

Placing confidence in the word of God is not at all a matter of blind faith. It is a reasonable exercise of faith with plenty of credible evidence to support it.

However, I'm fairly certain that this simple reading leaves you unconvinced. In closing, I'd like to ask you an important question. Have you ever read the Bible? I mean the whole thing—every word on every page of every book. I challenge you to do it. I challenge you to prove me wrong when I say that reading the Bible will convince you that it is true and it is the word of God like nothing else can or will.

When you take me up on that challenge, not only will you be brought face to face with the most amazing book on the face of this earth, you'll also be brought to realize that you are a sinner in desperate need of a Savior. And you'll be confronted with the fact that the only Savior is the Lord Jesus Christ. You'll read how He loved you, bled for you, died for you, and rose again for you, and that not until you repent of your sin and pride and cast your soul on His mercy will you find the forgiveness and satisfaction your conscience and your soul long for. And when you call on His name for salvation, you'll find hope in a promise that can never be broken. He will give you everlasting life.

Romans 10:13 *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

Titus 1:2 *In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;*

Romans 10:17 *So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

If you have trusted Jesus Christ as your Savior, or if you have any questions regarding spiritual matters, please contact us at:

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EVIDENCE FOR INSPIRATION

by David A. Brown

The Bible clearly claims that its words—all of its words—are divinely inspired. That it contains NOT the words of men but the very words of Almighty God.

2 Timothy 3:16 *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*

2 Peter 1:19-21 *We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed...Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.*

Consider this analogy. An attorney dictates a letter to his secretary. As the attorney speaks, the secretary takes down the words. She types the letter. She prints the letter. But whose signature goes at the bottom? The attorney's, of course! Why? Because even though the secretary is responsible for writing the words down, the words aren't hers, they're his.

In like manner, Almighty God spoke to holy men, and those men wrote down the words. Thus, we rightly attribute the words of the Bible not to the frail and faulty men who originally recorded them or to the weak human instruments that had a hand in its preservation but to the One who gave the words in the first place.

Now, I believe that the Bible is God's word. Not only that, I believe that as Almighty God He is

fully capable of keeping His promise to preserve those words *from this generation for ever (Psalm 12:6-7)*. I believe that I have a perfect copy of God's words in my Authorized King James Version of the Holy Bible.

And contrary to what many, including you, may think, I have credible evidence to support my faith. Allow me to show you.

THE CONTINUITY OF SCRIPTURE

The Bible is a book of books. It is one book comprised of 66 separate books (39 in the Old Testament, 27 in the New). Its words were recorded by as many as 40 different men in 3 different languages over the course of 1600 years, and it has been preserved to this very day without 1 PROVEN contradiction or error.

Suppose we tried to replicate that feat today. Suppose we brought together 40 different men who speak 3 different languages and had them put together a religious writing containing 66 books and over 800,000 words—without consulting one another. But let's not stop there. Let's drag this project out for a period of over 1600 years. What are the chances of getting a book that fits together as a single unit without any contradictions or errors? Nil. And yet that's what we have in the Holy Bible.

The reason the Bible fits together in the amazing way that it does is the fact that one Author had His hand in the middle of it from start to finish—GOD!

THE ENDURANCE OF SCRIPTURE

Matthew 24:35 *Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*

"No other book has been so attacked throughout history as the Bible. In AD 300 the Roman emperor Diocletian ordered every Bible burned because he thought that by destroying the

Scriptures he could destroy Christianity. Anyone caught with a Bible would be executed. But just 25 years later, the Roman emperor Constantine ordered that 50 perfect copies of the Bible be made at government expense.

"The French philosopher Voltaire, a skeptic who destroyed the faith of many people, boasted that within 100 years of his death, the Bible would disappear from the face of the earth. Voltaire died in 1728, but the Bible lives on. The irony of history is that 50 years after his death, the Geneva Bible Society moved into his former house and used his printing presses to print thousands of Bibles."

The Evidence Bible, Bridge-Logos Publishers

In the 19th century, a famous agnostic by the name of Robert Ingersoll raised the Bible in his hands and declared, "In fifteen years I'll have this book in the morgue." Fifteen years later, Ingersoll was six feet under. And the Bible remains.

The French emperor Napoleon once said, "The Bible is no mere book, but a living creature that conquers all who face it."

Isaiah 40:8 *The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.*

FULFILLED PROPHECY

Matthew 5:17-18 *Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*

Back in the late 1960s, a professor by the name of Peter Stoner calculated the probability of one man fulfilling the major prophecies made concerning the Messiah. The results were published in a book entitled *Science Speaks*.

He conservatively estimated that the chances of one man fulfilling just 8 Messianic prophecies to be 1 in 10¹⁷.

