

Evidence that The Bible is The Infallible Word of God
~ Ten Reasons to Believe ~
Lesson #1 • Reasons 1 thru 3
• H A N D O U T •

► My goal for this brief course of study is for us gain intellectual knowledge that will result in being able to rely on the certainty that the Bible is exactly what it claims to be: God's infallible Word, inspired by God's Spirit.

Here is what the Bible Claims:

2 Timothy 3:16 • *"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."*

2 Peter 1:20-21 • *"Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."*

Q: If you were asked to pick out just one reason why people don't believe in the Bible or in Christianity, what reason would you give?

Q: How do we answer the critics of the Bible who say that all of the translations make it untrustworthy?

Q: Since we used the word "gay" as an example, doesn't that word alone justify the objection of the critics?

**Can we demonstrate that the Biblical text we have today
accurately represents the original text?**

**This study provides ten reasons – objective evidence –
that the Bible is trustworthy as God's Inspired Word**

We begin with Reasons #1 through #3

REASON #1 • IT'S UNITY ...

Q: There are thousands of books about the Bible, but the actual Bible is a single book that is a unique compilation of several separate books. How is this compilation organized?

Q: When was the Bible written and how long did it take to write it?

Q: What are the details regarding the actual writing of the Bible? How many different authors wrote? What languages made up the original text? What cultures and physical regions are reflected in the lives of the various authors who wrote?

Q: Give some examples of the diverse assortment of education, employment and cultural backgrounds that are reflected by the writers of the Bible?

There was a military general: _____

There was a prime minister: _____

There was a governor who started out as a servant in a pagan court: _____

There were a couple of shepherds: _____

One wrote while in exile: _____

Another wrote while a fugitive on the run for his life: _____

Several wrote while incarcerated: _____

There was a doctor: _____

One was a hated politician who worked for Rome: _____

One was highly educated who began as the enemy of the faith: _____

Q: What does all of this have to do with the Unity of the Bible?

Q: What are the five major themes of the Bible?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Q: Here is a challenge: Go into a library today and pick out 66 individual secular books on the subjects listed above. Make sure they are written by different authors from different time periods and different cultures. What would you find?

Q: What conclusion can be made regarding the unity of the Bible?

REASON #2 • IT'S HISTORICAL ACCURACY:

Q: When one compares the Bible with archaeological finds and historical records, what has been the outcome of the comparison?

REASON #3 • IT'S INDESTRUCTIBILITY ...

In spite of numerous attempts throughout time to wipe God's Word from the face of the earth, the Bible as a sacred text has miraculously survived every and all attacks.

Q: The first book of the Bible was written more than 3,500 years ago and the last book over 2,000 years ago. The originals were written on perishable materials which have long since disappeared. How can anyone say the Bible is indestructible? How can we say the Biblical text, as originally written, survived?

Q: How could the Bible survive considering there have been so many dedicated enemies determined to destroy it, bury it, and forget it?

Q: Over the centuries there have been powerful people who were determined to destroy God's Word, whatever the personal cost. One such man was the Roman Emperor, Diocletian. What action did he take in AD 303 that was designed to not only destroy the church but eradicate all sacred scriptures as well?

Q: What humorous prediction did the infamous French writer, Voltaire, make about Christianity?

Q: What did Jesus say that totally contradicts Diocletian's efforts and Voltaire's prediction?

Jesus said that the heavens and earth would one day cease to exist, but His Words were eternal.

Matthew 24:35 & Mark 13:31 : _____

Luke 21:32-33 : _____



► Before continuing with the “Ten Reasons to Believe,” we need to address in greater depth the issue that the Bible we have today is the Word of God *as originally written* and has been supernaturally protected from error over the centuries. This issue alone has been one of the major reasons why it has been vulnerable to attack over the centuries. Since it is important that Believers be able to defend these statements, our next discussion will examine the evidence pertaining to the preservation of the Biblical text.

This is where we begin next time.



Next Time:

Lesson #2

Evidence for the Preservation of the Bible

