

A
STUDY
OF
GOD'S
AMAZING
LOVE LETTER
TO
MAN

How to Study Your Bible

1. Begin in Prayer 1 Cor 2: 9-14
2. Read the Bible Neh. 8: 1-3
3. Study the Bible Neh. 8:8
4. Meditate upon it Deut. 6:6-9; Ps. 1
5. Pass the Bible on to others Heb. 5: 12

How to Study Each Chapter

1. The Theme
2. The most important verse
3. The most prominent word
4. The teaching about Christ
5. The command to obey
6. The promise to claim
7. The new truth learned Psalm 119:18

Also every verse or passage has at least 3 applications

1. Past: this is the historical application
2. Present: This is a devotional or spiritual application
3. Future: This is a doctrinal or prophetic application

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THE BIBLE WHAT IT IS IT'S AUTHORITY, AND IT'S INSPIRATION

PART I The Canon of Scriptures Introduction

We are going to look at three things in this study. First the canon of Scripture, Second the inspiration of scripture and the authority of scripture. In this first part we will see how we got the 66 books we call the Bible today. The word “canon” means a “rule or standard” this is an unusual word as it means the same in all the Bible languages.

Therefore a book placed in the Bible is called “canonical”, saying that it has met the rule or the standard as the word of God.

The Scripture references we will be using are the following, Luke 24:27, 44; Matt. 23: 35; 2Tim. 3: 16; 2 Peter 1:21; Hebrews 1:1-3

The Heart of the Matter in this study is; that The 66 books that are in what we call our Bibles are inspired by God and we will see how they became a part of the word of God. Paul instructed Timothy in 2Timothy 3:16 that “all scripture is given by inspiration and is profitable to us for doctrine (teaching) reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness (right living).

The Canon of Scripture Old Testament

We must start with the 39 books of the Old Testament Canon. The Old Testament is God's prophetic word to us as declared under inspiration of the Holy Spirit in 2Peter 1:21 "For prophecy came not at any time by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." These men did not write what they wanted or when they wanted. A prophet was one who spoke for God- not only did he for-tell but he spoke as God inspired him. They were God's mouthpieces they told forth what God had them to say to the people.

The name 'prophet' means 'one who speaks in place of another.' There were writing and non-writing prophets, Aaron in Exodus 7:1 and David in Acts 2:30 had the prophetic gift, but were not considered writing prophets neither was Elijah or Elisha, Michiah and a number of others mentioned in the scriptures they spoke for God but they never penned anything down on paper. The only writing prophets are those that we call the Major Prophets such as Isaiah and Jeremiah and the Minor Prophets such as Joel and Amos. Moses is called a prophet by God as he penned the first five books of the Bible called the Pentateuch.

The Old Testament is the inspired word of God and this can easily be seen in the fact that all 39 books tell one continuous revelation of God's plan for man. The writers were moved by God and many never even met or knew anything of each other. The second idea is found in our starting text 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 the Old Testament claims to be the inspired word of God. To be inspired or to have Inspiration means "God Breathed". So the writers each in his time was breathed upon by God with the part of the message that He had for them to write and deliver to His people Israel. There are 3 steps in getting this inspired word to us as we see in this verse in Hebrews 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in divers (diverse) manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

1st. God to man – this is Revelation

2nd Man to paper – This is Inspiration –Plenary Verbal or all the words are inspired

3rd Paper to Heart – This is called Illumination

In Genesis Chapter One you find the phrase “and God said” you will find it in 11 verses where he spoke of His creation. It is found in Verses 3, 6, 9,11,14,20, 22, 24, 26, 28, and 29. In Genesis 2:7 it says this of God “and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul” and 3:15 “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel” these words could only be recorded by the inspiration of God. Since no one else was there to know the details, but the trinity.

Look over in Exodus 22:16 “And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables.” The tables were cut out by God and written upon by God and him alone.

Now to Leviticus 1:1 as it says “and the lord called” 8 times in 7 chapters this is said unto Moses and God spoke unto him out of the Tabernacle of the congregation.

God is using direct communication to talk to His writer, not from the top of Mt. Sinai, but rather from the mercy seat in the Holy of Holies

Now lets read Numbers 36:13 “These are the commandments and judgments Which the lord commanded by the law, but also His judgments. God gave His commands and judgments to man by direct communication through Moses.

Listen to God in Deuteronomy 4:2 Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you. He gave it and commanded that no one remove any of it or to add anything to it.

Now on to Joshua 24:26 “And Joshua wrote these words in the same scrolls that Moses did. Joshua continued what God had done through Moses as His new spokes man to Israel.

Jewish tradition ascribes the Old Testament canon to Ezra. They base this on the fact of Ezra's zeal and ability. Ezra 7:11 "A Scribe of the words of the commandments of the Lord, and of His statutes to Israel."

He was a prepared man Ezra 7:10 "had prepared his heart to seek the laws of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments." Ezra and the men of the synagogue were well qualified to take the oracles of God and determine their authenticity. They used 5 tests to determine this.

1. Authorship- who wrote it
2. Local acceptance- read by various groups
3. Elder acceptance
4. Book subject matter – content
5. Personnel edification

History confirms the Old Testament canon.

Josephus, Jewish historian, confirms the books in "Against Apian 1:8" *"For we (meaning the Jews) have not an innumerable multitude of books among us, disagreeing with and contradicting one another (As the Greeks have) but only twenty two books, which contain the records of all the past time; which are justly believed to be divine"*.

As to the time from the death of Moses until the reign of Artaxerxes King of Persia, who reigned after Xerxes (That only the books written up to the time of this King Artaxerxes? Anything after this time was not given credit as being authoritative up to this time 90 A.D.) but hath not been esteemed of the like authority with the former by our forefathers.

