 20:14.

If appealing to the Bible in a general sense isn't good enough, let's consider that Jesus said that the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms (all of the Old Testament) were Scripture and that the Scriptures cannot be broken--cannot fail (John 10:35). Some might say that there are instances of verses that "contain" God's Word but that it doesn't mean the Bible is God's Word. The problem is ADDRESSED by Jesus.

Luke 24:44-45, "Now He said to them, 'These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.' 45 Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

Luke 24:27 says, Jesus, interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. To hear Jesus by hearing his voice through prophets and apostles is part of the prophetic pattern

whereby God's Word creates what it says for it is a christological word. **CLICK** the link below for more on to what does Luke 24:27 mean:

<http://web.archive.org/web/20060814045814/http://www.ctsfw.edu/events/symposia/papers/sym2003just.pdf>

Second internal evidences that indicates the Bible is truly God's Word is the prophecies contained within its pages. The Bible contains hundreds of detailed prophecies relating to the future of individual nations including Israel, certain cities, and mankind. Other prophecies concern the coming of One who would be the Messiah, the Savior of all who would believe in Him. Unlike the prophecies found in other religious books or those by men such as Nostradamus, biblical prophecies are extremely detailed. There are over three hundred prophecies concerning Jesus Christ in the Old Testament. Not only was it foretold where He would be born and His lineage, but also how He would die and that He would rise again. There simply is no logical way to explain the fulfilled prophecies in the Bible other than by divine origin. There is no other religious book with the extent or type of predictive prophecy that the Bible contains. The prophecy of Israelites moving into Egypt, multiplied, kept as slaves, freed and then come back to their promised land can be verified in Genesis 15:13

Biblical prophecies with regard to ancient cities is equally remarkable. Skeptics have suggested that a message of impending doom spoken against an ancient city must come true eventually. Yet the dire predictions in the Bible are very specific such that the details of one city's prophecies do not fit the next one. The detailed prophecies involving ancient cities include Babylon, Chorazin-Bethsaida-Capernaum, Gaza-Ashkelon, Jerusalem, Moab-Ammon, Nineveh, Petra-Edom, Samaria, Sidon, Thebes-Memphis, Tyre, and others (McDowell, 1991). Contemplate just a few of them:

1. Among the several specific predictions with regard to ancient Edom are those in Ezekiel 25:13-14. It claims that Edom's destruction would leave the land desolate as far as Teman and that Israel would participate in their destruction. In Ezekiel 35:7 the prophet further notes Edom would no longer be a place of merchants and trade. Isaiah 34:14-15 claims it would be the habitation of wild animals. Lastly Jeremiah 49:18 predicts that it would never be inhabited again. This is a daunting series of prophecies, particularly when one considers that Petra, the capital of Edom, was one of the wonders of the ancient world—literally a city carved into a mountain and the Jews were in bondage when the prophecy was made! Yet under the Maccabean era the resurgent Israelites pillaged Edom. In dramatic fulfillment the Edomite empire was finally destroyed right up to the city of Teman. (Only Teman, or Maan was left and survives still today.) When the capital city of Petra was rediscovered (to the chagrin of critics who maintained that the Edomite civilization was mythical), it was found to be a ghost town, inhabited only by eagles, scorpions and other wild creatures.

2.By way of contrast, one can consider the prophecies against Moab and Ammon. Though in Ezekiel 25:3-4 the prophet had predicted the fall of these city-states, Jeremiah 48:47 (Moab) and 49:6 (Ammon) predicted that they would rise again. Indeed these cities are in existence and thriving today.

3.One is hard-pressed to find superlatives to sufficiently convey the splendor of ancient Babylon. The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia tells of a city covering 196 square miles, surrounded by double walls and a 30-ft. moat. The outer wall was over 300 feet high and wide enough to race 8 chariots abreast! Upon entering one of the one hundred solid brass gates, the visitor would be struck with the majesty of the hanging gardens, massive palaces, exquisite temples, and flowing Euphrates. The prophets foretelling its demise is akin to someone today forecasting the utter desolation of London or New York. But more than that, Isaiah 13:19-22 states that it will be overthrown, never to be inhabited again, except by desert animals. This has indeed come to pass. But interestingly, Jeremiah 51:26 declares that it would not be torn down to be used for construction elsewhere. While the Bedouins avoid the old city of Babylon, archaeological activity has been ongoing since many interesting ruins of the dead city remain.

4.The story of ancient Tyre is given in Unger's Bible Dictionary: "an ancient Phoenician city, located on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea... It once consisted of two parts—a rocky coast defense of great strength on the mainland, and a city upon a small but well-protected island

about half a mile from the shore.” A merchant nation, the mariners of Tyre traveled the known world, making their home a successful trade port with a great, walled city on the mainland and a wealthy enclave on the island. In Ezekiel 26 the prophet details the destruction that will befall Tyre. Let us note the specificity: (1) vs 3 claims that multiple nations would be involved; (2) vs 4 tells that the walls and towers were to be broken down; (3) vs 4 states that the dirt was to be scraped off the area revealing the underlying rock and (4) All the debris of the city was to be dumped in the water; (5) vs 7-11 tell that Nebuchanezzar would break into the city; (6) vs 14 predicts that it would become a place of fishermen spreading their nets and (7) that the site would never be rebuilt. Nebuchanezzar attempted to subdue proud Tyre but because the inhabitants of this seacoast city all abandoned Tyre proper to escape to the large island fortress off the coast, he never looted its treasury or conquered its royalty. Nevertheless, Nebuchanezzar’s siege and destruction of the seacoast city was praised and actually rewarded by God (Ezekiel 29:18-20). His destruction of the mainland portion of Tyre certainly fulfills verses 7-11 which apply to him. The dramatic fulfillment of the prophesied judgment was not completed in Nebuchanezzar since the inhabitants outlasted him on their Alcatraz-like island. When Alexander the Great came through to conquer Tyre, the citizens tried the same trick...evacuating for the island fortress. Alexander took a cue from the failure of Nebuchanezzar. He took ALL of the debris from the city of Tyre (literally scraping it bare), built a causeway out to the island, and proceeded to demolish it, selling the surviving inhabitants into slavery. Attempts were made to rebuild Tyre and it was again destroyed. The modern city called Tyre was NOT constructed on the ancient mainland site. In fact the ancient plot is largely barren

rock (somewhere inland from the modern construction), and has quite literally been used by local fishermen to lay out their nets! “If Ezekiel had looked at Tyre in his day and had made these seven predictions in human wisdom, these estimates mean that there would have been only one chance in 75,000,000 of their all coming true. They all came true in the minutest detail.” (Stoner, Peter, Science Speaks, 1963, p. 80.)

A most remarkable Old Testament prophecy has been fulfilled in the modern era. In keeping with the warning of Leviticus 26:33 and Deuteronomy 28:64 the children of Israel were scattered and tormented. From the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70, to their banishment from Rome, to the pogroms of eastern Europe, to the holocaust; the Jewish people have suffered greatly. But Ezekiel 36:33-35 and 38:8 makes it very clear that the Jews were to return out of the other nations, rebuild their wasted cities, and recultivate their land (See also Jeremiah 16:14-15). It would seem highly unlikely that the Jews would remain distinct as a people, having no country and every motivation to intermarry and escape the stigma. Yet this Biblical prophecy has been completely fulfilled in recent history. From a population of only 20,000 identifiable Palestinian Jews in 1900, the modern reemergence of the Israeli nation has swelled that number to 6 million Jews. No other nation has been similarly reborn. Small wonder when the rationalist king Frederick the Great demanded of the court chaplain an unanswerable proof of the Bible’s authenticity, the answer was given: “the Jew, your majesty!”

Yet another reason Christians believe God is the ultimate author of the Bible is the predictive prophecies in the Bible. This aspect is unique to the world's religions because if one predicts something will happen and it does not, they are proven to be phony. The Bible is literally filled with detailed prophecies that have been fulfilled with 100% accuracy. Here is a list of 85 Messianic prophecies ([click here for a more complete list](#)) along with their fulfillment through the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus:

Prophecies of Jesus of Nazareth as Messiah

#	Prophetic Scripture	Subject	Fulfilled
1	Genesis 3:15	seed of a woman	Galatians 4:4
2	Genesis 12:3, Genesis 22:18	descendant of Abraham	Matthew 1:1, Acts 3:25
3	Genesis 17:19, Genesis 21:12	descendant of Isaac	Luke 3:34, Luke 3:23-24
4	Genesis 28:14, Numbers 24:17	descendant of Jacob	Matthew 1:2, Luke 3:23-24
5	Genesis 49:10	from the tribe of Judah	Luke 3:23-24, Luke 3:33
6	Isaiah 9:6, 11:1-5, Jeremiah 23:5-6	descendant of David	Matthew 1:1, Luke 3:23-24
7	Isaiah 11:1	descendant of Jesse	Luke 3:23-24

Prophecies of Jesus of Nazareth as Messiah

#	Prophetic Scripture	Subject	Fulfilled
8	Ezekiel 37:24	will shepherd His people	Matthew 2:6
9	Isaiah 9:7	heir to the throne of David	Luke 1:32-33
10	Micah 5:2	His pre existence	Colossians 1:17
11	Isaiah 9:6, Micah 5:1	eternal existence	John 8:58, 11, 14, Ephesians 1:3-14, Colossians 1:15-19
12	Psalms 45:6-7, Psalm 102:25-27	anointed and eternal	Hebrews 1:8-12
13	Psalms 110:1	called Lord	Matthew 22:43-45
14	Isaiah 33:22	judge	John 5:30
15	Psalms 2:6	king	Matthew 27:37
16	Micah 5:2	born in Bethlehem	Matthew 2:1, Luke 2:4-5, 7
17	Daniel 9:25	time for His birth	Matthew 2:1, 16, 19, Luke 2:1-2
18	Isaiah 7:14	to be born of a virgin	Matthew 1:18, 24, 25, Luke 1:26-27, 30-31
19	Psalms 72:9	worshipped by shepherds	Luke 2:8-15
20	Psalms 72:10	honored by great kings	Matthew 2:1-11
21	Jeremiah 31:15	slaughter of children	Matthew 2:16-18

Prophecies of Jesus of Nazareth as Messiah

#	Prophetic Scripture	Subject	Fulfilled
22	Hosea 11:1	flight to Egypt	Matthew 2:14-15
23	Isaiah 40:3-5	the way prepared	Matthew 3:1,2, Luke 3:3-6
24	Malachi 3:1	preceded by a forerunner	Luke 7:24, 27
25	Malachi 4:5-6	preceded by Elijah	Matthew 11:13-14
26	Psalms 2:7, Proverbs 30:4	declared the Son of God	Matthew 3:17, Luke 1:32
27	Isaiah 9:5-6, Jeremiah 23:5-6	God's name applied to Him	Romans 10:9, Philippians 2:9-11
28	Isaiah 11:2, 61:1, Psalm 45:8	anointment of Holy Spirit	Matthew 3:16, 17, John 3:34, Acts 10:38
29	Isaiah 9:1-2	Galilean ministry	Matthew 4:13-16
30	Psalms 78:2-4	speaks in parables	Matthew 13:34-35
31	Isaiah 56:7, Jeremiah 7:11	temple becomes a house of merchandise instead of prayer	Matthew 21:13
32	Psalms 69:9	zeal of Jews for the temple instead of God	John 2:17
33	Deuteronomy 18:15, 18	a prophet	Matthew 21:11, Acts 3:20, 22
34	Isaiah 29:18, Isaiah 35:5-	blind, deaf, and lame are	Luke 7:22, Matthew 9:35,

Prophecies of Jesus of Nazareth as Messiah

#	Prophetic Scripture	Subject	Fulfilled
	6	healed by the Messiah	11:3-5
35	Isaiah 40:11, 42:2-3, Isaiah 53:7	Messiah will be meek and mild	Matthew 12:18-20, Matthew 11:29, Hebrews 4:15
36	Isaiah 53:9	Be sinless and without guile	1 Peter 2:22
37	Isaiah 42:1, Isaiah 49:1	will minister to Gentiles	Matthew 12:18-21 Luke 2:32
38	Isaiah 61:1-2	to bind up the brokenhearted	Luke 4:18-19
39	Isaiah 53:12, Isaiah 59:16	to intercede for the people	Romans 8:34, Hebrews 7:25
40	Isaiah 53:3, 8:14, 28:16, 63:3, Psalms 69:6, 118:22	rejected by His own people, the Jews	John 1:11, 7:5,48, Luke 23:18, Acts 4:11, 1 Peter 2:6-8
41	Psalms 118:22	Be rejected by the Jewish leadership	Matthew 21:42, John 7:48
42	Psalms 2:1-2	plotted against by Jews and Gentiles alike	Acts 4:27
43	Psalms 110:4	priest after the order of Melchizedek	Hebrews 5:5-6
44	Zechariah 9:9	enter Jerusalem on donkey	Mark 11:7, 9, 11, Luke 19:35-37
45	Haggai 2:7-9, Malachi 3:1	entered the temple with	Matthew 21:12, Luke 2:27-38

