

Lies We Believe

#3- The Bible Is Dangerous, Inaccurate, and Written By Man

*“All Scripture is **inspired by God** and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.” II Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)*

I. Introduction

The Bible is the most accurate historical book on planet earth. It confirms science, reveals the Messiah, and proves that it is supernatural in origin.

Considering The Evidence:

a.) _____ --lived and wrote from 427-347 BC. (He is famous for “Plato’s Republic.”) He wrote about political theory, virtue, education, and politics in general.

Earliest Manuscript: 900 AD.

Time Lapse: 1200 yrs.

Number of copies: 7

b.) _____ --lived and wrote between 384-322 BC. (He is most famous for his writings on logic, ethics, poetics, rhetoric, and foundations of science.)

Earliest Manuscript: 2nd Century, AD.

Time Lapse: 1400 yrs.

Number of copies: 49

c.) The _____ (Largely written between 49 and 96 AD. Fragments have been discovered from just a few decades after original texts were first written. Complete books survive from the 2nd century, less than a century after the original texts were first written. Complete manuscripts of the N.T. survive from the early 4th century, less than 3 centuries after the original documents were first written!)

Time Lapse: Less than 100 years

Number of copies: Well over 5,700!

II. Internal Biblical Declarations

*“For the word of God **is alive and powerful**. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts, and is an accurate discerner of the desires and intents of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12*

*“Forever, O LORD, **Your word is settled** in heaven.” Psalm 119:89*

*“The grass withers and the flowers fade beneath the breath of the LORD. And so it is with people. The grass withers and the flowers fade, but **the word of our God stands forever.**” Isaiah 40:7-8*

III. How accurate is the Bible? Is the book of Isaiah what Isaiah actually wrote?

The discovery of the first Dead Sea Scrolls in a remote Judean Desert cave in 1946 is widely considered the greatest archaeological event of the twentieth century. Bedouin treasure hunters and archaeologists ultimately found the remains of hundreds of ancient scrolls. These fragile pieces of parchment and papyrus, including the oldest existing copies of the Hebrew Bible, were preserved for two thousand years by the hot, dry desert climate and the darkness of the caves where they were placed. The scrolls provide an unprecedented picture of the diverse religious beliefs of ancient Judaism, and of daily life during the turbulent Second Temple period when Jesus lived and preached.

Fragments of every book of the Hebrew Bible (except the Book of Esther) were found in the Qumran caves, the most famous of the Dead Sea Scrolls sites. Remarkably, some of these ancient copies are identical to the traditional text of the Hebrew Bible that is used today.

For example, in 1945 the oldest copy of the book of Isaiah discovered was written in 1008 AD. In 1946 the Great Isaiah Scroll was found. It was written in 100 BC. This was an 1100 year gap between the two documents. When they compared the two they were over 99% identical! The only changes were misspelled words or conjunctions [and, or, but, etc.] that didn't change the meaning of anything written in the book.

Biblical expert, palaeographer and noted scholar of ancient languages Sir Frederic Kenyon said it this way, *“The interval then between the dates of original composition and the earliest extant evidence becomes so small as to be in fact negligible, and the last foundation for any doubt that the Scriptures have come down to us substantially as they were written has now been removed. Both the authenticity and the integrity of the books of the New Testament may now be regarded as firmly and unequivocally established.”*

IV. External Corroborative Sources

- The confirmation of _____
- The confirmation of _____

Example: The find near the ancient site of **Ur of the Chaldees**, (*in modern-day Iraq*) where we see a monument---5' wide and 10' high---depicting the record of King Ur-Nammu. The etchings on this monument speak of the account of King Ur-Nammu being told by his gods to build a tower reaching the heavens. It reveals men working at it, the tools and equipment that they used. Then, there is the account of how the gods were offended, and in the middle of the night the entire project was destroyed, the people were suddenly scattered, and their speech was instantly made strange and unintelligible. **Thus, the Tower of Babel incident verified by secular archaeology!**

“It must be extremely significant, that, in view of the great mass of corroborative evidence regarding the Biblical history of these periods, there exists today not one unquestionable find of archaeology that in any way proves the Bible to be in error at any point.”---Dr. Henry Morris, Christian apologist and scientist

- The confirmation of _____ (e.g., Nostradamus, who died in France in 1566, was often wrong, and---at best---was vague and unreliable. He was also led by occultism and forms of forbidden witchcraft.)

Consider Just 8 Critical Prophecies Concerning Jesus (of the 300 O.T. prophecies)

- The time of His birth—164 BC. (Daniel chapters 8 & 9)
- He would be born in Bethlehem---700 BC. (Micah 5:2)
- He would be born of a virgin---700 BC (Isaiah 7:14)
- He would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver---520 BC. (Zechariah 11:12)
- He would be mocked---900 BC. (Psalm 22:7-8)
- He would be crucified---900. BC. (Psalm 22:16-18)
- He would be pierced---900 BC. (Psalms 22:16)
- He would die with the wicked, but He would be buried with the rich---700 BC. (Isaiah 53:9)

Mathematics & Astronomy Professor Peter W. Stoner proved that the chances of **just 8 prophecies** about Jesus coming true by sheer chance are **1 in 10 Trillion!** **This represents a virtual mathematical impossibility!**

Consider this visual illustration of those mathematical statistics: Cover the entire State of Ohio with quarters 12 ft. deep, paint one red, and have a blindfolded person get one chance to grab down and find the exact one!

V. Is the Bible Dangerous?

*“Husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ loved the church** and gave himself up for her.” Ephesians 5:25*

*“**If you are a husband, you should be thoughtful of your wife. Treat her with honor**, knowing that just because she isn't as physically strong as you are, yet she still shares with you in the gift of life. Do this, and then nothing will stand in the way of your prayers.” **1 Peter 3:7 (CEV)***

- The Bible promotes _____
- The Bible describes and promotes _____
- The Bible describes _____
- The Bible speaks the truth and calls out human _____
- The Bible speaks to---and describes---the reality of the Doctrine of _____
- The Gospel—through Jesus Christ, affirms the _____

VI. Two Examples of How The Bible Agrees with Science

1.) *“God sits high above the **round ball (sphere) of earth**. The people look like mere ants...”*
Isaiah 40:22 (Mess.)

2.) *“He spreads the skies over unformed space, **hangs the earth out in empty space**.”*
Job 26:7 (Mess.)

The Bible contains 66 books written by 40 different authors over a span of 1,600 years. The miracle wasn't that the Bible was written over a 1,600 year span. The miracle is that the Bible is so consistent! The fact that it tells one story over 1,600 years and it all points to Jesus is the miracle! That makes the Bible supernatural!

The Scriptures aren't the point. They point to the point---Jesus!

*“You search the Scriptures because **you think** they give you eternal life. But the **Scriptures point to Me!**”* John 5:39 (NLT)

Answer Key

I. Introduction

- a. Plato
- b. Aristotle
- c. New Testament Documents

IV. External Corroborative Sources

- 1. History
- 2. Archaeology
- 3. Biblical vs. Secular prophecy

V. Is the Bible Dangerous?

- 1. right order
- 2. healthy, Godly marriage and family life
- 3. righteous living
- 4. sin, frailty, evil and rebellion
- 5. Eternal States
- 6. equality and dignity of women