The books, which constituted the Old Testament canon, were written in 22 books instead of the 39 which we have today. In Ezra 7:11-26 is recorded the decree of Artaxerxes on behalf of Ezra. In Nehemiah 2 is recorded the decree on behalf of Nehemiah. The end of the prophets came to a close with Ezra & Nehemiah.

The twenty-two Old Testament Books are the same as the Thirty-nine in our Testament.

5 Books of Moses	7 History	5 hymns
1. Genesis	1. Joshua	1 Psalm

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 2. Exodus | 2. Judges& Ruth | 2 Proverbs |
| 3. Leviticus | 3.Samuel | 3.Ecclesiastes |
| 4. Numbers | 4 Kings | 4.S. of Sol |
| 5. Deuteronomy | 5Chronicles | 5 Job |
| | 6 Ezra & Neh | |
| | 7. Esther | |

5 Major Prophets

- | | | |
|------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1. Isaiah | 2 Jeremiah | 3. Lamentations |
| 4. Ezekiel | 5 Daniel | |

12 Minor Prophets

- | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Hosea | 2. Joel | 3. Amos |
| 4. Obadiah | 5. Jonah | 6. Micah |
| 7. Nahum | 8. Habakkuk | 9. Zephaniah |
| 10. Haggai | 11. Zechariah | 12. Malachi |

The reason there are 39 in ours.

- The minor prophets were divided into 12 books
- Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles into 2 books each
- Ezra & Nehemiah became 2 books not 1
- Jeremiah and Lamentations was divided into 2 books

These add 17 books to the 22 of Israel

When the Hebrew was translated into Greek the Old Testament was broken down this way.

- 5 Books of Moses – the Law
- 12 Books of History (Joshua to Esther)
- 5 Books of Poetry (Job to Song of Solomon)
- 17 Books of Prophecy (Isaiah to Malachi)
- 39 Books Total

Koine Greek was the common “tongue” in the known world then just as English is today.

The Alexandrian text written in the 3rd century was used for the basis of most Old Testament texts it was not the received text but one written by a group of men known as Gnostics they claimed to have received super knowledge of scripture and began to change the books to suit their own thoughts. They take there name from having been written in Alexandria Egypt, this alone should give any student of the Bible a clue to the error as Egypt is always a picture of the world and sin. These Alexandrian texts have been used as the basis of all

Bible perversions since two men by the names of Westcott and Hort used them to write the Revised Standard Version in 1881.

Jesus and the New Testament affirm the Old Testament canon. For example in Luke 24:44 These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me Jesus affirms that the Old Testament tells of all which were written in the Law of Moses and in the Prophets and in the Psalms concerning Him. Jesus declares that all the Old Testament speak of Him in a consistent way.

The testimony of Jesus and the New Testament fulfill all that had been promised in the law, prophets and writings Luke 24:27 “and Beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them All the scriptures the things concerning Himself

The 27 Books of the New Testament Scripture

God, the Holy Spirit, inspired the New Testament. The Holy Spirit is very important; Hebrews believed the Son had spoken to us through the Holy Spirit. Therefore Christ is superior to all of the Old Testament writers.

The valid test of a writer’s inspiration in the New Testament was his relationship to the Lord Jesus. He is the central fact of the Gospel, through Him God made Him known in the form of humanity. Jesus chose divinely qualified men to teach and record without error the doctrines of His Gospel. Heb. 1:1-2 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

God – This is the only place to begin. There is no attempt here to prove His existence. It is assumed.

Psalm 19:1 “the heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handiwork”

God had spoken – he is intelligent

Sundry Times – This is not time as we think of it instead he has spoken in a continuous way of revelation

Diverse Manner- used different ways of communicating; such as dreams, law, types, Angels, ritual, history, poetry, prophecy, finally by His Son.

The New Testament Books were written by an Apostle or a Secretary of an Apostle.

Jesus promised the Apostles that the Holy Spirit would reveal to them what they could not understand while He was still on Earth. One need only read these two passages in John 16:12-15 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you; also John 14:25- 26 These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. In Matthew 10:20 it says “For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. These, and other promises, were given primarily to the Apostles for a special assignment. They were also given to the church through the teaching of the Apostle Paul as he says in Ephesians 2:19-22 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together is joined together unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit

The Apostles spoke and wrote with divine authority look here at 1 Cor. 2:10-13 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things

of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. Paul declared his authority again in Galatians 1:11-12 "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ". Paul states that no man revealed any of it to him only the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 2:20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;

Examples of books written by secretaries are Mark and Luke. Mark was a secretary for Peter and Luke did so for Paul. Notice Peters words here in 1 Peter 5:13 The church that is at Babylon, elected together with you, saluteth you, and so doth Marcus my son. Peter considered Mark to be his own son!

Luke wrote the 3rd Gospel and the book of Acts where he traveled with Paul as seen here in Romans 16:21 "Timotheus my fellow worker, and Lucious (Luke) My kinsman salutes you.

All the New Testament Books had Apostolic Authority. The 27 books were placed in the canon after they were treasured by the churches. The churches exchanged letters and copied them "Council of Carthage, 397 a.d. *"Nothing shall be read in the churches except the recognized canon"*

The rule *"a New Testament book must be written by an Apostle or A secretary of an Apostle"*

Some quotes on the Bible

Presidents – George Washington "it is impossible to rightly govern the world without the Bible."

Statesmen- Winston Churchill "We rest with assurance upon the Impregnable rock of Holy Scripture"

Scientist- Michael Faraday "Why will people go astray when they have this blessed book to guide them."

Generals- Stonewall Jackson “God’s promises change not, let us Endeavor to adorn the doctrine of Christ in all things.”

Historian- Arnold Toynbee “It pierces through the intellect and plays directly upon the heart.”

Lawyer- Patrick Henry “This is a book worth more than all the others that were ever printed”

Writers- “It is the best book that ever was or ever will be in the world.”

J Edgar Hoover said “The bible is the unfailing guide which points the way for men to perfect life.”

