



Why the Bible? And What is It? PART TWO

CAN I TRUST THE BIBLE?

The Bible is the most sold, studied, and scrutinized book in all of human history.

We defend the veracity of Scripture because of the hope we have in Jesus' resurrection.

¹⁴But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened." ¹⁵But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

1 Peter 3:14-16 (NIV)

The veracity of Scripture is founded in logic.

¹²So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. ¹³I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, ¹⁴because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. ¹⁵And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things.

2 Peter 1:12-15 (NIV)

The Bible is a reliable collection of poetry, history, romance, prophecy, and letters.

- **Literary accuracy because of corroboration**
- **Manuscript evidence**
- **Archaeological evidence**
- **Falsifiable claims**

The Bible was written by contemporaries.

- **Contemporary - *noun* - a person or thing living or existing at the same time as another**

The Bible contains eyewitness accounts of God's supernatural intervention.

The Bible contains the story of Jesus, who fulfilled very specific prophecies.

The Bible contains claims of divine inspiration.

¹⁶for we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.

¹⁹We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. ²¹For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:16-21 (NIV)

"I choose to believe the Bible because it is a reliable collection of historical documents, written by eyewitnesses during the lifetime of other eyewitnesses, reporting supernatural events that took place in fulfillment of specific prophecies and claimed their writings are Divine and not of human origin."

Voddie Baucham

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TEACHING BIG IDEA

I can trust the reliability of the Bible because of evidence, eyewitnesses, and logic.

It is logical and rational to trust the Bible.

Voddie Baucham

The Old Testament narrative points to Jesus; the New Testament narrative tells us of His life, ministry, death, and resurrection and gives us wisdom on how we should live.

¹Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand.

²By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. ⁶After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸ and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

1 Corinthians 15:1-8 (NIV)

SERIES BIG IDEA

Jesus' resurrection gives me the confidence to trust scripture to guide my beliefs and actions.



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TEACHING SUMMARY:

The B-I-B-L-E, yes that's the book for me, I stand alone on the word of God....

Many of us grew up singing that song and believing the words of the Bible without question.

But as we got older many people encountered arguments against the validity of the Bible that made sense and we began to question our beliefs.

The Bible is the single most scrutinized book in human history and defending it can feel like a big job but the evidence is there. Archeological finds, textual criticism, and first-hand accounts of the events in the Bible can all point to the truthfulness, power, and authority of scripture.

Will you take the time to examine the evidence, see what it points to, and let the evidence guide your conclusions? If so you will find that the resurrection of Jesus will confirm your belief in the Bible and anchor your trust in the only true God.

TALK IT OVER:

Have you ever had doubts about the validity of the Bible? If so why?

Does any of the evidence presented today help you in your beliefs?

What stood out to you as evidence that you hadn't thought about before? Will this help you in future conversations with people?

What is one next step you can take today?

DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Mon: Acts 17:10-12

Tue: Exodus 14:1-31

Wed: Matthew 12:38-41; Jonah 1-2:10

Thu: Genesis 6:9-8:22; Mathew 24:30-39

Fri: 2 Kings 6:1-6; 2 Kings 5:1-16

Sat: Psalm 22:1-18 & Luke 23: 34-35;
Micah 5:2 & Matthew 2:1-6