Prophecies of Jesus of Nazareth as Messiah

#	Prophetic Scripture	Subject	Fulfilled
		authority	
46	Psalms 8:2	adored by infants	Matthew 21:15-16
47	Isaiah 53:1	not believed	John 12:37-38
48	Zechariah 13:7	sheep of the Shepherd scattered	Matthew 26:31, Mark 14:50
49	Psalms 41:9, 55:13-15	betrayed by a close friend	Matthew 10:4, Luke 22:47-48
50	Zechariah 11:12	betrayed for thirty pieces of silver	Matthew 26:14-15
51	Zechariah 11:13	betrayal money used to buy Potter's field	Matthew 27:6-7
52	Psalms 35:11	accused by false witnesses	Mark 14:57-58
53	Isaiah 53:7	silent to accusations	Matthew 27:12, Mark 15:4-5
54	Isaiah 50:6	spat on	Matthew 26:67, 27:30
55	Isaiah 50:6	beaten	Matthew 26:67, 27:26, 30
56	Micah 4:14	struck on cheek	Matthew 27:30
57	Isaiah 49:7, Psalms 35:19, Psalms 69:4	hated without reason	John 7:48, 15:24-25
58	Isaiah 53:5	wounded and bruised	Matthew 27:26

Prophecies of Jesus of Nazareth as Messiah

#	Prophetic Scripture	Subject	Fulfilled
59	Isaiah 53:5	vicarious sacrifice	John 1:29, , 3:16, Romans 5:6, 8
60	Daniel 9:24-26	cut off, but not for Himself	Matthew 2:1, Luke 3:1, 23
61	Isaiah 53:12	crucified with malefactors	Matthew 27:38, Mark 15:27-28
62	Zechariah 12:10, Psalm 22:16	pierced through hands and feet	Luke 23:33, John 20:25-27
63	Psalm 22:7-8	sneered and mocked	Matthew 27:31, Luke 23:35
64	Psalm 109:24, 25	fell under the cross	Luke 23:26
65	Psalm 69:9	was reproached	Romans 15:3
66	Psalm 38:11	friends stood afar off	Luke 23:49
67	Psalm 109:25	people shook their heads	Matthew 27:39
68	Psalm 22:17	stared upon	Luke 23:35
69	Psalm 22:16, 69:21	given vinegar for His thirst	Matthew 27:34, John 19:28-29
70	Psalm 109:4, Isaiah 53:12	prayer for His enemies	Luke 23:34
71	Psalm 22:17-18	soldiers gambled for His clothing	Matthew 27:35-36, John 19:23, 24
72	Psalm 22:1	forsaken by God	Matthew 27:46
73	Psalm 31:5	committed Himself to God	Luke 23:46

Prophecies of Jesus of Nazareth as Messiah

#	Prophetic Scripture	Subject	Fulfilled
74	Exodus 12:46, Psalm 34:20	no bones broken	John 19:32, 33, 36
75	Psalms 22:14	heart broken	John 19:34
76	Zechariah 12:10	His side pierced	John 19:34
77	Amos 8:9	darkness over the land	Matthew 27:45
78	Isaiah 53:9	buried with the rich	Matthew 27:57-60
79	Psalms 3:5, 16:10, 49:15	to be resurrected	Mark 16:6-7, Acts 2:31
80	Isaiah 44:3, Joel 2:28	sent the Holy Spirit	John 20:22, Acts 2:16-17
81	Isaiah 55:3-4, Jeremiah 31:31	establishes a new covenant	Matthew 26:28, Luke 22:20, Hebrews 8:6-10
82	Psalms 68:18, Psalm 110:1	His ascension to God's right hand	Mark 16:19, Acts 1:9, 1 Corinthians 15:4, Ephesians 4:8, Hebrews 1:3
83	Psalms 29:11, Micah 4:3	peace proclaimed by disciples	Luke 2:14, John 14:27, Acts 10:36
84	Isaiah 60:3	"Light" to Gentiles	Acts 13:47,48
85	Isaiah 11:10, 42:1, 49:1-12	the Gentiles will seek the Messiah	Romans 11:25, 15:10

A **third internal evidence** of the divine origin of the Bible is its unique authority and power. While this evidence is more subjective than the first two, it is no less a powerful testimony of the divine origin of the Bible. The Bible's authority is unlike any other book ever written. This authority and power are best seen in the way countless lives have been transformed by the supernatural power of God's Word. Drug addicts have been cured by it, homosexuals set free by it, derelicts and deadbeats transformed by it, hardened criminals reformed by it, sinners rebuked by it, and hate turned to love by it. The Bible does possess a dynamic and transforming power that is only possible because it is truly God's Word.

The link below has several fountains(links) to ponder on why Bible is the word of God, how to interpret them, the Mother Church(Roman Catholic Church) guidelines to interpret God's word, homilies on some books in the Bible, Saints and early church fathers interpretations and so on. You don't want to miss looking into these many fountains of truthful, historical and abundant knowledge and Wisdom on Bible. You sure will be enlightened. You bet!

<https://stpaulcenter.com/library/scripture/#church-bible>

The various chronological clues hidden in the 46 books of Old Testament and 27 New Testaments together complete a jigsaw puzzle that Bible author can be only the creator of the

whole universe because it has thousands of years of family record starting with the listing of the first man named ADAM until Son of God came to this world. Please do **CLICK** the link below for details of the timeline period in Bible:

<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/03731a.htm>

Bible is exclusively the Word of God is because of its chronological order:

It begins with the book of Genesis, which tells us about the Beginning of all things and ends with the book of Revelation, which tells us about the end of all things.

It begins with the beginning of all things and ends with the endings of all things.

For example:

- 1- In Genesis we read about the beginning of Creation.
- 2- The beginning of sin.
- 3- The beginning of prophecies.

4- The beginning of salvation.

5-The beginning of death.

6.The book of Gen. starts with life and ends with Joseph's coffin in Egypt.

It starts with Adam then his children Seth and Enos and Cainan and so on then Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Then we come to the book of Exodus. After Joseph's death in Egypt we come to the call of Moses and then Joshua and so on.

Bible is exclusively the Word of God is because of its perfect unity:

Forty men from all walks of life over the course of 1500 years wrote portions of the Bible without contradicting each other. The writers include kings, peasants, philosophers, fishermen, tax collectors, poets, musicians, physicians, teachers, statesmen, lawyers and shepherds. It has been translated into 2,200 languages - more than any book in existence.

The entire Bible is one book, has one author, the Holy Spirit, and has one purpose or theme - to show the fall of man and God's way to redeem him. For example, you cannot understand the

book of Revelation in the N.T. unless you study the books of Genesis and Daniel in the O.T. You cannot understand the book of Hebrews in the N.T. unless you study the book of Leviticus in the O.T.

The O.T. and the N.T. are one book; one complements the other.

The apostle Paul wrote in his second letter to Timothy:

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete [mature], thoroughly equipped for every good work” (Timothy 3:16-17).

The Holy Spirit empowered the writers to write everything that He dictated to them. For we read, The Lord Jesus said “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you” (John 14:26).

For example:

The Holy Spirit led Matthew to write to the Jews telling them that Christ is the fulfillment of all their prophecies as the Messiah.

Mark speaks about Christ as a servant.

Luke speaks about Christ as the perfect Man (The Son of Man).

John speaks about Christ as the Son of God.

Bible is exclusively the Word of God is because it predicts the future: The Bible declares “the end from the beginning:”

“Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done...” (Isa. 46:9-10).

“And if you say in your heart, ‘How shall we know the word which the lord has not spoken?’—when a prophet speaks in the name of the lord, if the thing [which he says] does not happen or come to pass... the prophet has spoken it presumptuously...” (Deut. 18:21-22).

“Known to God from eternity are all His works” (Acts 15:18). God knows the end from the beginning.

There is no other book in all the religions of the world that contains specific predictive prophecies.

Consider, for example, the prophecy in the book of Isaiah concerning the city of Babylon:

“And Babylon, the glory of kingdoms, The beauty of the Chaldeans’ pride, Will be as when God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah. It will never be inhabited, Nor will it be settled from generation to generation; Nor will the Arabian pitch tents there, Nor will the shepherds make their sheepfold there. But wild beasts of the desert will lie there, and their houses will be full of owls... The hyenas will howl in their citadels And jackals in their pleasant palaces. (Isa. 13:19-22)

Historically, when a city was destroyed, the people would rebuild it on top of the old city. Babylon was destroyed and was not rebuilt.

Consider also the prophecy of Christ concerning the city of Jerusalem:

“For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another...” (Luke 19:43-44).

In AD 70 Titus the Roman came and surrounded the city and destroyed it and did not leave one stone upon another.

Be sure: "If God said it, it is guaranteed."

Bible is exclusively the word of God is because of its perpetual survival.

No other book has been attacked over the course of 2,600 years more repeatedly and viciously than the Bible but the apostle Peter wrote, "Having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, because 'All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, but the word of the Lord endures forever'" (1 Peter 1:23-25).

Jesus said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away" (Matt. 24:35).

In the year AD 303, Emperor Diocletian, who hated Christians, ordered that all Scriptures be destroyed throughout the empire. Less than ten years later Constantine became the emperor of the Roman Empire. He was converted to Christianity and among the first things he did was order multiple copies of the Scriptures to be produced.

Thomas Paine, the infamous infidel who wrote *The Age of Reason*, said, “Fifty years after I die, the Bible will be obsolete.” Paine is in hell, but the Bible still stands.

Voltaire said, “Another century and there will not be a Bible on earth!” It is reported that the Geneva Bible Society bought his house and used it as a bookstore that sells only Bibles.

The Bible has more manuscript evidence to support it than any other book in the world.

The Bible as Revelation Beyond Human Comprehension:

The extent of Bible revelation is beyond human comprehension. Like a telescope, the Bible reaches beyond the stars and penetrates the heights of heaven and the depths of hell. Like a microscope, it discovers the minutest details of God’s plans and purposes as well as the hidden secrets of the human heart. The Bible deals as freely with things unknown as it does with the known. It can speak with complete freedom and assurance about situations and events outside the realm of human experience. The Bible knows no limits to the infinite knowledge of God who guided its writers. It permits its readers to gaze on events in eternity past as well as in eternity future. The comprehension of divine revelation is utterly beyond the capacity of even the most brilliant men unaided by the Spirit of God.

Other unique features of the Bible that give evidence of its divine origin are its types and antitypes, its nature as unique literature, its scientific accuracy when compared to true science, its enduring freshness, and its power to change lives.

The Bible: God's Special Revelation

Definition of Revelation

The term revelation comes from the Greek word apokalupsis, which means “a disclosure” or “an unveiling.” It is used in the New Testament of the disclosure of truth in general (Luke 2:32; Rom. 16:25; Eph. 1:17), of the disclosure of a specific area of truth (2 Cor. 12:1; Gal. 1:12; 2:2; Eph. 3:3), of the second coming of Christ (1 Cor. 1:7; 1 Pet. 1:7, 13; 4:13), and of the book of Revelation (Rev. 1:1). Theologically, Bible students use this word to signify God's work of revealing Himself to mankind through the various sources of revelation as in creation (Rom. 1:18-21; Ps. 19), in providential acts (Acts 14:17; Rom. 8:28), in miracles (John 20:30-31), through direct acts of communication (Ex. 3:1-9; Acts 22:17-21), through the person of Christ (John 1:14, 18), and through the Bible.

What then is revelation? Thiessen defines it as:

... that act of God whereby he discloses himself or communicates truth to the mind; whereby he makes manifest to his creatures that which could not be known in any other way. The revelation

may occur in a single, instantaneous act, or it may extend over a long period of time; and this communication of himself and his truth may be perceived by the human mind in varying degrees of fullness.

Erickson defines “revelation” as: “By special revelation we mean God’s manifestation of himself to particular persons at definite times and places, enabling those persons to enter into a redemptive relationship with him.”

The concept of revelation falls into two principal divisions or areas: (1) general, natural, or original, and (2) special, supernatural, or soteriological. The first pertains to revelation revealed through nature and history, the second to what God has revealed as He intervenes in human history to reveal Himself in supernatural ways.