Martin Luther the German reformer said “It cannot be otherwise, for the Scriptures are divine. In them God speaks and they are His word. To hear or to read the Scripture is nothing else than to hear God.”

Conclusion to part 1

The Bible is complete and accurate to the smallest detail. With one Central thought running through all 66 books that of Jesus Christ. This truth has been kept and preserved by the Holy Spirit.

PART II

“THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD”

Introduction

Every word of the Bible is inspired or “God Breathed” as stated by Paul in 2 Timothy 3:16 “all scripture is given by the inspiration of God.” The word “Scripture” here means writings and “inspired” means all the words are God breathed. These words came directly through God to human personalities and human minds. Our word “Bible” comes from the old French word “Biblia” or writings.

Scripture References we will be primarily focusing on such as Psalm 119; Isaiah 28:9-13; Isaiah 40:6-8; 1 Cor. 2:9-13; 2 Timothy 3:16 1 Peter 1:23-25; 2 Peter 1:19-21

The Heart of the matter is this; the one thing to remember the entire bible is inspired. It is an amazing fact that 40 different men spread over 1500 years, moved by the Holy Spirit gave it to us. The words giving one continuous revelation that were penned by them were inspired.

Turn to 2 Peter 1:21 “for the prophecy came not in old time by the will men notice here that Peter declares that it was not these men who wanted to write the different books that bare their name they wrote because they were moved by the Holy Spirit to write and it became one flowing story. Look also at 2 Peter 1:20 “that no prophesy of the scripture is of any private interpretation” here Peter tells us that the writers did not chose their material nor did they give it their personal interpretation and by the way no one else should read into the Scriptures their own interpretation. The Scriptures are to speak to us what the Spirit wants said.

Various Theories of inspiration

NATURAL THEORY – Says Bible writers were inspired the same as William Shakespeare intimating that all men write through a divine guide.

MECHANICAL THEORY – God coldly, woodenly, dictated the Bible to its writers. Like a boss to his secretary. Charles Hodge said “The church has never held what has been stigmatized as the mechanical theory. It was men not machines, living, thinking, willing minds, whom the Spirit used.

CONTENT THEORY- This theory says that only the main thought of a paragraph or of a chapter was inspired. The Bible itself refutes this here in Matt 5:18 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, Jesus says here that even the Jot and Tittle which are the two smallest marks over letters to change the sound and emphasis would not be left out of His word. Also let’s see here in 2Sam 23:1-2 David the son of Jesse said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said, The spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue. King David proclaims that the words he spoke were from the Spirit of God, I think these two passages refute this theory very clearly.

PARTIAL THEORY- Only part of the Bible is inspired, usually the part they want.

SPIRITUAL RULE ONLY- Bible useful in only certain areas of our lives.

PLENARY VERBAL- Which means all the words are inspired. John 6:63 “the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life; 17:8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them

The fallible men have passed away but the infallible words, they wrote abide forever.

The Bible –God’s inspired Word

The Bible is its own witness to its inspiration. The claims the Bible makes about itself will be seen in a paragraph later on first. No other book or writing could make such claims- only God’s word. In Exodus 31:18 And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God what we have here is the proclamation

by God of the fact that he wrote the law with His own finger upon a rock. Here are some other verses to compare the above with Psalm 119:89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven, 105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path, 152 Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever, 160 Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever also Isaiah 40:8 The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. As we see this says every thing will die or fail but God's word is still here and also is seen in these words of Peter in 1 Peter 1:23-25 'Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.'

The bible claims to be the Word of God because it says so no less than 3,808 times in the Old Testament "and God said" or "the Word of God came saying". The New Testament writer's referred to Old Testament events 161 times they quote 246 passages and over 1,000 verses. The Old Testament prophets always introduced their message with the statement, "and the word of the Lord came unto" the prophet delivered the message which was, and is the word of God. Lets read 1 Peter 1:10-11 Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

Old Testament writers did not always understand the nature of everything they wrote about. For instance they did not completely understand the details of Christ suffering. However they did understand that these mysteries would be clear to a later generation. They wrote what God said they did not originate there message. That came from God. God told Moses in Exodus 4:10-12 And Moses said unto the LORD, O my

Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue. And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD? Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say we see from these verses that a lack of eloquence was no excuse. For God himself would provide the words, 40 years later Moses told Israel in Deuteronomy 4:2 Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you. Notice they were not to change one word of the Commands they were given by either adding to them or removing some of them. In 2 Samuel 23:1-2 Now these be the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said, The spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue. We see that David on his deathbed asserts God spoke through him. In Jeremiah 1:6-9 we hear him and in verse 9 he says 'Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.' Here we see that Jeremiah was promised that God would speak through him. The Holy Spirit Inspired the Authors of the Bible These Holy men spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. Look Again at 2 Peter 1:21 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. The Holy Spirit inspired the men, God selected to give us the Bible. God used different methods in originating the message the words of angels, the voice of God, and the writings of the Apostles. It is easy to see that God spoke in many fashions and what he spoke is in the Bible just read here in Hebrews 1:1-2 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds.

The Divine Source and the human Instruments

The Bible has several passages where the divine author and the human instrument are mentioned. For example look at Matthew 1:22 “that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet saying” also Acts 1:16 Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

The different media used over the 1500 years by the 40 different writers. They wrote on Clay tablets, Stone tablets, Papyrus, Vellum (calf skin), Parchment (lamb,) Leather (cow), and Metal as in Ex.28:36 And thou shalt make a plate of pure gold, and grave upon it, like the engravings of a signet, HOLINESS TO THE LORD .

Its care and copy was very important much more than the way many Bibles are treated today. The Parchment was made from a clean animal only (ceremonially clean). Each piece was tied with strings made from a clean animal.

Each column of words was to have no less than 48 or more than 60 lines.