Knowing what exactly to call that number wouldn't do anything to help me understand how large a number it is, so suppose that we cover the state of Texas two feet deep in silver dollars. We mark one of those silver dollars by painting it blue and stir the whole mass thoroughly. We then blindfold a man and tell him that he can travel as far as he wishes, but he must pick up one silver dollar and say that this is the right one. His chances would be 1 in 10¹⁷—the same chances that one man could fulfill just 8 of the 300+ prophecies made concerning the Messiah.

In another calculation, Stoner used 48 prophecies and arrived at the extremely conservative estimate that the probability of 48 prophecies being fulfilled in one person is the incredible number 10¹⁵⁷.

I cannot begin to fathom a number that large, so this time suppose we start by counting 250 electrons a minute for 19 million years—no breaks. Once that's done, we'll mark one of those electrons by painting it blue. Next, we'll blindfold a man and try to let him find the right one. His chances are 1 in 10¹⁵⁷. The same chances that one man could fulfill 48 of the 300+ prophecies made concerning the Messiah.

Professor Stoner concluded, "Any man who rejects Christ as the Son of God is rejecting a fact, proved perhaps more absolutely than any other fact in the world."

MODERN SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

1 Timothy 6:20 *O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:*

Perhaps nothing has done more to destroy the credibility of the Bible in the minds of men than the so-called scientific theory of evolution. It is not the purpose of this pamphlet to show that the only true, scientific evidence to support the notions of this widely held religious belief is found in the imagination of some people who are otherwise very, very intelligent, but it is the purpose of this pamphlet to point out that the authenticity of Bible is actually supported by the findings of modern science. In fact, modern scientific discoveries are just now catching up on some things the Bible has stated all along. Here are a few examples.

Isaiah 40:22 *It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:*

Just over 500 years ago the leading scientists of the day were convinced that Columbus would fall off the edge of the earth because our planet was flat. They didn't change their minds until Magellan sailed around the world several years later. Had they believed the Bible, they would've known what Isaiah knew over 2000 years earlier in 700BC.

Psalms 8:8 *The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas.*

In the mid-1800s, a US naval officer by the name of Matthew Maury read these words in Psalm 8:8. Because he believed the Bible to be true, he set out to find these paths of the seas and discovered the modern ocean currents. A monument erected in his honor on Monument Avenue, Richmond, Virginia, reads: "Matthew Fontaine Maury, Pathfinder of the Seas, the genius who first snatched from the oceans and atmosphere the secret of their laws. His

inspiration, Holy Writ."

Psalms 102:25-26 *Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed:*

In the mid 1800's a gentleman by the name of Rudolf Clausius proved that the universe is not eternal, but is degenerating. Today we refer to this as the law of entropy. David referred to it thousands of years before Mr. Rudolf existed when he penned the words of Psalm 102.

Leviticus 17:11 *For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.*

It wasn't until the 20th century that modern science caught up with this clear biblical statement. For thousands of years, a procedure known as bloodletting was used to cure or prevent a great many illnesses.

Back in 1799 George Washington's doctors bled him four times to help him recover from the flu and actually bled him to death. If only they had been up to date with the Bible, they would have known that the life of the flesh is in the blood, and they wouldn't have killed our first President.

There are literally hundreds of such examples. Check them out for yourself at www.eternal-productions.org.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS

Luke 19:40 *And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.*

For hundreds of years, men and women have gone digging around in the dirt in search of

history. And what they find has inevitably matched up with the historical accounts we are given in scriptures. These stones they dig up are crying out to us and saying, "The Bible is indeed the word of God!" For example:

- The existence of the biblical cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, once considered mythological, has been verified by tablets unearthed at Tell Mardikh (Ebla).
- An Assyrian king named Sargon did indeed reign. His palace was found, and the inscriptions on its walls confirmed his defeat of Ashdod (Isaiah 20:1) as well as the fall of Samaria (2 Kings 17-18).
- The Cyrus cylinder confirms both Babylon's fall to the Medes and Persians (Daniel 5) and the decrees of Cyrus the Great recorded in Ezra 1 and 6.

Anyone can travel to Middle East today and see a host of biblical structures that have been excavated:

- The base of the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11)
- Hezekiah's conduit (2 Chronicles 32)
- The royal palace at Susa (book of Esther)
- Palace of Ehud, king of Moab (Judges 3)
- Jacob's well (John 4), Pool of Bethesda (John 5), Pool of Siloam (John 9)

These examples and many others serve to validate the historical reliability of the scriptures. The reasoning you must consider is if those men whom God chose to record His words were completely accurate in their accounting of certain things that happened, we cannot necessarily rule them out just because they mention something out of the ordinary.

More detail as to these points could certainly be given and many more evidences could certainly be cited. But the purpose of this pamphlet is to give you something to think about. Something to honestly consider.