General or Natural Revelation

By general revelation, we mean revelation that is simply general in its extent. Ryrie explains:

General revelation is exactly that—general. It is general in its scope; that is, it reaches to all people (Matt. 5:45; Acts 14:17). It is general in geography; that is, it encompasses the entire globe (Ps. 19:2). It is general in its methodology; that is, it employs universal means like the heat of the sun (vv. 4-6) and human conscience (Rom. 2:14-15). Simply because it is a

revelation that thus affects all people wherever they are and whenever they have lived it can bring light and truth to all, or, if rejected, brings condemnation.

General revelation comes to mankind in a number of ways (creation, order and design, the nature of man as an intelligent being), but the most obvious and powerful means of general revelation is nature or creation. As powerful and universal as this is, however, it is inadequate or has certain limitations. It cannot tell us about the love and grace of God nor of His perfect holiness. Furthermore, creation does not tell us of God's plan of salvation nor how man may procure that salvation. Still, general revelation "is nonetheless an important antecedent to salvation. General revelation is God revealing certain truths and aspects about His nature to all humanity, which revelation is essential and preliminary to God's special revelation."

CREATION

Creation as a part of God's general revelation affirms certain facts about God. Two key passages emphasize God's general revelation in creation:

(1) Psalm 19:1-6 affirms (a) the heavens declare the fact of God's glory to the human race throughout the earth (vs. 1), (b) that this revelation is constant, occurring "day to day" and "night to night" (vs. 2), that (c) it is a nonverbal revelation, "there is no speech, nor are there words, their voice is not heard," (v. 3), and (d) its scope is worldwide, "Their line [sound] has

gone out through all the earth, And their utterance to the end of the world” (v. 4). “Being unrestricted by the division of languages, natural revelation transcends human communication without the use of speech, words, and sounds. To those who are inclined to hear, revelation comes with no regard for linguistic or geographical barriers.”

No one is excluded from this revelation of God. Wherever man peers at the universe, there is orderliness. At a distance of ninety-three million miles from the earth, the sun provides exactly the right temperature environment for man to function on earth. Were the sun closer, it would be too hot to survive, and were it further away it would be too cold for man to function. If the moon were closer than two hundred forty thousand miles the gravitational pull of the tides would engulf the earth’s surface with water from the oceans. Wherever man looks in the universe, there is harmony and order. Similarly, God has revealed Himself on earth (v. 1). The magnificence of the human body is perhaps the best evidence of general revelation on earth. The entire human body—its cardiovascular system, the bone structure, the respiratory system, the muscles, the nervous system including its center in the brain—reveals an infinite God.

(2) Romans 1:18-21 develops the truth of general revelation through creation even further. It draws our attention to four vital characteristics of what the revelation of God in creation does. (a) It is a clear testimony, being clearly seen by the things which are made (vss. 19 and 20). (b)

The word “understood” (noew, “of rational reflection, inner contemplation, perceive, apprehend, understand ...”)32 indicates this general revelation goes beyond mere perception; creation’s revelation is such that it is expected to result in reflection so there is a conclusion drawn about the Creator. (c) As Psalm 19 affirms, this testimony is constant being witnessed “since the creation of the world” (vs. 20). And (d) it is limited in what it reveals; only certain aspects about God’s invisible qualities or nature are revealed, specifically, “his eternal power and divine nature.”

As mentioned previously, to learn of God’s love, grace, and plan of salvation, one must turn to God’s special revelation, the Bible, and the revelation of His Son (John 1:14, 18). Natural revelation, however, is more than sufficient to make mankind responsible and to show he is “without excuse” for his indifference and failure to seek to know God and to be thankful.

PROVIDENCE AND HUMAN CONSCIENCE

In addition to creation, God has also revealed Himself to the human race through His providential goodness in the world and through the human conscience.

It is through His providential goodness in supplying people with sunshine and rain that enables them to live and function (Matt. 5:45; Acts 14:15-17). Paul reminds the people at Lystra that God’s providential goodness was a witness to them (Acts 14:17). God’s providential control is

also evident in His dealing with the nations. He disciplined His disobedient people Israel (Deut. 28:15-68) but will also restore them (Deut. 30:1-10); He judged Egypt for sinning against Israel (Ex. 7-11); He raised the nations to power and also caused their demise (Dan. 2:21a, 31-43).

Further, God has revealed Himself through conscience. Romans 2:14-15 indicates God has placed intuitional knowledge concerning Himself within the heart of man. “Man intuitively knows not only that God values goodness and abhors evil but also that he is ultimately accountable to such a righteous Power.” (Bruce A. Demarest, *General Revelation: Historical Views and Contemporary Issues*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1982, p. 231.) While the Jews will be judged according to the written law, Gentiles, who do not have the written Law, will be judged according to an unwritten law, the law of conscience written on their hearts. Moreover, Paul says the conscience acts as a legal prosecutor (v. 15). “Conscience may be regarded as an inner monitor, or the voice of God in the soul, that passes judgment on man’s response to the moral law within” (Ibid., pp. 232-33)

While God has revealed Himself in His creation, which gives us general revelation about God, and in the person of Jesus Christ, which gives us revelation of God incarnate, our focus in bibliology is on the revelation of God in the Bible, the written Word of God. As God’s Word the Bible reveals much more about God than can be known from nature or creation or even through the person Christ.

Accordingly, the Bible may be regarded as completing the intended divine revelation of God partially revealed in nature, more fully revealed in Christ, and completely revealed in the written Word.

Special Revelation

THE NATURE OF SPECIAL REVELATION

This section will examine how God has revealed Himself in special revelation. The nature of this mode of revelation is that it consists primarily of words. The author of Hebrews reminds us that God has made Himself known by speaking long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, and in these last days has spoken to us in His Son (Heb. 1:1-2a). There are three elements to special revelation: specific times, specific modes, and specific persons. Later, still dealing with this special revelation that reveals our “so great salvation,” the author of Hebrews says:

After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, God also bearing witness with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will (Heb. 1:1-2).

Again we see the same elements: a specific mode (special revelation embodied in words), at a specific time (during the life of Christ and the apostles), and in specific persons (those who heard the Lord, His apostles whose teaching or words were confirmed by signs and wonders). This was precisely in keeping with Christ's own words in John 16:12-15.

Special revelation involves a narrower focus than general revelation and is restricted to Jesus Christ and the Scriptures. Of course, all that is known of Christ is through the Scriptures; therefore, it can be said that special revelation is restricted to the Scriptures.

THE NECESSITY OF SPECIAL REVELATION

Why does man need special revelation? Special revelation is needed because of man's blind and sinful condition caused by his fall as recorded in Genesis 3, a blindness that is made even stronger by the blinding activity of Satan (cf. Eph. 4:17-19 with 2 Cor. 4:4). This necessitated the need for special revelation so God could reveal Himself and His plan of salvation that man in turn might be reconciled from his condition of alienation and restored to fellowship with God.

God's special revelation of Himself centers in the Person of Jesus Christ as the only One who fully reveals both God and His plan of salvation; Jesus is the heart and testimony of Scripture in its promises and fulfillment and the means of salvation (John 1:14, 18; 3:16-18; 6:63; 14:6; Heb. 1:3; 2:3; Rev. 19:10).

In addition to the above, man needs special revelation for two more important reasons. First, so he correctly interpret the truths revealed in general revelation, and second, because these general truths are very limited. As is obvious from the many religions of the world, man consistently misinterprets what he can learn from creation or providence. Therefore, man desperately needs God's special or supernatural revelation.

THE AVENUES OF SPECIAL REVELATION

Drawing on his knowledge of the Old Testament and the testimony of those who had personally heard the Lord Jesus, the author of Hebrews speaks of the various ways God has spoken to reveal Himself in history through the prophets and then through His Son who is the very outshining of God (Heb. 1:1-2). Ryrie gives us an excellent summary of the various avenues God has used to reveal Himself.

A. The Lot: While today we would not highly regard the use of the lot, it did serve sometimes to communicate the mind of God to man (Prov. 16:33; Acts 1:21-26).

B. The Urim and Thummim: The breastplate which the high priest wore in the Old Testament was a square piece of beautiful material which was folded in half and open at the top like a pouch. It was adorned with twelve precious stones on which were engraved the names of the

twelve tribes of Israel. The Urim and Thummim possibly were two precious stones placed inside the pouch which were used, like the lot, to determine God's will (Ex. 28:30, Num. 27:21, Deut. 33:8; 1 Sam. 28:6, Ezra 2:63).

C. Dreams: God apparently used dreams to communicate many times during the Old Testament period, and He will do so again at the time of the second coming of Christ (Gen. 20:3, 6; 31:11-13, 24; 40-41; Joel 2:28). Nonbelievers as well as believers experienced God-given dreams (Gen. 20:3; 31:24). Though a common experience, dreams were used by God in this special way to reveal truth.

D. Visions: In a vision the emphasis seems to be on what is heard, while in a dream, on what is seen. Also the human being involved seems to be more active in receiving a vision (Isa. 1:1; 6:1; Ezek. 1:3).

E. Theophanies: Before the Incarnation, theophanies were associated with the appearance of the Angel of the Lord who communicated the divine message to people (Gen. 16:7-14; Ex. 3:2; 2 Sam. 24:16; Zech. 1:12).

F. Angels: God also uses created angels to carry His message to people (Dan. 9:20-21, Luke 2:10-11, Rev. 1:1). (Notice Rev. 19:17 where God will use an angel to communicate to birds!)

G. The Prophets: Old Testament prophets brought God's message to mankind (2 Sam. 23:2; Zech. 1:1) as did New Testament prophets (Eph. 3:5). They spoke with authority because they were communicating the Word of the Lord. A preacher or teacher today does not qualify as a prophet since he proclaims or explains God's Word, previously given and encoded.

H. Events: God's activity in history also constitutes a channel of revelation. Delivering the people of Israel from Egypt revealed the righteous acts of the Lord, according to Micah 6:5. Acts of judgment reveal who God is (Ezek. 25:7). And, of course, the incarnation of Christ exegeted God (John 1:14). It does not go without saying today that these events have to be historical and factual in order also to be communicative; for today some are putting existential faith before the historical. In other words, they are attempting to create revelation apart from historical facts. Such existential historiography was never a part of the framework of the biblical writers.

Not only must the events be historical, but they also need to be interpreted through divine inspiration if we are to understand accurately their meaning. For example, many people were crucified; how do we know that the crucifixion of one Jesus of Nazareth paid for the sins of the world? The Word of special revelation clarifies and correctly interprets the obscurity of the meaning of events.

I. Jesus Christ: Undebatably the incarnation of Jesus Christ was a major avenue of special revelation. He exegeted the Father (John 1:14), revealing the nature of God (14:9), the power of God (3:2), the wisdom of God (7:46), the glory of God (1:14), the life of God (1 John 1:1-3), and the love of God (Romans 5:8). Our Lord did all this by both His acts (John 2:11) and His words (Matt. 16:17).

J. The Bible: Actually the Bible serves as the most inclusive of all the avenues of special revelation, for it encompasses the record of many aspects of the other avenues. Though God undoubtedly gave other visions, dreams, and prophetic messages that were not recorded in the Bible, we know no details of them. Too, all that we know about the life of Christ appears in the Bible, though, of course, not all that He did or said was recorded in the Scriptures (John 21:25). But the Bible is not simply the record of these other revelations from God; it also contains additional truth not revealed, for example, through the prophets or even during the earthly life of Christ. So the Bible, then, is both the record of aspects of special revelation and revelation itself.

The revelation in the Bible is not only inclusive yet partial, it is also accurate (John 17:17), progressive (Heb. 1:1), and purposeful (2 Tim. 3:15-17).

Two approaches exist as to the credibility of the scriptural revelation. Fideists insist that the Scripture and the revelation it contains is self-authenticating, that is, autopistic. The infallibility of the Bible must be presupposed and can be because the Scripture says it is inspired and the

Spirit accredits it. Empiricists, on the other hand, stress the intrinsic credibility of the revelation of the Bible as being worthy of belief, that is, axiomatic. The Bible's claim to authority is not in itself proof of its authority; rather there exist factual, historical evidences which constitute the Bible's credentials and validate the truth of its message. My feeling is that there is truth in both approaches so that both can and should be used.