The ink was only allowed to be black made from a special formula.

Nothing was allowed to be written from memory; each word had to be read aloud from an authorized manuscript.

Each Pen that was used in the writing process had to be cleaned before writing. The writer was to wash himself before writing the name Jehovah and again after writing it.

Every letter and word counted, if one mistake was found the sheet was condemned and thrown out, if three mistakes were found in the whole manuscript it was condemned and thrown out and a new one started.

The Bible is a Miracle

As the words were written through the ages, one can see that it was necessary for the Holy Spirit to guard and guide so that a true and preserved message would be recorded.

God called 40 men one at a time for a period of 1500 years, to record that part of God’s heart burden for man and that part

of His plan to redeem man back into a right relationship with Him. Even those men who lived during the same years but at different places were each given specific messages to a certain group of people which had a particular meaning at that time and a future meaning to a much larger group of people. Those 40 would take it to thousands who would take it to millions. The writings attest to one great theme, Christ, they point to one true God, and offer to us one plan of salvation.

THE GREAT THEME OF THE BIBLE

The One Great Theme of the Bible is Jesus Christ.

By a creative act God broke the chain of natural human generation and produced a supernatural one-Jesus the Son of God as stated by Paul in Galatians 4:4 “But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law.” At the right time God sent Jesus to earth by way of a woman to fulfill the law.

The great theme, Jesus, binds the Bible together as the theme was proclaimed in the Old Testament like this “There is someone coming.”

In the day of the incarnation it was announced “Someone is come”

In the days of the end time it is prophesied like this, “Someone is coming again.”

Jesus is the one great unifying factor who binds the Bible into one Message- God’s plan of redemption for us.

Galatians 4:5-6 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father’ also Ephesians 2:4-5 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;), 8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. Jesus was sent to redeem us by mercy because of His great love for us.

THE REVELATION AND INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

The difference between revelation and inspiration

Revelation refers to something God has made known. He has unveiled, or uncovered something that was previously hidden to men. For example, it was a revelation when Moses wrote the first chapters of Genesis; Moses wasn't there when God created everything and Adam, no human eye saw that. So God revealed it. God used 8 different methods of revelation

1. Angels in Genesis 18; 2. A loud voice in 1 Kings 17:2-4; 3. A still small voice in 1 Kings 19:11, 12; 4. Nature in Psalm 19:1-3; 5. A donkey in Numbers 22:28; 6. Dreams in Genesis 28:12; 7. By visions in Isaiah 6:1-8; 8. Christophanies or pre-incarnate appearances of Jesus Christ such as in Genesis 32:24-30.

Another example is found in the New Testament. It was a revelation from God when John wrote the Apocalypse or the book of Revelation. No man can see the end of the age looking ahead thousands of years into the future known only to God. God revealed that future to John and he wrote it down for us.

Inspiration refers to the transmission, or the writing. It refers to the method that kept this writing from error or mistake. When Moses wrote of the Red Sea crossing the Holy Spirit kept him from error or exaggeration. He saw the crossing; however the Holy Spirit had him pen it exactly.

Another example is in John 19, when John wrote of the crucifixion it was by inspiration he was there and saw and felt but wrote precisely what God wanted without error.

Inspiration Provided the Bible. It is God's revealing himself to man. When we speak of the inspired authors of the Bible, we refer to the Inspiration of the writings and not of the man. The inspiration is in the Word of God. It is what the men have written that is inspired. For instance Moses, David, John, Paul these were not perfect men. One great proof of inspiration is that even their faults and sins were accurately recorded. A human writer would not normally put such glaring misconduct of themselves in their own books choosing rather to focus only on their good points however God puts it all out there for everyone to see how He used normal frail humans to put down His inspired word to us.

Each Biblical author yielded his entire personality to the will of the Holy Spirit. Their personalities were not overwhelmed; they were not in a coma like trance. They retained their physical, mental, and emotional faculties giving us God's plan of redemption in human language. The Bible does not contain God's word it is God's word. "History records many Bible haters who became Bible believers, it never records the opposite".

HOW CAN WE KNOW THE TRUE WORD OF GOD?

There are many books claiming to be inspired of God. There are some that claim to be "an addition" to God's word a new revelation superseding or matching God's chosen word.

Much is made of the "lost books of the Bible". First let me say there are none these spurious books were looked at and rejected by the men who put our bible together. The reason for this is they did not meet the conditions or the rules used for the Canon of Scripture. Then there is the book of Mormon written by Joseph Smith who claimed to receive the messages from hidden metal tablets and or a white salamander and an Angel named Moroni.

Also the "key to scriptures" written by Mary Ellen White who founded Christian Science, and Charles Russell's "studies in the Scriptures" (Jehovah witness) and others also. All of these claim to be equal with or superior to God's word. So how can we know the truth?

We find the answer in the Bible. Of a multitude of tests we could use we shall consider only three that are clearly stated in the Bible.

The first is in Deuteronomy 18:21-22 And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him. This test is on prophecy coming to pass.

Prophecy is above manmade forecasts. Hear is a good example, 800 years before Christ, Micah said where He would be born, Micah 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of

thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. This is without doubt a prophecy of Christ first coming and where He would be born. The fulfillment is found in Luke 2: 4-7 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

More than 1000 years in advance David said “they part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture” in Psalm 22:18 They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture this prophecy is fulfilled in Matt 27:35 And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots. This is extraordinary seeing as how in David’s day the act of crucifixion had never been heard of and later in Psalm 22 the speaker is talking from the view point of being on the cross looking out at the scene around him. So we can see that over thousands of years in advance God sent prophecies through his prophets and all of them came to pass to the letter.

Examples: the fall of Greece, and Rome, the rise of the European common market, China’s 200 million-man army. Identifying marks on the body.

The second test is found in Psalm 119:160 “Thy word is true from the beginning and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth forever.

