



BIBLE
SUNDAY

C. P_____ involved (40)

- 40 people all writing about events in the past.

D. O____ Message

- There is unity and uniqueness to the Bible.

4. It's C_____

A. "Thus saith the Lord..."

- 415 times the Bible uses this expression.
- 46 times the Bible uses, "And God said..." or it's equivalent
- With all equivalent expressions, the Bible claims to be word(s) of God over 2000 times!

B. 2 Timothy 3:16 and 2 Peter 1:21

- Inspiration: means that the words are God-breathed
- Source: Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit used holy men to give to us the holy Bible.

Verdict: When the evidence is considered, a reasonable verdict is that the Bible is trustworthy. Since it is accurate where it is able to be tested, there is no reason to not trust it in the areas where we cannot test it.

References

Bruce Metzger, *The Text of the New Testament* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1968)

Gregory Koukl, "Is the New Testament Text Reliable?" <https://www.str.org/articles/is-the-new-testament-text-reliable#.WrKCupPwZow> Accessed March 21, 2018.

Norman Geisler, *Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999)

Letters 10:96, a letter written in 112 to Emperor Trajan.

The Bible on Trial

Dr. J. Michael Lester on May 19th 2019, Sunday Morning Service

QUICK OVERVIEW

1. Since apologetics is a tool for evangelism, we have to connect people to the Bible.
2. To move from General Revelation to Special Revelation creates tension for some people.
 - *Our purpose is to show that Scriptures are reliable.*
 - *Our purpose is to show that Scriptures are authoritative.*

Definition: Inerrancy

The Bible is without error or fault in its teaching; it does not affirm anything contrary to fact; it has been recorded accurately

INTRODUCTION

1. It's S_____

A. H_____ Manuscripts

- (1) If someone says that the Scriptures are not reliable or trustworthy, then they must also disregard other ancient secular writings.

(2) Consider the evidence:

- Homer's *Iliad*
- *Gallic Wars* by Julius Caesar
- *The Jewish War* by Josephus
- How does the New Testament compare?
- What is the significance of this evidence?

B. Archeological D _____

1. Luke
2. Tacitus - First Century Roman Historian
3. Suetonius - *Secretary to Emperor Hadrian (117-138 AD)*
4. Josephus - *First Century Historian*
5. Pliny the Younger - *Roman administrator*

2. It's A _____

A. H _____ **Accuracy**

- **Objection #1:** Moses not able to write first 5 books because writing was unknown in his day.
HISTORICAL FIND: Hammurabi's Code (1700 BC), Lipit-Ishtar Code (1860 BC), and Laws of Eshnunna (1950 BC)
- **Objection #2:** The Hittite Empire did not even exist!
HISTORICAL FIND: 1906 archaeological dig confirmed that they were a vast and prominent civilization.
- **Objection #3:** Jesus was a myth, not a real person...
HISTORICAL FIND: Within 110 years of Crucifixion, approximately 18 non-Christian sources mention more than 100 facts, beliefs, and teaching from the life of Christ, including the miracles, resurrection, and His claim to be God.

B. S _____ **Accuracy**

1. Round shape of the earth (Isaiah 40:22)
2. Earth hanging on nothing (Job 26:7)
3. Stars are innumerable (Genesis 15:5)
4. Water paths in the Seas (Psalm 8:1)
5. Consider the sanitation laws in Leviticus
 - *Bury your waste (compare with Bubonic Plague)*
 - *Don't touch cadavers (Ignaz Semmelweis)*

C. P _____ **Accuracy**

1. Israel is still a nation and a people!
2. Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
3. Messiah would be sold for 30 pieces (Zechariah 11:12-13)
4. Messiah would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14)
5. Cyrus named 150 years before birth (Isaiah 44:28, 45:1)

3. It's F _____

A. T _____ **involved (1600 years)**

- With a timeline that includes 16 centuries, one would expect that later writers would contradict earlier writers somewhere.
- Everywhere the Bible is testable, there is remarkable integrity.

B. L _____ **involved (3)**

- Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic.