The last point in demonstrating the inspiration of the Bible is one we have not yet mentioned. The Bible itself gives a test to all messages claiming to be from God, and you are to judge the merits of the message by that test. Deuteronomy 18:20-22 states: "But the prophet who shall speak a word presumptuously in My name which I have not commanded him to speak, or which he shall speak in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die. And you may say in your heart, 'How shall we know the word which the LORD has not spoken?' When a prophet speaks in the name of the LORD, if the thing does not come about or come true, that is the thing the LORD has not spoken. The prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him." This passage shows the yardstick by which all revelation is measured: prophecy. The Bible stands alone as a book stuffed with prophecy. It is the very heart of Scripture. With prophecy, God gives the faithful hope by promising better things in the future. Likewise, the wicked are warned of impending judgment if they don't change their ways.

Another prophecy given in the book of Isaiah was to the man who would conquer the city of Babylon. In Isaiah 44:27 and following the Lord says, "It is I who says to the depths of the sea,

'Be dried up!' and I who will make your rivers dry. It is I who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd!' and he will perform all My desire. Thus says the LORD to Cyrus, His anointed, whom I have taken by the right hand, to subdue nations before him, and to loose the loins of kings; TO OPEN the doors before him so that the gates will not be shut. I have also called you by your name; I have given you a title of honor though you have not known Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides Me there is no God" This prophecy was written around 690 BC. History tells us that in 538 BC a Persian general named Cyrus had devised a plan to overtake the impregnable city of Babylon. He dammed up the river running through the city and sent soldiers under the gates. When he got to the front gates, however, he found them unlocked and took the entire city without a problem. In one night the most secure empire in the world of that time was overthrown. It was described by God to Cyrus, and ADDRESSED to him by name, 150 years before he had even been born!

One other prophecy we can examine is one that has been fulfilled in modern times. Israel is an amazement sociologically. Never in the history of mankind has a nation been overthrown and obliterated for 1900 years and then come back into EXISTENCE. Yet, this is exactly what has happened to the nation of Israel, and they reside in the same geographic area as they previously possessed. We turn again to Isaiah, chapter 11 which states, "In that day the Lord will reach out His hand a second time to reclaim the remnant that is left of His people from Assyria, from Lower Egypt, from Upper Egypt, from Cush, from Elam, from Babylonia, from Hamath and from the islands of the sea. He will raise a BANNER for the nations and gather the exiles of

Israel; He will assemble the scattered people of Judah from the four corners of the earth." (vss.11-12) Notice, that the passage in Isaiah was written before the Babylonian captivity, so it refers to a second regathering. That implies that there would be two dispersals. Yet, after the second exile, it also promises that the nation of Israel would be put back together from "the four corners of the earth", which is an unequalled feat. Just think of how many Hittites or Philistines we find today. People who are exiled for an extended period of time generally assimilate into the culture in which they're placed. In no other instance has this ever happened.

In Jeremiah 16:15, God promises that the Israelites will dwell "in the land I gave their forefathers", and Ezekiel chapter 36 describes the incredible transformation of the land itself into a major agricultural center. We still have documentary footage of how the land of Palestine was transformed from a mosquito-infested swampland to the breadbasket of Europe. It is now the sixth largest producer of fruits in the world!

When ALL the evidence is studied, it leads to an inescapable conclusion: the Bible must come from a source other than that of natural man. It is a reliable document that faithfully records history and in that record it documents God intervening in the lives of men. The New Testament verifies that the Old Testament is the word of God, and Peter verifies that the writings of Paul are Scriptural; that is from God(2 Peter 3:16). Peter also states, "No prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.(2 Peter 1:21)" This is a consistent message throughout the Bible.

In any field of study, when people examine the objects of their study, they classify them by their attributes. A bird fits the definition of an animal with feathers that lays eggs. Every animal that has those attributes is considered a bird. A mammal must be warm-blooded, have hair, and suckle its young. In examining all the religious texts of the world, only the Bible exhibits all the attributes of a God-inspired message.

Bible is exclusively the Word of God is because it has one theme. The cross of Christ is the central theme and teaching of the Bible. It is seen in every book of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

In Genesis, we see the cross in the willingness of Abraham to sacrifice his son and in God's provision in providing a ram as a substitute for his son (Gen. 22:8).

In Exodus, we see the cross in the Passover Lamb. "When I see the blood, I will pass over you" (Ex. 12:13).

In Leviticus, we see the cross in the sacrificial offerings (Lev. 17:11).

In Numbers, we see the cross when Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness (Num. 21:8-9). "Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up." (John 3:14)

In Deuteronomy, we see the cross in the smitten rock; the Rock was Christ Jesus (Deut.8:15; 1 Cor. 10:4).

When you study the Bible you can see a scarlet cord that goes from Genesis to Revelation.

In Revelation: “To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood...” (Rev. 1:5).

In 1 Corinthians the apostle Paul was preaching the cross as a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Gentile.

“For I determined not to know anything among you, except Jesus Christ and Him crucified” (1Cor 2:2).

“But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Gal 6:14).

Bible is exclusively the Word of God is because of its ability to meet the needs of all mankind:

The Bible has the answer to all your questions. It tells you where you come from, why you are here, and where you are going.

If you need comfort, you can read Psalm 42.

If you need forgiveness, read Psalm 51.

If you need love, read 1 Corinthians 13.

If you need faith, read Hebrews 11.

If you need caring, read Psalm 23.

[Prologue to Ecclesiasticus Sirach \(130 B.C.\)](#)

Sirach who wrote and lived in Jerusalem makes mention of most famous men of the Old Testament. He makes explicit mention of the Twelve Prophets. (Minor Prophets) This would indicate that the whole or at least the most of the OT was known to him and already in his day the “Minor Prophets” were regarded as a special group by themselves. In his prologue he three times refers to the tripartite division of the OT. Example: “Whereas many great teachings have been given to us through the law and the prophets and the others that followed them” Sirach 19:20-24

The Whole Bible At A Glance – The Golden thread that starts from creation(Genesis – First Book of Bible) and Ends in the throne of God in Revelation book(last book of Bible). Prehistory is that period which existed before written records were made and where the verification of certain episodes(creation, the flood, the tower of babe) is difficult if not possible to establish. However, we do see in these accounts great truths which have had profound impact on every generation throughout salvation history.

A quick glance down the Bible's table of contents shows four major groupings for the old testament books: 1) the Pentateuch or Torah (one thought of as the books of Moses) 2) the Historical Books 3) the Prophets and 4) the Writings or Wisdom literature.

The new testament gets underway with four gospels(gospel is a literary form), followed by the acts of the apostles which is a narrative, twenty-one letters form the next cluster, and the apocalyptic Book of Revelation brings up the rear.

The earliest old testament accounts, those found in the books of Genesis through Deuteronomy(the Pentateuch or Torah), were preserved through long generations by word of mouth - oral tradition – and did not begin to take written form until about the tenth century B.C

As a rule, we think of the Bible in terms of its two principal divisions, the Hebrew scriptures and the Christian scriptures, traditionally known as the old and new testaments. The word testament does not convey much to us. A better choice might be covenant which can be defined as a

solemn agreement between two parties. In scripture parties involved are nearly always God and God's people.

From Genesis to Revelation, the idea of covenant is the golden thread weaving in and out throughout the Bible's many books. When we look at the notion of covenant that way, it quickly becomes obvious that God has always desired humanity to enter freely into an ongoing relationship of love with him. From the first inkling of the covenant theme in the story of Noah(Gen (:9-17), we see that God has no interest in a race of robots, preprogrammed creatures who will obey him mechanically. God wants his people to choose him freely, serve him without coercion and love him with open hearts. This is why he chooses to enter into a covenant relationship with humankind. The covenant is first of all God's gift of love to us. We can enter a covenant with God only because God lovingly and freely offers it to us. Such a covenant was implied at the very creation of the human race. We, in turn, are invited and enabled to respond lovingly and freely to God's offer.

Covenant cannot be imposed; it must be freely accepted by both parties. God's proposal of such an agreement, together with his people's acceptance and subsequent attempt to live forms the golden thread which binds all of salvation history together OT and NT.

Towering Figures in Old Testament:

Abram - God made covenant with Abram Genesis(15:5-7, 15:8). And so the golden thread of covenant begins to weave its way through biblical history.

Moses- Some six centuries elapse before the second major character in the covenant saga takes center stage. When Moses brings God's covenantal proposal before the people, they respond enthusiastically, “All that the Lord has said, we will heed and do" Exodus 24:7

David - can be dated with certainty at 1000 C is man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14).

Golden Thread and Green Shoot:

Jeremiah, the great prophet in the years immediately prior to the Exile, had warned repeatedly what failure to return to God and his covenant would mean.

Like many before and after him, Jeremiah was met with derision and disregard.

The call to be a prophet was usually a summon to trial and affliction. But when awful consequences did come crashing down on God's people, Jeremiah says as in Jeremiah 23: 5-6 “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, 5 “when I will raise up for David[a] a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.

6 In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord Our Righteous Savior.

The man who holds out the strongest thread of hope to exiled Israelites is Ezekiel when he was prophet in Babylon. He says hope in Jeremiah 23:5 "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.

For roughly 500 years Israel continues to formulate its impression of the coming Messiah, of the renewal of David's line, of the fulfillment of covenant. The Bible sketches those years for us in the books of Ezra, Nehemiah, Maccabees I & II.

The golden thread moves on:

We now enter that section of the bible called the Christian scriptures(new testament) and the golden thread moves on, surfacing next at the beginning of the Gospel of Matthew, where we are faced with one of those lengthy genealogies of which scriptures is so fond of. He launches into his account with his first verse of his first chapter - "A family record of Jesus Christ, son of David, Son of Abraham" And throughout his gospel, Matthew maintains the kingdom as a major theme, showing through a multitude of references to the Hebrew scriptures that David's line will continue forever, after all Jesus will be King of Kings in an eternal kingdom where all those covenanted to him and his father will dwell forever. The promise is fulfilled. That's the Gospel truth.

There are three more such books in our Bible library: Mark, Luke and John. Reading them all tells the messiah has come and with him salvation for those who live in covenant with him! The golden thread still gleams as Jesus draws his inner circle around him for the last supper. Near the end of the meal, raising his cup of wine, he surveys them lovingly and announces, " This cup is the new covenant in my blood which shall be shed for you" (Luke 22:20)

And still the full length of the golden thread has not spun from the spool. As followers of Jesus fan out around the Mediterranean, great missionaries like Paul, John, James, Peter Jude and others write to one another of these young churches to explain, to expound, to upbraid, to uphold, to smooth the way for the golden thread as it winds through new territory which will ultimately take it all over the globe.

Where does the golden thread end? Actually, it has the same end we have ourselves: heaven, we will live forever covenanted to our God. And the last book in the Bible fairly glows with heavenly light. Here, in veiled and symbolic terminology, are the apocalyptic visions of the Book of Revelation. By turns haunting and bewildering, these visions show the golden thread coming to rest at last at the throne of God.

EXTERNAL EVIDENCES:

There are also external evidences that indicate the Bible is truly the Word of God. One is the historicity of the Bible. Because the Bible details historical events, its truthfulness and

accuracy are subject to verification like any other historical document. Through both archaeological evidences and other writings, the historical ACCOUNTS of the Bible have been proven time and time again to be accurate and true. In fact, all the archaeological and manuscript evidence supporting the Bible makes it the best-documented book from the ancient world. The fact that the Bible accurately and truthfully records historically verifiable events is a great indication of its truthfulness when dealing with religious subjects and doctrines and helps substantiate its claim to be the very Word of God.

Do you remember the story about the handwriting on the wall that is found in the fifth chapter of Daniel? Belshazzar hosted a feast with a thousand of his lords and ladies. Suddenly, a gruesome hand appeared out of nowhere and began to write on a wall. The king was disturbed and asked for someone to interpret the writing. Daniel was found and gave the interpretation. After the interpretation, “Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.” (Daniel 5:29). Basing their opinion on Babylonian records, the historians claim this never happened. ACCORDING to the records, the last king of Babylon was not Belshazzar, but a man named Nabonidas. And so, they said, the Bible is in error. There wasn’t a record of a king named Belshazzar. Well, the spades of archeologists continued to do their work. In 1853, an inscription was found on a cornerstone of a temple built by Nabonidas, to the god Ur, which read: “May I, Nabonidas, king of Babylon, not sin against thee. And may

reverence for thee dwell in the heart of Belshazzar, my first-born favorite son.” From other inscriptions, it was learned that Belshazzar and Nabonidas were co-regents. Nabonidas traveled while Belshazzar stayed home to run the kingdom. Now that we know that Belshazzar and Nabonidas were co-regents, it makes sense that Belshazzar would say that Daniel would be the third ruler. What a marvelous nugget of truth tucked away in the Word of God!