The Bible is truth. It has been true from the beginning. From the creation to the consummation of this age is found in the Bible. He knows all things and has given us His book of truth about all things. James Dany of Yale University said, “I say to

you that there is nothing truer in all the universe than the scientific statement contained in the word of God”.

The third test is that the word accomplishes its purpose
Isaiah 55: 10-11 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

God’s word affects people as it is given out it accomplish His will for it. The purpose of the word is that we might be delivered from the penalty and judgment of sin. It will not return void when it is taught and preached. Isaiah 55:11 “It shall accomplish that which I please, and it Shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it”

Then what about the “lost books” of the bible as we apply these tests? The apocrypha means “hidden or concealed” and is a group of 14 Books. They were great writings but were not inspired. The apocrypha does not meet the requirements to be included in the canon. The apocrypha did not appear in any Bible until 1546 at the Council of Trent when the Roman Church wanted them placed there. So they were never lost!

Some reasons they were not accepted

1. Never accepted in Old Testament canon by Forefathers
2. Never quoted by Jews or New Testament writers
3. Josephus excluded it
4. Philo Philosophe did not recognize it
5. Early church Fathers excluded it.
6. Jerome did not accept them
7. None of the books claim inspiration
8. Certain historical and geographical mistakes
9. Some teach false doctrines
- a. A brief list of the books

First Esdras – same material as Ezra

2nd Esdras – another version of Ezra

Tobit – Personal testimony about his healing

Judith – About Princes who saved Jerusalem

Esther – an additional section added
Solomon – The loftiest of the 14 books written
Ecclesiasticus – a repeat of the book of Proverbs
1st and 2nd Maccabees – Covers the time period of the
Maccabees between the testaments
Baruch – This is Jeremiah’s secretary
The song – it is an addition to Daniel
Susanna – About the Wife of a wealthy Jew
Bel and the Dragon – also added to Daniel
Manassas – A confessional prayer of this man

Some Final Thoughts on the Inspiration of the Bible

All 66 books speak to us of God’s great redemption plan. In 1 Peter 1: 25 we read “But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you

Also in John 20:31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name. What John wrote was so that we could believe that Jesus is the savior and that believing we might have life. Now Psalm 119 is the longest chapter and all of its 176 verses tell us of the word. Every 8 verses start with one of the letters of the Hebrew alphabet which has 22 letters in it.

Things God’s word uses as comparisons for itself. A lamp, metals, a mirror (James 1:23-25), seed (1Peter 1:23) water (Ephesians 5:25-27), a Sword (Hebrews 4:12) food, milk, meat, bread, honey, hammer (Jer. 23:29) and fire (Jer. 20:9)
The Words function as stated in Psalm 119

It upholds in verse 116 Uphold me according unto thy word, that I may live: and let me not be ashamed of my hope, it orders in verse 133 Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me, it produces joy in 162 I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil, it strengthens in verse 28 My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word, it gives hope in verses 74 They that fear thee will be glad when they see me; because I have hoped in thy word. & 81 My soul fainteth for thy salvation: but I hope in thy word, it gives

light in verses 105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path & also 130; it gives understanding in 169 Let my cry come near before thee, O LORD: give me understanding according to thy word, it gives comfort in verses 50 This is my comfort in my affliction: for thy word hath quickened me also 54, we are to heed it in verse 9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word.

It can be shown no evil dictator was ever a friend of the Bible, also no good and wise leader was ever an enemy of God's word!

PART III

THE BIBLE AND ITS AUTHORITY

Introduction to part Three

The authority of God's word the Bible is found in the Bible itself. It is a simple answer; however there is neither higher authority nor critic of the bible than itself. Therefore; the final authority for our faith and practice (daily life) is the word of God.

Our primary SCRIPTURE Proof References

Psalm 119; Isaiah 40:6-8; Matthew 5:17-19; 19:4-5; 22:29-32; 26:54-56; Luke 24: 44-45; John 10:35; Romans 15:4, 16:26; Galatians 3:8; 1Timothy 5:18; 2 Timothy 3:16.

The Heart of the Matter for us is this.

The teachings of Jesus are our highest authority as reference to the Bible. No criticism can be leveled against Him. Even Pilate said "I find no fault in this man" in Luke 23:4. Jesus taught with authority as it says in Matthew 7: 29 "For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes"; if His authority is denied then redemption falls apart.

THE BIBLE: THE AUTHORITY OF GOD'S WORD

The testimony of God the Father

The speaker and the hearer in the Old Testament

The Bible is authoritative because God settled it in heaven Psalm 119:89 LAMED. For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven. He also said in Psalm 119:160 Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever. His word is true from the beginning. Such statements as "and the Lord spoke unto", "and God said" or "The word of the Lord came unto" can be found 3,808 times in the Old Testament

In the book of Leviticus alone there are 35 phrases that attest to its authority "and the Lord spoke unto Moses saying" the following is the list of references Lev. 1:1,4:1,5:14,6:1,8,19,24; 7:22,28; 8:1; 10:8; 11:1; 12:1; 13:1; 14:1,33; 15:1; 16:1; 17:1; 18:1; 19:1; 20:1; 21:16; 22:1,17,26; 23:1,9,23,26,33; 24:1,13; 25:1; 27:1. The speaker is God the hearer is Moses

God spoke his plan of redemption into being in Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. These are some of the most important words spoken by the Lord. We find that Chapter 3 of Genesis covers man's fall into sin and God's plan of redemption.

In the sovereignty of God, He made a way where we can be saved and know him. He spoke this plan into existence knowing that His son Jesus would have to pay the price for our redemption.