Another external evidence that the Bible is truly God’s Word is the integrity of its human authors. As mentioned earlier, God used men from many walks of life to record His words. In studying the lives of these men, we find them to be honest and sincere. The fact that they were willing to die often excruciating deaths for what they believed testifies that these ordinary yet honest men truly believed God had spoken to them. The men who wrote the New Testament and many hundreds of other believers (1 Corinthians 15:6) knew the truth of their message because they had seen and spent time with Jesus Christ after He had risen from the dead. Seeing the risen Christ had a tremendous impact on them. They went from hiding in fear to being willing to die for the message God had revealed to them. Their lives and deaths testify to the fact that the Bible truly is God’s Word.

A final external evidence that the Bible is truly God’s Word is the indestructibility of the Bible. Because of its importance and its claim to be the very Word of God, the Bible has suffered more vicious attacks and attempts to destroy it than any other book in history. From early Roman

Emperors like Diocletian, through communist dictators and on to modern-day atheists and agnostics, the Bible has withstood and outlasted all of its attackers and is still today the most widely published book in the world.

Bible is exclusively the Word of God is because of its scientific accuracy.
There are many scientific facts recorded in the Bible.

The scientific fact concerning the shape of the earth. When the Italian scientist Galileo announced his finding that the earth was round, the people revolted against him and considered him a blasphemer. He was thrown in prison for being a heretic, however, twenty centuries before Galileo, Isaiah the prophet wrote under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit: “Have ye not known? Have ye not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning ? Have ye not understood from the foundation of the earth? It is He that sitteth upon the circle of the earth” (Is. 40:21-22).

The scientific fact concerning the revolution of the earth around itself. The prophet Job two thousand years B.C. said “He stretcheth out the north over an empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing” (Job 26:7). How did Job know that the earth hung in space before the age of modern astronomy and space travel? The American Astronaut, James Erwin said: “The most

wonderful thing I saw on my trip to the moon was seeing the earth like a globe floating in a vast space."

The scientific discovery of the science of meteorology concerning the water cycle. The Lord questioned Job and said to him, "Who has divided a channel for the overflowing water, or a path for the thunderbolt, to cause it to rain on a land where there is no one, a wilderness in which there is no man. To satisfy the desolate waste, and cause to spring forth the growth of tender grass?" (Job 38:25-27).

The scientific facts of the importance of the blood. "For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the alter to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul" (Lev. 17:11).

The scientific fact of the atomic energy. "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up" (2 Peter 3:9-11).

The scientific facts concerning genetics. "Then God said, let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yield fruit after its kind, whose seed is in itself on the

earth and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed after its kind" (Gen. 1:11-12)

The scientific fact about the effect of the moon "The sun shall not smite you by day nor the moon by night" (Ps. 121:6).

The scientific Fact that the moon has no light in itself. The prophet Job again said: Behold even the moon, and it shines not" (Job 25:5).

Jeremiah 33:22 claims that the stars of the heaven are innumerable. Hippocrates, before the invention of the telescope charted and numbered 1,022 stars. Kepler later recounted and revised the number. Today scientists agree with Jeremiah. There are billions just in our galaxy! It is interesting that the Bible makes the number of stars roughly equivalent to the number of grains of sand on the seashore (Genesis 22:17;Hebrews 11:12). Carl Sagan also compared these two, leaning towards the number of stars being greater. Amazingly, the latest estimates of the gross number of sand grains are comparable to the modern estimated number of stars in the universe!

Judges 5:20 mentions "the stars in their courses." While it was once believed that the stars were fixed, today we know that they too move in a predictable way.

Job 38:19 is accurate in the way it characterizes light. Note that darkness is in a place but light is in a way. It travels a path.

Job 38:24 indicates the light of the sun (by heating) makes the wind.

In Genesis 1:1 and Hebrews 1:10-12 the Bible is unequivocal that the universe had a beginning. When the Bible was written many people believed the universe was eternal. Starting with the studies of Albert Einstein in the early 1900's and continuing still today, science has confirmed the biblical view that the universe had a beginning.

Moreover, the universe is expanding (Job 9:8; Isaiah 42:5; Jeremiah 51:15; Zechariah 12:1). Repeatedly God declares that He stretches out the heavens. During the early 20th century, most scientists (including Einstein) believed the universe was static. Others believed it oscillated and would eventually collapsed due to gravity. Then in 1929, astronomer Edwin Hubble showed that distant galaxies were receding from the earth. This discovery revolutionized the field of astronomy. Einstein admitted his mistake, and today most astronomers agree with what the Creator told us millennia ago – the universe is expanding!

Job 36:27 asks how the rain drops stay small (discrete even in a strong wind)? One of the reasons is found in Psalm 135:5-7. Because of the electrical charges in the clouds, the rain drops

repel each other as they fall. This is why electrical static during a rain or snow storm can interrupt transmissions.

Ezekiel 5:5, 38:12 claims that Jerusalem is the center of the earth. ICR commissioned a computer analysis of the earth's land-masses and discovered that the geographic center is in Palestine, near the holy city.

Psalm 103:12 The Psalmist seeks to describe how far away God has removed the sins of those who have been forgiven. Interestingly, one can go west or east forever, unlike north and south.

Hebrews 1:11-12 describes the wearing down of the creation in language that nicely mirrors the second law of thermodynamics and II Peter 3:12 describes the heavens one day passing away in a fire that causes the elements to melt in fervent heat (a pretty accurate description of nuclear meltdown).

Ecclesiastes 1:4-6 describes the whirling motion of the winds and the movement of storm fronts long before the advent of modern meteorology. Unlike other ancient wisdom narratives, like The Book of Enoch 33:3-4, that claim the wind comes from a heavenly portal, this Biblical passage explains that the winds circle back to their starting point.

Ecclesiastes 1:7 says, “All streams flow into the sea, yet the sea is never full. To the place the streams come from, there they return again.” Such a correct view of the hydrologic cycle eluded ancient civilizations up until a few centuries ago. Only in recent times have scholars appreciated the remarkable significance of the clear, scientifically accurate description of water found in the Bible’s section of wisdom literature. For example, Job 36:27-28 states, “He draws up the drops of water, which distil as rain to the streams; the clouds pour down their moisture and Abundant showers fall on mankind” (Job 36:27-29).

Job 37:16 also gives significant meteorological information, including the balancing of the vapors in the clouds. Job 36:27 adds that the quantity of the rain is proportional to the amount of vapor aloft.

Job 26:7 The ancients Greeks believed that the world was held up by Atlas. Other civilizations held similar ideas. The Bible made an unusual claim: God did not hang the world on anything.

Psalms 8:8 discusses the “paths of the seas.” The story is told that when the man we call “the Father of Oceanography,” Matthew Fontaine Maury, read Psalm 8 the aforementioned phrase stuck in his mind. He later sought to confirm the idea and eventually wrote The Physical Geography of the Sea in 1855. It was the first textbook on modern oceanography. The state of Virginia erected a memorial to him that cites this passage.

Isaiah 40:22 Some have claimed that the Bible supports the flat earth theory.” But this passage declares that God sits upon the “circle of the earth.” (See also the mention in Proverbs 8:27 of a compass or a circle about the original earth.)

Job 38:13-14 conveys the idea of the earth rotating on its axis: “the earth...is turned as clay to the seal.”

In Luke 17:34-36 the worldwide event of Christ’s return is being discussed. The scientifically significant fact is that these verses allude to the different time zones around the globe long before the earth’s rotation was understood by scientists. Note that when Christ comes, some will be enjoying nighttime sleep while others are grinding in preparation for the day’s baking (typically morning) and others are working in the field (typically afternoon).

One of the directors of Standard Oil Company read in Exodus 2:3 how Moses was placed in an ark “daubed with slime and pitch.” He sent the company geologist Charles Whitshott to determine if there was still oil in that region. The discovery of oil led to Standard having very successful well operations in Egypt. (Tan, Paul L., Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations, p. 191.)

The practice of medical bleeding as a treatment (often with leeches) was common until the middle of the 19th century. Historians believe that George Washington’s bleeding caused his

death. (Thayer, William R., George Washington, 1922, p. 240) Ironically, by his bedside was a Bible that stated in Leviticus 17:11 “For the life of the flesh is in the blood.”

Linguists have determined that all the earth’s peoples must have originally shared a common language. That is precisely what the Bible declares in Genesis 11:1.

The concept of embodied in the laws of thermodynamics: the constant of the universe’s mass/energy and the universal tendency towards decay and disorder are clearly articulated in Ecclesiastes 3:14 and Romans 8:21-22.

Ancient cultures believed that the moon was the same size as the sun. For example, the Book of Enoch 77:3 declares their dimensions to be equal. They appear similar because the moon is so much closer to the Earth. But Genesis 1:16 stated it correctly. The Sun is approximately 400 times larger than the Moon.

Jonah wrote that there are mountains on the bottom of the ocean floor (Jonah 2:5-6). Only in the last century have we discovered that there are towering mountains and deep troughs in the sea.

In Job 38:16 God challenged Job to find the “springs of the sea.” But the ocean is so deep that almost all the ocean floor is in total darkness and the water pressure becomes enormous. It would have been impossible for Job to have explored the “springs of the sea.” Until recently, it

was thought that oceans were fed only by rivers and rain. Yet in the 1970s, with the help of deep diving research submarines that were constructed to withstand the pressure, oceanographers discovered springs on the ocean floor!

Much of the Old Testament Levitical law is comprised of health-related restrictions involving diet, cleansing, and quarantine. The book *None of These Diseases* by McMillen and Stern demonstrates the healthfulness of following that advice (especially in an agrarian society in the Middle East). Human medicine did not realize this until thousands of years after it was written! For example, the Bible cautions against consuming fat (Leviticus 7:23). Only in recent decades has the medical community determined that fat clogs arteries and contributes to heart disease. In Leviticus 11 the Scripture commanded Jews to avoid sea creatures which do not have fins or scales. We now know that bottom-feeders (those with no scales or fins) tend to consume waste and are more likely to carry disease. Then the Bible warns against eating birds of prey. Scientists now recognize that those birds which eat carrion (putrefying flesh), often spread disease. The Bible prohibited the Israelites from eating swine (Deuteronomy 14:8). Not so long ago, science learned that eating undercooked pork causes an infection of parasites called trichinosis. When dealing with diseases, the instruction was that clothes and body should be washed under running water (Leviticus 15:13). For centuries people naively washed in standing water. Today we recognize the need to wash away germs with fresh water.

The Bible declares that life begins at conception (Jeremiah 1:5) and God declares that He knew each of us before we were born (Psalm 139:13-15). In Exodus 21:22-23, the biblical penalty for killing an unborn child was death. Today, it is an irrefutable biological fact that the fertilized egg is truly an entire human being. Nothing will be added to the first cell except nutrition and oxygen.

The Bible commanded circumcision of baby Jewish boys on the eighth day. (See Genesis 17:12; Leviticus 12:3; Luke 1:59). Medical science has discovered that the blood clotting chemical prothrombin peaks in a newborn on the eighth day. This is therefore the safest day to circumcise a baby. How could Moses have known this?

Wise pest-control procedures are given in Leviticus 25:1-24. Modern farmers are still plagued by multiplying insects. Yet God gave a sure-fire remedy to control these pests centuries ago. Moses commanded Israel to set aside one year in seven when no crops were raised. Insects winter in the stalks of last year's harvest, hatch in the spring, and are perpetuated by laying eggs in the new crop. If the crop is denied one year in seven, the pests are controlled. And this promoted soil conservation.

Long before the theory of plate tectonics provided a mechanism for continental drift and before the German climatologist Alfred Wegener proposed an original supercontinent he called Pangea, the idea that the continents had drifted apart had been suggested by a creationist, Antonio

Snider. He was struck by the statement in Genesis 1:9-10 about God's gathering together the seas into one place and thought that there may have been only a single landmass. Noticing the close fit of the coastlines of western Africa and eastern South America, he proposed that a supercontinent underwent horizontal separation to form the existing continents catastrophically during the Flood.

When Noah was instructed to build the huge barge that would preserve his family and two of each kind of land creature, the Lord specified for him the perfect dimensions for a stable water vessel (Genesis 6:15). Ship builders today are well aware that the ideal dimension for ship stability is to have the length about six times that of the width. Dr. Werner Gitt demonstrated that the ark had the ideal dimensions to optimize both stability and economy of material. Yet God gave Noah these ideal dimensions over 4,500 years ago.

We note in Acts 7:22 that "Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians..." Yet the errant "scientific" practices of Egypt are absent in the first five books of the Bible, written by Moses approximately 1491-1451 B.C. The Torah is famous for its advanced knowledge about diet, hygiene, quarantine and sanitation. It far surpasses that possessed by the Egyptians and other ancient societies of that day (even including the Romans and Minoans). In fact, it far exceeded medical standards practiced as recently as the early 1900's in modern society.

Other verses could be cited. Just recently articles have been published claiming that the human rib is the only bone that has been shown to grow back. Is it merely a coincidence that this is the bone God took from Adam? A strong case has even been made that it is no accident that science has flourished to unprecedented levels in an era of Christian philosophy. Great classical scientists sought to seek God's thoughts after Him. The Biblical view gives reason to expect orderliness, laws, and repeatability that are the foundation for the scientific method.

Throughout time, skeptics have regarded the Bible as mythological, but archeology has confirmed it as historical. Opponents have attacked its teaching as primitive and outdated, but its moral and legal concepts and teachings have had a positive influence on societies and cultures throughout the world. It continues to be attacked by pseudo-science, psychology, and political movements, yet it remains just as true and relevant today as it was when it was first written. It is a book that has transformed countless lives and cultures throughout the last 2000 years. No matter how its opponents try to attack, destroy, or discredit it, the Bible remains; its veracity and impact on lives is unmistakable. The accuracy which has been preserved despite every attempt to corrupt, attack, or destroy it is clear testimony to the fact that the Bible is truly God's Word and is supernaturally PROTECTED by Him. It should not surprise us that, no matter how the Bible is attacked, it always comes out unchanged and unscathed. After all, Jesus said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away" (Mark 13:31). After looking at the evidence, one can say without a doubt that, yes, the Bible is truly God's Word.

Bible is exclusively the Word of God is because of the evidence of the many historical manuscripts.

All the translations of the many versions, which appeared throughout the centuries, confirm the truth of the Bible. However, we shall not attempt to present all the proofs and restrict our presentation to the following:

The Septuagint Version which Batlimus Philadephos asked 70 Jewish scholars to translate the Old Testament from the Hebrew to the Greek language in 285 B.C. This translation was popular before the birth of Christ and is still in existence today. This is a very clear evidence that the Old Testament is still intact and was not tampered with.

The Sinai Manuscript. It was found by scholar Chandorf in Saint Catherine's Convent at the bottom of Mount Sinai in Egypt. It goes back to the 4th century A.D. and it is kept at the British Museum in London, England.

The Vatican Manuscript. This edition was copied by an order of King Constantine and it dates back to 328 A.D. It is kept now in the Vatican Library in Rome. This copy contains the Old and the New Testament.

The Ephraim Manuscript. It dates back to 450 A.D. and it is kept in the National House of Books in Paris, France.

The Qumran Scrolls. Found in 1947 by a Jordanian shepherd boy in one of the caves on the hills of Qumran, Jordan, it is a complete manuscript of the book of Isaiah written in Hebrew with other books of the Old Testament except the book of Esther. One of the famous archeologists Dr. Albright gave the date of its writing period a few hundred years before Christ.

The Alexandria Manuscript. Dated 400 A.D. this manuscript contains the entire Bible, and it is kept in the British Museum.

The Bezae Manuscript. From 450 A.D. this manuscript contains the four gospels, the book of Acts, is written in the Greek and the Latin languages, and is kept in Cambridge, England

Bible is not a book of the month, but the Book of the ages. First Peter 1:25 says: “But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the Word which by the gospel is preached unto you.” No book has ever had as much opposition as the Bible. Men have laughed at it, scorned it, burned it, ridiculed it, and made laws against it. But the Word of God has survived. And it is applicable today as much as it was yesterday and will be tomorrow.

It's so majestically deep that scholars could swim and never touch the bottom. Yet so wonderfully shallow that a little child could come and get a drink of water without fear of drowning. That is God's precious, holy Word. The Word of God. Know it. Believe it. It is True.

The Bible's revelation of God. The Bible's revelation of God is unique among all the religious writings of either antiquity or of more modern times. While the Bible is a very ethical book, it never divorces its code of morality from a personal relationship with the God of the Bible, teaching that God's laws are not meant to hinder joy and pleasure, but to enhance man's capacity to know and love God and people. Morality is to be a product of knowing and loving the God of the Bible (Deut. 4:4-6; Matt. 22:36-40; Mark 12:28-31).


In addition, no other religious writing presents both the absolute holiness of God combined with God's love, mercy, and grace that reaches out to sinful man who has been separated from God not only because of man's sin, but because of God's absolute holiness. One of the great revelations and themes of the Bible is that which is expressed by Isaiah, "holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts" (Isa. 6:3; Hab. 1:13a).

The nature, condition, and cure for man's sin. Only the Bible describes man's condition in sin as it really is and demonstrates the impossibility for man to deal with his sin and sinfulness apart from God's grace solution in the person and death of His Son. Every other religion in the world, past and present, has man seeking to obtain his own salvation or gain God's favor by some form

of human works or religious activity. Only the Bible presents a solution for man's sin that is truly life changing, when properly embraced and believed.

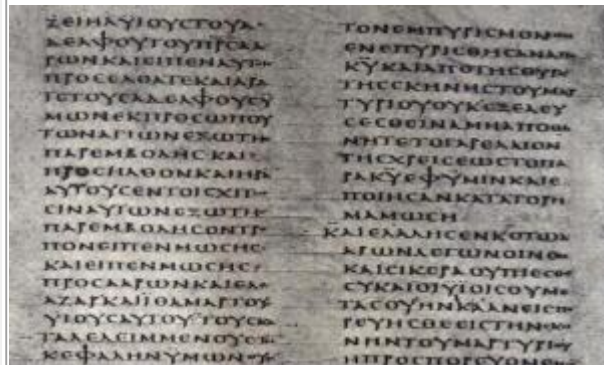
The ethics and morals of the Bible. The ethics and morals of the Bible cover all areas of human conduct from the home, the husband/wife relationships, parent/child relationships, to human conduct in society as with employers and employees, neighbors and enemies, and the state and its citizens. It covers morals on all levels as well as business, economic, and social spheres. But as mentioned previously, the ethics and morals of the Bible are unique in that they are always related to one's belief in the existence of God and one's relationship with Him; in this way, the motives themselves are judged. Ethics and morals are never simply a matter of outward conformity to the moral standards of Scripture as other religions or religious books do. The emphasis of the Bible is "search me O God, and know my heart."

Old Testament Manuscript History

Manuscript	History
	<p>Dead Sea Scrolls</p> <p>In March 1947 a young Arab boy discovered in the caves of Qumran near the Dead Sea jars containing several leather manuscripts dating to the time of Christ. The belonged to the Essenes. The Essenes were a Jewish sect that settled in the Judean desert near Qumran. Other manuscripts were found over the next 10 years. 2 copies of the book of Isaiah were found along with books and fragments from the whole Old Testament except for the book of Ester.</p> <p>Prior to the discovery the oldest existing book of the Hebrew Old Testament dated to about 1000 AD. Carbon dating has placed them between 168 BC and 233 AD. Archaeology puts the dates at between 150 BC to 100 AD.</p> <p>Gleason Archer observed that the two copies of Isaiah proved to be word for word identical with our standard Hebrew Bible in more than 95% of the text. The 5% of variation consisted</p>

chiefly of obvious slips of the pen and variations in spelling. The scrolls gave an overwhelming confirmation of the Masoretic text. Some of the variants show parallels to the Greek text of the Septuagint (LXX).

The Dead Sea Scrolls are owned by the Nation of Israel



The Septuagint or the LXX

The LXX version is the first translation of the OT ever made.

The translation was inaugurated by Ptolemy of Philadelphus (285-247 BC) Ptolemy was fond of books and wanted to add the Hebrew Pentateuch to his collection in Alexandria. The LXX was the bible of the early church. The order of OT books is derived from the LXX through the Vulgate by St. Jerome.

On the basis of the LXX Catholics advocate the “Larger” canon of the Jews in Alexandria. Protestants deny the existence of an independent canon in Alexandria in view of the “smaller” canon of the Jews in Palestine. The difference is 7 complete books and portions of 2 others. The books are Tobit, Judith, Wisdom, Sirach, Baruch, I & 2 Macabees and additions to Daniel and Esther.

These portions are rejected by protestants.

The oldest existing LXX manuscript is dated 350 A.D which is.



Samaritan Pentateuch

With the split of the Samaritans from the Jews from the 8th century BC there arose a second Hebrew revision of the Pentateuch known as the Samaritan Pentateuch. It contains the five books of Moses and is written in Paleo-Hebrew script similar to the that found on the Moabite Stone, Siloam inscription.

Author Frank Cross believes the Samaritan Pentateuch branched off in the Pre- Masoretic text in the the 2nd century BC.

There are differences from the Masoretic text are trivial and orthographic. Some of the differences were introduced by Samaritans with the interest in preserving their status. Such as the location of the Arc. The oldest existing manuscript is dated to the 11th century AD.



Aleppo Codex (900 AD)

The Aleppo Codex dates from the Masoretic period (500-1000 AD) of Old Testament copying. During this period there was a deep reverence of the Scriptures, complete review of established rules and a systematic renovation of transmission technique. Aleppo was written by Shelomo ben Baya'a but according to a colophon it was pointed (vowel marks were added) by Moses ben Asher (930 A.D.) It is a model codex based on the Masoretic text. It was not permitted to be copied for a long time and was reported to be destroyed. Aleppo Codex was smuggled from Syria to Israel. It has now been photographed and will be the basis of the New Hebrew Bible to be published by Hebrew University. It is a sound authority for the Ben Asher text.

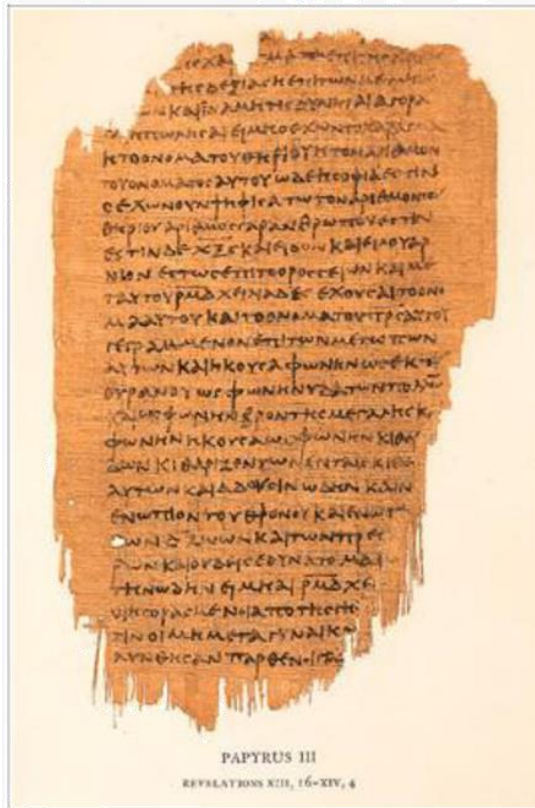
NEW TESTAMENT
MANUSCRIPTS

HISTORY



The John Rylands Fragment John 18:31-33 (117-138 AD)

The earliest known copy of any portion of the New Testament is from a papyrus codex (2.5 by 3.5 inches). It dates from the first half of the second century A.D. 117-138. (P.52) The papyrus is written on both sides and contains portions of five verses from the gospel of John (18:31-33,37-38). Because this fragment was found in Egypt a distance from the place of composition (Asia Minor) it demonstrates the chain of transmission. The fragment belongs to the John Rylands Library at Manchester, England



Chester Beatty Papyri (250 AD)

This important papyri consists of three codices and contains most of the New Testament. (P.45, P.46, P.47). The first codex(P.45) has 30 leaves (pages) of papyrus codex. 2 from Matthew, 2 from John, 6 from Mark, 7 from Luke and 13 from Acts. Originally there were 220 pages measuring 8x10 inches each. (P.46)The second codex has 86 leaves 11x6.5 inches. 104 pages of Paul's epistles. P.47 is made of 10 leaves from Revelation measuring 9.5 by 5.5 inches.



Bodmer Papyri (200 AD)

Dating from 200 A.D. or earlier the Bodmer collection of Papyri (P.66,P.72,P.75) contains 104 leaves. P.66 Contains the Gospel of John 1:1-6:11, 6:35-14:26, 14-21. P.72 has the earliest known copy of Jude, I Peter, and 2 Peter also contains other Canonical and apocryphal books. P.72 measures 6 x 5.75 inches. P.75 is 102 pages measuring 10.25 by 5.33 inches. Contains most of Luke and John dated between 175 and 225 AD. Earliest known copy of Luke. Very similar to the Codex Vaticanus.