THE TESTIMONY OF THE BIBLE

I want to look now at the internal evidence of the authority of the scriptures

First the Bible declares itself to be the word of God in Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments, which the LORD your God commanded to teach you, that ye might do them in the land whither ye go to possess it: That thou mightest fear the LORD thy God, to keep all his statutes and his commandments, which I command thee, thou, and thy son, and thy son's son, all the days of thy life; and that thy days may be prolonged. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe to do it; that it may be well with thee, and that ye may increase mightily, as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee, in the land that floweth with milk and honey. Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates. Also in Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night,

that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success and
8:32-35 And he wrote there upon the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he wrote in the presence of the children of Israel. And all Israel, and their elders, and officers, and their judges, stood on this side the ark and on that side before the priests the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, as well the stranger, as he that was born among them; half of them over against mount Gerizim, and half of them over against mount Ebal; as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded before, that they should bless the people of Israel. And afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessings and cursings, according to all that is written in the book of the law. There was not a word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua read not before all the congregation of Israel, with the women, and the little ones, and the strangers that were conversant among them.

Second the word is sure or of a solid foundation, it is perfect or complete in what God wanted it to say to us, next it endures forever, one of earliest Pastors that I have memory of had this favorite saying “the truth will stand until the worlds on fire” and as I grown up and learned more of the Word I understand just how true this statement was then and is even now, it is true as we read here in Psalm 12:6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times also Psalm 19:7-11 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward. Here are words of authority.

The word is eternal as we read in these verses from Psalm 119:89, 152, 160 also here in Isaiah 40:6-8 The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. Times and seasons will not change the truths found in His word, generations have come and gone and it still stands true. Those who have hated it have in the end found themselves on the wrong side as they ended their lives in Hell while God's word stands and will on the great day of the White Throne judgment in Revelation 20 judge them for the final time!

The word is effective it is the Gospel 1 Thessalonians 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe; In 1 Peter 1:23-25 notice the words "being born again by the word of God"

There is the testimony of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit bears witness that the Bible is the word of God. Peter in 2 Peter 1:19-21 tells us that "Holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit". Peter in 1 Peter 1:10-11 Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Here Peter says that the prophets wrote as they were instructed to write. The message was from God or God breathed.

He Gave messages to the writers for example lets reread 2 Samuel 23:1-2 especially verse two "The spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue".

Jeremiah felt his own weakness in speaking the message to Israel. In Jeremiah 1:6-9 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. But the LORD said unto

me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD. Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. Here he tells us that the Lord would put the words in his mouth.

Daniel tells us in the 12th chapter of his book that God gave His words by divine inspiration which, he could not understand.

God used many ways to reveal His message by His own voice, by the angels, and the prophets and in these last days by His Son according to Hebrews 1:1 & 2.

Zechariah 4:6 says “not by might nor by power, but by my spirit saith the Lord of hosts”

The Holy Spirit bears witness to all believers that he or she is a child of God. Paul in Romans 8:16 states “the Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God”.

The words of the Scripture are divinely taught by the Holy Spirit. According to Paul in 1 Corinthians 2:9-13 read here 1 Corinthians 2:13 For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe. Paul says here spiritual things are taught in words given by the Holy Spirit. This is accomplished by “comparing spiritual things with spiritual things” or by ‘comparing scripture with scripture”.

Paul’s testimony is found here in 1 Corinthians 2:4 “in demonstration of the spirit and of power”.

THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS CHRIST

The authority of Jesus if we accept Jesus then we must accept His teachings on the Bible.

According to Jesus what the Scriptures say, God says according to 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 also Matthew 19:4 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, and here are the words of John 10:35 says “the scripture cannot be broken”

When a person receives the Son of God, the question of authority is supposed to be settled. Jesus regarded the Bible as Divine Authority.

Look at the following as proof. Matthew 22:29 “ye do err not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God” also in Matthew 24:37 “But as the days of Noah were, so shall the coming of the son of man be.”

Jesus adds in Mark 7:13 making the word of God of none effect through your traditions; which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.”

Again here Jesus in Luke 24:44 “that all things must be fulfilled that are written in the law of Moses and the prophets and in the Psalms concerning me.”

Jesus tells the people in John 5:39 “search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me”

Lastly Jesus in John 5:46 “for had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for he wrote of me.”

Jesus use of the Word proves his love and reverence for it. He would change nothing. His answers to questions were typically like this “have you never read?” or “it is written” or “search the scriptures” Matthew chapters 5-7. In Matthew chapter 4 Jesus uses the unchanged word to defeat the devil who was trying to change it even in front of Jesus, look at verses 4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God, 7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God, 10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve

APPENDIX ONE

“Preach Christ always and evermore”

Of all I would wish to say this is the sum; my brethren, preach Christ, always and evermore. He is the whole gospel. His person, offices, and work must be our one great, all-comprehending theme. The world needs still to be told of its Saviour, and of the way to reach him. Justification by faith should be far more than it is the daily testimony of Protestant pulpits; and if with this master-truth there should be more generally associated the other great doctrines of grace, the better for our churches and our age. If with the zeal of Methodists we can preach the doctrine of Puritans a great future is before us. The fire of Wesley, and the fuel of Whitfield, will cause a burning which shall set the forests of error on fire, and warm the very soul of this cold earth. We are not called to proclaim philosophy and metaphysics, but the simple gospel. Man's fall, his need of a new birth, forgiveness through an atonement, and salvation as the result of faith, these are our battle-axe and weapons of war. We have enough to do to learn and teach these great truths, and accursed be that learning which shall divert us from our mission, or that willful ignorance which shall cripple us in its pursuit. More and more am I jealous lest any views upon prophecy, church government, politics, or even systematic theology, should withdraw one of us from glorying in the cross of Christ. Salvation is a theme for which I would fain enlist every holy tongue. I am greedy after witnesses for the glorious gospel of the blessed God. O that Christ crucified were the universal burden of men of God.

Your guess at the number of the beast, your Napoleonic speculations, your conjectures concerning a personal Antichrist – forgive me, I count them but mere bones for dogs; while men are dying, and hell is filling, it seems to me the veriest drivel to be muttering about an Armageddon at Sebastopol or Sadowa or Sedan, and peeping between the folded leaves of destiny to discover the fate of Germany. Blessed are they who read and hear the words of the prophecy of the Revelation, but the like blessing has evidently not fallen on those who pretend to expound it, for generation after generation of them have been proved to be in error by the mere lapse of time, and the present race will follow to the same inglorious sepulchre. I would sooner pluck one single brand from the burning than explain all mysteries. To win a soul from going down into the pit is a more glorious achievement than to be crowned in the arena of theological controversy as *Doctor Sufficientissimus*; to have faithfully unveiled the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ will be in the final judgment accounted worthier service than to have solved the problems of the religious Sphinx, or to have cut the Gordian knot of apocalyptic difficulty. Blessed is that ministry of which CHRIST IS ALL.

C. H SPURGEON

CHRONOLOGY OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT

Book	Approximate Writing Date	Author
1. Job	Unknown	Anonymous
2. Genesis	1445–1405 B.C.	Moses
3. Exodus	1445–1405 B.C.	Moses
4. Leviticus	1445–1405 B.C.	Moses
5. Numbers	1445–1405 B.C.	Moses
6. Deuteronomy	1445–1405 B.C.	Moses
7. Psalms	1410–450 B.C.	Multiple Authors
8. Joshua	1405–1385 B.C.	Joshua
9. Judges	about 1043 B.C.	Samuel
10. Ruth	about 1030–1010 B.C.	Samuel (?)
11. Song of Solomon	971–965 B.C.	Solomon
12. Proverbs	971–686 B.C.	Solomon primarily
13. Ecclesiastes	940–931 B.C.	Solomon
14. 1 Samuel	931–722 B.C.	Anonymous
15. 2 Samuel	931–722 B.C.	Anonymous
16. Obadiah	850–840 B.C.	Obadiah
17. Joel	835–796 B.C.	Joel
18. Jonah	about 775 B.C.	Jonah
19. Amos	about 750 B.C.	Amos
20. Micah	735–710 B.C.	Micah
21. Hosea	750–710 B.C.	Hosea
22. Isaiah	700–681 B.C.	Isaiah
23. Nahum	about 650 B.C.	Nahum
24. Zephaniah	635–625 B.C.	Zephaniah
25. Habakkuk	615–605 B.C.	Habakkuk
26. Ezekiel	590–570 B.C.	Ezekiel
27. Lamentations	586 B.C.	Jeremiah
28. Jeremiah	586–570 B.C.	Jeremiah

29. 1 Kings	561–538 B.C.	Anonymous
30. 2 Kings	561–538 B.C.	Anonymous
31. Daniel	536–530 B.C.	Daniel
32. Haggai	about 520 B.C.	Haggai
33. Zechariah	480–470 B.C.	Zechariah
34. Ezra	457–444 B.C.	Ezra
35. 1 Chronicles	450–430 B.C.	Ezra (?)
36. 2 Chronicles	450–430 B.C.	Ezra (?)
37. Esther	450–331 B.C.	Anonymous
38. Malachi	433–424 B.C.	Malachi
39. Nehemiah	424–400 B.C.	Ezra

NEW TESTAMENT

Book	Approximate Writing Date	Author
1. James	A.D. 44–49	James
2. Galatians	A.D. 49–50	Paul
3. Matthew	A.D. 50–60	Matthew
4. Mark	A.D. 50–60	Mark
5. 1 Thessalonians	A.D. 51	Paul
6. 2 Thessalonians	A.D. 51–52	Paul
7. 1 Corinthians	A.D. 55	Paul
8. 2 Corinthians	A.D. 55–56	Paul
9. Romans	A.D. 56	Paul
10. Luke	A.D. 60–61	Luke
11. Ephesians	A.D. 60–62	Paul
12. Philippians	A.D. 60–62	Paul
13. Colossians	A.D. 60–62	Paul
14. Philemon	A.D. 60–62	Paul
15. Acts	A.D. 62	Luke
16. 1 Timothy	A.D. 62–64	Paul

17. Titus	A.D. 62–64	Paul
18. 1 Peter	A.D. 64–65	Peter
19. 2 Timothy	A.D. 66–67	Paul
20. 2 Peter	A.D. 67–68	Peter
21. Hebrews	A.D. 67–69	Paul
22. Jude	A.D. 68–70	Jude
23. John	A.D. 80–90	John
24. 1 John	A.D. 90–95	John
25. 2 John	A.D. 90–95	John
26. 3 John	A.D. 90–95	John
27. Revelation	A.D. 94–96	John

Appendix Two

FOUNDATIONS of our FAITH

“If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?” – Psalm 11:3

A man is only as good as his word. If it is true of a man, it is most assuredly true of the God who cannot lie, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

THINK THIS THROUGH: “There is no other NAME under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved” Acts 4:12

“That at the NAME of JESUS, every knee should bow . . . and that every tongue should confess that JESUS CHRIST is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Philippians 2:10

“I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy NAME, for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth, for thou hast magnified THY WORD ABOVE ALL THY NAME.” – Psalm 138:2

JESUS CHRIST is .

The Word - *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us”*

- John 1:1,14

Eternal - *“Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen”*

- I

Timothy 1:17

Incorruptible -. *“And for their sakes, I sanctify myself that they also might be sanctified through the truth.”*

John 17:19

“He that is begotten of God keepeth himself and that wicked one toucheth him not. “ I John 5:18

Alive - *“Behold, I am alive forevermore. “*

- Revelation 1:18

Light - *“I am the light of the world He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”* John 8:12

Truth - Jesus *saieth unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life.”*

John 14:6

Cleansing - *“The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”* - I John 1:7

The BIBLE is ...

The Word - *“The word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword “*

Hebrews 4:12

“Thy word have I hid in my heart. “ - Psalm 119:11 Eternal “For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.”