CODEX SINATICUS (340 AD)

Considered to the most important witness to the Greek text of the New Testament dated in the 4th century. Sinaiticus was found at St. Catherine's monastery at Mt. Sinai by Von Tischendorf (1815-1874). It was acquired for the Czar of Russia. Sinaiticus contains over 1/2 of the Old Testament (LXX) and all of the new except for Mark 16:9-20 and John 7:53-8:11.. Also contains the Old Testament Apocrypha. Sinaiticus is written on 364.5 pages measuring 13.5 by 14 inches. The material is good vellum made from antelope skins. Purchased by the British government for \$500,000 in 1933.



Codex Vaticanus (325-350 AD)

Vaticanus was written in the middle of the 4th century and was not known to textual scholars till 1475 when it was catalogued in the Vatican Library. For the next 400 years scholars were prohibited from studying it. It includes most of the LXX version of the Old Testament and most of the New. It contains 759 leaves measuring 10 by 10.5 inches. Codex Vaticanus is owned by the Roman Catholic Church and is housed in the Vatican Library, Vatican City.

Archeology

Archeology cannot prove that the Bible is the word of God. But it certainly could provide evidence that either supports the contention that it is, or it can provide evidence that it is not. The fact is that archeology provides evidence that does point to the authorship of the Bible as being Divine. There are thousands of examples that could be used to illustrate how the Bible is corroborated by archeology, but we wish to select just two as representative, the cities of Jericho and Nineveh.

Jericho

The story of Joshua and the battle of Jericho is recorded in Joshua 6 in the Old Testament. Following the 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, the people of Israel crossed the Jordan River under the leadership of Joshua, who replaced Moses as the earthly captain of God's people. Israel prepared to conquer the walled city of Jericho by marching around the city walls once a day for six days. On the seventh day, they marched around the city seven times, and at the blast of a trumpet, the people shouted. According to the Bible account, the walls of the city fell down flat; and the fighting men of Israel, who had the city surrounded, went straight to the center of the city, killing everyone (with the exception of a woman named Rehab, and her family). Then they burned the city with fire.

Here is a strange story. To the so called thinking man of the 20th century, such stories belong to the realm of mythology. But what is the evidence from archeology?

"Dr. John Garstang, director of the British School of Archeology in Jerusalem and of the Department of Antiquities of the Palestine Government, excavated the ruins of Jericho, 1929-1936. He found pottery and scarab evidence that the city had been destroyed about 1400 BC, coinciding with Joshua's date; and in a number of details, dug up evidence confirming the Biblical account in a most remarkable way."

"'The wall fell down flat.' Dr. Garstang found that the wall did actually 'fall down flat.' The wall was double, the two walls being 15 ft apart; the outer wall, 6 ft thick; the inner wall, 12 ft thick; both being about 30 ft high. They were built, not very substantially, on faulty uneven foundations, of brick 4 inches thick and 1 to 2 ft long, laid in mud mortar. The two walls were linked together by houses built across the top, as Rahab's 'house on the wall.' Dr. Garstang

found that the outer wall fell outwards and down the hillside, dragging the inner wall and houses with it, the streak of bricks gradually getting thinner down the slope. The foundation walls of the palace, 4 courses of stone high, remain, in situ, tilted downward. Dr. Garstang thinks there are indications that the wall was shaken down by an earthquake (of which traces may be seen), a method which God could have used as easily as any other.

"‘They burnt the city with fire.’ ... Signs of the conflagration and destruction were very marked. Garstang found great layers of charcoal and ashes and the wall ruins reddened by fire. The outer wall suffered most. Houses alongside the wall were burned to the ground. The stratum generally was covered with a deep layer of black burnt debris, under which there were pockets of white ash, overlaid with a layer of fallen reddish brick" (*Halley's Bible Handbook*, Zondervan Press; comments on Joshua 6).

This is solid archeological evidence which verifies the Biblical account. The record, written in the earth 3400 years ago, tells the same story, as nearly as it is possible to determine, as is recorded in the Bible.

Nineveh

We come now to the second of our cities, Nineveh. Nineveh is famous chiefly as being the city to which Jonah was sent after being swallowed and then vomited up by the great fish. Nineveh is described in the Bible as "an exceedingly great city, a three days walk" ([Jonah 3:3](#)), and containing "more than 120,000 persons who do not know the difference between their right and left hands" ([Jonah 4:11](#)). A city with 120,000 babies or very small children is a large city even by today's standards.

"So completely had all traces of the glory of the Assyrian Empire [of which Nineveh was the capital] disappeared that many scholars had come to think that the references to it in the Bible and other ancient histories were mythical; and that in reality such a city and such an Empire never existed."

"In 1820 an Englishman, Claude James Rich, spent 4 months sketching the mounds across the Tigris from Mosul, which he suspected were the ruins of Nineveh. In 1845 Layard definitely identified the site; and he and his successors uncovered the ruins of the magnificent palaces of the Assyrian kings, whose names have now become household words, and hundreds of thousands of inscriptions in which we read the history of Assyria as the Assyrians themselves wrote it, and which to a remarkable degree confirm the Bible" (*Halley's Bible Handbook*, Zondervan Press, comments on Nahum).

The scoffers and doubters of the early 1800's were using the lack of secular evidence about Nineveh to try to convince many that the Bible was in error, and that it therefore could not be the word of God. And, as has happened time after time, after further examination, the Bible has been shown to be completely accurate.

Even the story of Jonah is somewhat verified by archeological finds in Nineveh. According to the Bible, Jonah had preached, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh will be overthrown" ([Jonah3:4](#)). As a result of his preaching, the whole city changed its attitude and behavior, and in consequence God did not destroy the city. If this really happened - if Jonah really had such an impact on such a large city - we would expect to find some evidence of that man's existence. Because of the Bible's accuracy in such matters, we are not surprised when we read, "The second largest

mound in Nineveh is called 'Yunas.' 'Yunas' is the native word for 'Jonah.' The mound covers 40 acres and is 100 ft. high. It contains the reputed tomb of Jonah. This was one of the indications to Rich that these were the ruins of Nineveh, and led to their identification"

(Halley's Bible Handbook, Zondervan Press, comments on Jonah).

Another major find in the ruins of Nineveh was the library of Assurbanipal. "Perhaps the most epochal discovery ever made." Uncovered by Layard, Rassam, and Rawlison, 1852-1854, in the palace of Sennacherib. Originally contained 100,000 volumes. About a third of it has been recovered and is in the British Museum. Assurbanipal was something of an archeologist; had his scribes search and copy the libraries of ancient Babylon, of an age 2000 years before his day.

Thus to him we are indebted for preserving knowledge of primitive Babylonian literature" *(Halley's Bible Handbook, Zondervan Press, comments on Nahum).* This library is the source of thousands of details which may be used to verify the Bible account of history for more than 2000 years of ages past.

Summary

We have for our section entitled *Archeology* selected just two cities, Jericho and Nineveh. In both of these we have seen how archeology confirms the Bible record. And this is typical of a long list - Memphis, Babylon, Sidon, and Megiddo, just to name a few of the cities which the Bible accurately describes. The Bible's accuracy makes it a continuing guide to major archeological finds in the Middle East. If the Bible were merely a collection of legends handed down through the years, there would be numerous errors in it. *The absence of such errors warrants the conclusion that the Bible is more than such a collection.*

Evolution vs. Creation

We now wish to deal with evolution and its relationship to the Bible. Evolution is a widely-believed theory which postulates that life on earth has come to its present state through millions of years of progression from lower forms of life.

In contrast, the Bible states that the earth and its life forms were created in six days some 6000 years ago. The Bible further defines one day as "morning and evening" ([Genesis1:5](#)). Those who believe that the Bible is the word of God are compelled to believe in a literal six days of creation. The voice of God Himself spoke from Mt. Sinai in the giving of the fourth commandment: "For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore God blessed the Sabbath day, and made it holy" ([Exodus20:11](#)). In two specific ways the Old Testament defines a "day" of creation as corresponding closely to our normal 24-hour day.

Not only that, but the Lord Jesus in the New Testament confirms the shortness of the time of creation. "But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female" ([Mark10:6](#)). If it had taken man a long time to come into existence after creation was initiated, then man and woman would not have been there at the time Jesus called "the beginning of creation." A person who believes in the Bible is forced to believe in a literal six days of creation.

If evolution is correct, the Bible obviously is not the literal word of God. And, as a matter of fact, widespread belief in evolution is one of the major reasons why many people do not believe in the Bible.

Consider the scope of evolution (see Figure 1). Evolution is rooted in the concept that the earth began four to five *billion* years ago when material in the universe, such as a giant dust cloud, came together to form a swirling, molten ball. Over a period of three to four billion years this molten ball cooled down.

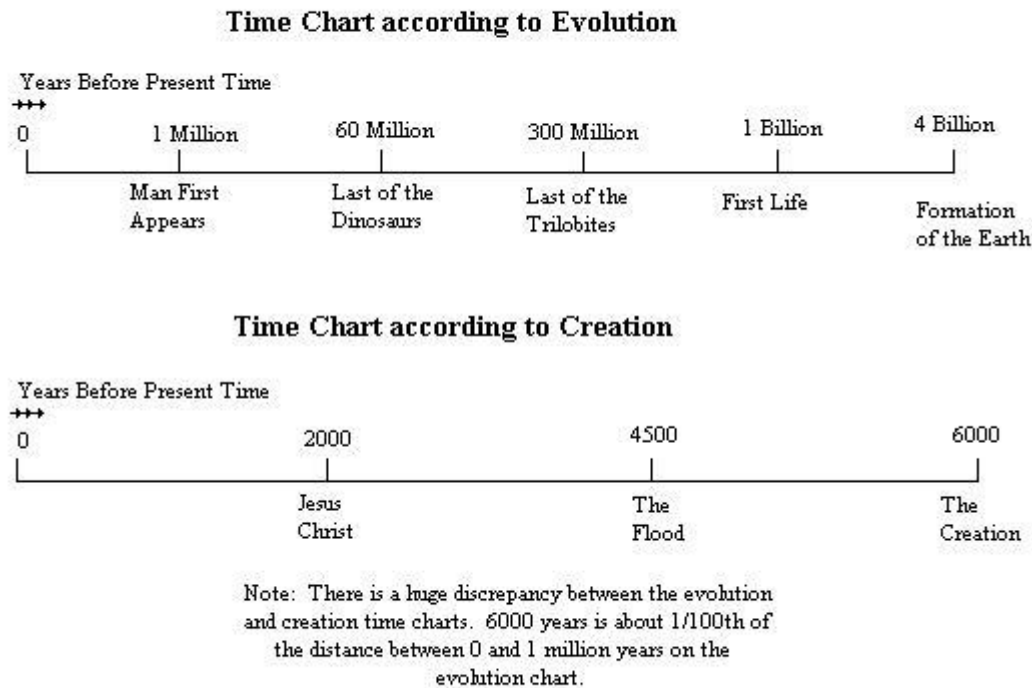


Figure 1

By one billion years ago the earth was covered with a seething solution of water, ammonia, and related chemicals, bubbling with methane gas. This brew is known as the "primeval broth." All the chemicals necessary for life were present in exactly the right amounts at exactly the right temperature. Then lightning (or some other stimulus) struck the mixture, the chemicals came together in exactly the right combinations, and life began as a primitive cell started to function. From this primitive cell different life forms began to evolve. By 500 million years ago primitive plants had evolved, as well as primitive animals related to clams and snails. One of the most predominant forms of these shelled animals was the trilobite.

Trilobites existed from 500 million to 300 million years ago, and then they died out (*Encyclopedia Americana*, 1968 Ed.; Vol.21, pp.186-194; *Paleontology*).

By 200 million years ago reptiles had replaced these earlier crustaceans as the dominant form of life. The giant reptiles, the dinosaurs, lumbered over the earth, unchallenged as kings, for 140 million years. With the shifting climate, reptiles such as these were unable to compete with the rapidly evolving mammals, and by 60 million years ago, the age of dinosaurs had drawn to a close as the last of the "terrible lizards" wheezed his last breath.

The Cenozoic Era is the age of mammals. This Era began 60 million years ago and has lasted up to the present. By the beginning of this era, primitive mammals had begun to evolve, and by the middle of the Era giant mammals nearly as large as dinosaurs roamed over the earth. Step by step each group of mammals gave way to a more advanced form, until one million years ago *homo sapiens*, modern man, appeared on the scene. Today he totally dominates the earth, and will continue to do so until he gives way to a higher form of life.

The Bible, in contrast, teaches that the earth began some 6000 years ago, and that all animals and plants were formed in the beginning. Following the flood, which occurred roughly 4500 years ago, the climate of the earth was apparently radically changed, and many forms of life which once existed became extinct.

Having presented these two views concerning the origin of man, we want to consider some very pertinent facts. And we want to see which view - Bible Creation or Evolution - is more consistent with these facts.

Fact Number 1: Near Glen Rose, Texas, in the bed of the Paluxy River, are fossilized dinosaur tracks. That is not surprising, because dinosaur tracks are found in many places throughout the world. What is surprising is that human footprints are fossilized in the same rock stratum, with some of the human tracks fossilized as actually stepping into the dinosaur tracks. (There is some controversy currently concerning the human tracks in the Paluxy. Because the tracks themselves are powerful a refutation of evolution, the controversy is not unexpected. You will need to see them yourself.)

According to evolutionary theory, dinosaurs died out 60 million years before man, with his distinctive footprint, walked on the face of the earth. But here is a fact, preserved in stone for anyone to see, proving that man and dinosaur lived at the same time. Furthermore, the limestone edge which must be ripped away to get to some of the tracks makes it clear that the tracks are of "normal dinosaur age."

This fact - that man and dinosaur lived at the same time - is a bull in the evolutionary china closet. It wrecks everything! If man existed with dinosaurs, then man did not evolve from

dinosaurs. And if man did not evolve from dinosaurs, then neither did the other mammals. And if mammals did not evolve from dinosaurs, this throws that "most accurate" portion of the evolutionary chart out the window. And with the "most accurate" portion of evolution gone the "less accurate" portion of the chart, from "first life" down to dinosaurs, is extremely questionable.

But notice that the Bible model, stating that all things lived together at the beginning, predicts that we should find evidence of both man and dinosaur living at the same time in the same place. Fact Number 2: "George Howe in the Creation Research Quarterly of December 1968 reports the find of William Meister in Utah of a sandal footprint with crushed trilobites in it!" (*The Christ and the Intertestament Period*, Wartick and Fields, College Press, Joplin, MO; "The Christian and Evolution," p.686).

According to evolutionary theory, trilobites died out some 300 million years ago. According to the Bible, trilobites and man lived at the same time. That fact that a living trilobite was crushed by a human sandal, and then fossilized, is hard to explain unless the Bible is true.

Other Questions: What about the fossil record, uranium dating, mutations, and other items discovered by science which are generally accepted as verifying evolution? All of these are discussed very completely in an excellent book written by a group of eminent scientists, and edited by Henry M. Morris of the Institute for Creation Research, entitled *Scientific Creationism* (published by Creation-Life Publishers, San Diego, CA 92115).

The use of radioactive uranium and its decay into lead as a means of dating the age of the earth at 4.5 billion years is invalid because of certain assumptions which are basic to the method (that

all lead in the sample was derived from the original uranium is one of the assumptions). For example, in testing the ages of some lava rocks, it was found that "most of them gave ages of over a billion years, even though the lava rocks were known to have been formed in modern times" (p.143).

Rocks are usually dated by the kinds of fossils found in them or in rock layers near them. The age of a fossil is determined by its complexity - simple fossils are *assumed* to be old, and complex fossils are *assumed* to be more recent. "The fossils speak of evolution because they have been made to speak of evolution" (p.96).

Mutation, the mechanism upon which evolution depends for one form to evolve into a higher form, is always harmful rather than helpful."... a truly beneficial mutation... has yet to be documented" (p.56).

Even a simple cell could not have been formed by the mechanics of random action in 30 billion years (p.62).

The Second Law of Thermodynamics states that everything in the universe is tending toward decay, or disorder. For instance, in accordance with the Second Law of Thermodynamics, each year it takes the earth a small fraction of a second longer to make its annual revolution around the sun. The Second Law also applies to living systems. Because the Law forces all things toward decay or degeneration, it is impossible for there to be any long-term upgrading from lower life forms to more advanced forms."We are warranted, then, in concluding that the evolutionary process . . . is completely precluded by the Second Law of Thermodynamics"(p.45).

It is interesting that the Bible is entirely consistent with the Second Law of Thermodynamics, even going so far as to make a word statement of it: "For the creation was *subjected to futility*, not of its own will, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its *slavery to corruption...*" ([Romans 8:20,21](#)). The Second Law predicts no new life forms, and general decay from a good beginning. So does the Bible: "And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good" ([Genesis 1:31](#)).

The conclusion is apparent: evolution does not invalidate the Bible. Rather, the *facts* connected with the fossil record and natural science are consistent with the Bible, and tend to verify it rather than evolution.

Summary

In our discussion concerning the Bible as the word of God, we have discussed two subjects, archeology and evolution. The Bible can be shown to be accurate in regard to archeology, which points to divine authorship of its history. And the facts of natural science, rather than relegating the Bible to the realms of mythology as is widely assumed, tend to verify the Bible's accuracy! If the Bible gives evidence of being the word of God and it is reliable when it speaks historically, prophetically, etc.; then it is also likely to be trustworthy when it speaks theologically and gives the simple plan of salvation as follows...

- You are a sinner. (Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.")
- The penalty for sin is eternal death, separation from God. (Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.")

- Christ died as a substitute, paying your penalty (Romans 5:8 “But God showed His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.”)
- If you repent and call upon Jesus to save you, He promises you eternal life as a free gift. (Romans 10:13 “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”)

The Bible is very clear in making an exclusive claim on the path to God. “He that believes on the Son has everlasting life; but he that believes not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abides on him”. (John 3:36) “Jesus said unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man comes unto the Father, but by me” (John 14:6).

28 Bible Verses about The Word <http://dailyverses.net/the-word>

How many translations of the Bible exist today? How many churches/religions use the Bible, or parts of it? Does Judaism use an English translation of the Hebrew Scriptures? (Search the Internet on keywords such as Judaism or Jewish Scriptures.)

Try the Library of Congress’ exhibit on the Dead Sea Scrolls for further archaeological and historical reference. See <http://sunsite.unc.edu/expo/deadsea.scrolls.exhibit/intro.html>

Also, see “Is the Bible Fact or Fiction?”, Time, December 18, 1995, for archeological data supporting biblical events.

Now we can say, Bible is breathed of God, that God wrote it. As a result, it is thoroughly relevant in every single age because God is timeless. And so there's aspects of it that are a little archaic but there is something useful in every single passage of scripture for people living today. Whenever you read something in the Bible where God says don't do this, He's not trying to spoil your fun. He in His great wisdom knows there's something on the other side of that line that will hurt you if you go there and it is out of His immense, amazing love that He puts boundaries in place for us." Even the boundaries in scripture help us today because we know that there's something on the other side that will help us. Everything in scripture helps us in someway, because it is God breathed, it is written by God Himself, to the people He loves.

The Bible is all around us. People hear Scripture readings in church. We have Good Samaritan (Luke 10) laws, welcome home the Prodigal Son (Luke 15), and look for the Promised Land (Exodus 3, Hebrews 11). Some biblical passages have become popular maxims, such as "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you (Matthew 7:12)," "Thou shalt not steal (Exodus 20:15), and "love thy neighbor" (Matthew 22:39).

Today every human person is called to take an intelligent, spiritual approach to the bible.

Listed here are 10 points for fruitful Scripture reading.

Bible reading is for Every human person. The Church encourages every human person to make reading the Bible part of their daily prayer lives. Reading these inspired words, people grow deeper in their relationship with God and come to understand their place in the community God has called them to in himself.

Prayer is the beginning and the end. Reading the Bible is not like reading a novel or a history book. It should begin with a prayer asking the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds to the Word of God. Scripture reading should end with a prayer that this Word will bear fruit in our lives, helping us to become holier and more faithful people.

Get the whole story! [When selecting a Bible, look for a Catholic edition.](#) A Catholic edition will include the Church's complete list of sacred books along with introductions and notes for understanding the text. A Catholic edition will have an *imprimatur* notice on the back of the title page. An *imprimatur* indicates that the book is free of errors in Catholic doctrine.

Approved TRANSLATIONS of the Bible as entrusted by Canon Law:

he 1983 Code of Canon Law entrusts to the Apostolic See and the episcopal conferences the authority to approve translations of the Sacred Scriptures in the Latin Catholic Church (c. 825, §1). Prior to 1983, Scriptural translations could be approved by the Apostolic See or by a local ordinary within a diocese.

What follows is a complete list of the translations of the Sacred Scriptures that have received the approval of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops since 1983.

In addition to the translations listed below, any translation of the Sacred Scriptures that has received proper ecclesiastical approval – namely, by the Apostolic See or a local ordinary prior to 1983, or by the Apostolic See or an episcopal conference following 1983 – may be used by the Catholic faithful for private prayer and study.

Books of the New Testament, Alba House

Contemporary English Version - New Testament, First Edition, American Bible Society

Contemporary English Version - Book of Psalms, American Bible Society

Contemporary English Version - Book of Proverbs, American Bible Society

The Grail Psalter (Inclusive Language Version), G.I.A. Publications

New American Bible, Revised Edition (NABRE)

New Revised Standard Version, Catholic Edition, National Council of Churches

The Psalms, Alba House

The Psalms (New International Version) - St. Joseph Catholic Edition, Catholic Book Publishing Company

The Psalms - St. Joseph New Catholic Version, Catholic Book Publishing Company

Revised Psalms of the New American Bible (1991)

So You May Believe, A Translation of the Four Gospels, Alba House

Good News Translation (Today's English Version, Second Edition), American Bible Society

Translation for Early Youth, A Translation of the New Testament for Children, Contemporary English Version, American Bible Society

The Bible isn't a book. It's a library. The Bible is a collection of 73 books written over the course of many centuries. The books include royal history, prophecy, poetry, challenging letters to struggling new faith communities, and believers' accounts of the preaching and passion of Jesus. Knowing the genre of the book you are reading will help you understand the literary tools the author is using and the meaning the author is trying to convey.

Know what the Bible is – and what it isn't. The Bible is the story of God's relationship with the people he has called to himself. It is not intended to be read as history text, a science book, or a political manifesto. In the Bible, God teaches us the truths that we need for the sake of our salvation.

The sum is greater than the parts. Read the Bible in context. What happens before and after – even in other books – helps us to understand the true meaning of the text.

The Old relates to the New. The Old Testament and the New Testament shed light on each other. While we read the Old Testament in light of the death and resurrection of Jesus, it has its own value as well. Together, these testaments help us to understand God's plan for human beings.

You do not read alone. By reading and reflecting on Sacred Scripture, every human person join those faithful men and women who have taken God's Word to heart and put it into practice in their lives. We read the Bible within the tradition of the Church to benefit from the holiness and wisdom of all the faithful.

What is God saying to me? The Bible is not addressed only to long-dead people in a faraway land. It is addressed to each of us in our own unique situations. When we read, we need to understand what the text says and how the faithful have understood its meaning in the past. In light of this understanding, we then ask: What is God saying to me?

Reading isn't enough. If Scripture remains just words on a page, our work is not done. We need to meditate on the message and put it into action in our lives. Only then can the word be "living and effective."(Hebrews 4:12).

We all know there is a battle in our life. This is the battle between God and Evil(fallen angels) to capture our souls. This battle started when God gave full freedom to the first family adam and eve and they misused their freedom by sidelining with demon. But this battle will end when the Gospel is preached to every human person on earth and Jesus will come back. If you would like more information about God's simple plan of salvation or how to live in a way pleasing to your

Creator...Call a Catholic Church or any Bible believing, preaching church. What is a Church? Is it a building? Is it an institution? It was founded by Christ. Jesus said to Peter, “You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church” (Matthew 16:18) the word “church” designates the liturgical assembly, but also the local community or the whole universal community of believers. These three meanings are inseparable. “The Church” is the People that God gathers in the whole world. She exists in local communities and is made real as a liturgical, above all a Eucharistic, assembly. She draws her life from the word and the Body of Christ and so herself becomes Christ’s Body. and its HE instituted all the sacraments – Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders, Anointing of the Sick. The Catholic Mass was also instituted by Jesus Christ, please do attend mass– even many who had no idea about Jesus Christ or Church came to know the Whole truth of life by attending the mass without any clue at the beginning since Christ is present there in Word and Eucharist which is shared in mass.