- Psalm

119:89

“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”

-

Matthew 24:35

Incorruptible - *“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.”*

- I Peter 1:23

Alive - *“The Word of God is quick”*

(“quick” means alive)- Hebrews 4:12

Light -

“The entrance of thy word giveth light.” Psalm 119:130

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.” Psalm 119:105

Truth - *“Sanctib, them through the truth, thy word is truth.”* - John 17:17

Cleansing - *“ . . . cleanse it with the washing of water by the word”* Ephesians 5:26

Appendix Three

FROM WHENCE SOUND DOCTRINE?

In 1604, godly men met with King James 1 at Hampton Court. There they petitioned him to authorize a new translation to bring consistency out of the confusion that abounded because of the many English translations that had appeared over the past 75 years. the King appointed 54 men to begin the work as quickly as possible. These men were chosen on the basis of their unquestionable spiritual integrity and superior grasp of Bible languages.

During the ensuing period seven of these men died and in 1610 the translation work was completed by the remaining 47 translators. Printing began in 1611 and the new translation soon became known as the Authorized King James Bible became the English version that set Bible doctrine over the next 250 years. if men learned sound doctrine, they learned it only from the Authorized King James Bible.

It would not be until 1881 that any serious challenge would arise to supplant the Authorized King James Bible. One of the reasons concocted by the revisionists for the need for their new translation was the fact that even the KJB had been revised several times to correct errors. The last “revision” occurred in 1769 but still a new revision was

now needed to correct the remaining “errors” in that imperfect translation.

The validity of calling the changes in printing styles, grammar and spelling, and year-to year correction of type setting errata “revisions” rather than modernization updates is a slight-of-hand manipulation to justify the need for their new translation. The 1881 “revision” is not a revision of the KJB as they claim, but a new translation from entirely different texts than the KJB translators had used. It was, by dictionary definition, a revision, for it changed the meaning in many places that would alter long-standing Bible doctrine in a most deceitful and damaging way.

To bring us back to our main point, from 1646 to 1881 the only English bible from which men could learn sound Bible doctrine was the KJB. There has been no other English version from which men could garner truth. After the Revised Version of 1881 hit the market and because of its multiple changes to long-standing doctrinal truths, men still could only gain sound Bible doctrine through the tried and true KJB.

The KJB was used by the great soul-winners of the past men like John Wesley, Jonathon Edwards, C.H. Spurgeon, D.L. Moody, Billy Sunday, R.G. Lee, John R. Rice and Lee Roberson, to name just a few among a whole host of men who loved the Word of God.

If any of God’s men go off on doctrine it is either because they do not agree with the sound Bible doctrine of the KJB, and began searching elsewhere for wordings more inline with their beliefs, or they found other versions that had changed doctrinal truths. In the latter years of his life, John Wesley even completed his own translation of the New Testament in 1755, even though he was not that

versed in Greek. It was never really accepted among those of the Methodist church, which he helped to found.

The fact remains through all this period, men who adhered to sound Bible doctrine got their doctrine from one source, the Authorized King James Bible. To this hour, men who have learned sound Bible doctrine learned it directly or indirectly from the KJB. It is either when men misinterpret the KJB or go to other, newer translations that they drift into error.

A case in point can be made from a book written by John MacArthur earlier in his ministry. The book was “Lighting the Path” written in 1982 and was designed as an aide for believers on “How to study the Bible.” On page 48 in a highlighted box, the question is asked, “should I always read from the same version?” His answer reveals much about his later drift into error concerning his view on the blood of Jesus Christ.

“Generally, yes” he begins. “Stay with the same version so you will have familiarity. Once in a while it’s good to read the passage from another version just to further elucidate it. I normally read in the King James Version, but just for my own edification, I’ll invariably read the passage I’m studying in the New American Standard Version or in the New International Version. I think those two are the best available comparative translations.” (Note: the emphasis is this author’s).

A few years later John MacArthur would take a position that the blood of Jesus Christ was mere human blood that was spilt on the ground. It was the death of Jesus Christ that redeemed men’s souls. This is not a minor doctrinal error; this is blatantly unscriptural. The tragedy is that many hear his broadcasts and read his books and think he is the greatest Bible teacher this side of heaven!

Where in the world would “Dr.” MacArthur get such devilish doctrine? It certainly would not be from the KJB he said he “normally” reads. It was in a false bible in which he has placed his faith, where in many verses the word blood has been removed and the word death substituted. He learned sound Bible doctrine from the KJB he read, but was soon turned aside to vain janglings as he placed misguided faith in one of Satan’s imitation “bibles”!

For years Billy Graham has given free copies of the newest versions on the market to every one of his crusade converts. Then he leads them back into “churches” using these perverted versions to teach false doctrine, and has caused a whole generation to accept imitation “bibles” that will never ground them in sound Bible doctrine.

Speaking of converts, this author is reminded of the story of a Chicago reporter who thought it was his duty to be D.L. Moody’s personal critic, meeting the great preacher on a Chicago street one evening after a service, the reporter noticed a drunk staggering toward them. He pointed to the inebriated individual and sarcastically remarked, “There goes one of your converts, Mr. Moody.”

The old saint smiled and calmly replied. “yes, he must be one of my converts, because he’s certainly not one of the Lord’s!”

This author has met and worked side-by-side with several of Billy Graham’s early converts, and they were genuinely set free from sin and lovingly serving their Saviour. But that was years ago, and since Mr. Graham now distributes imitation bibles, the converts who have crossed my path seem to have been little changed by Christ.

The errors of Billy Graham’s doctrinal stands is numerous and well documented. To name just two, he believes that men can get out of hell, if there ever was one,

and that men can be saved by approaching God through the religion of their choice. What a slap in the face of the Lord Jesus Christ!

English-speaking believers can get sound Bible doctrine from only one source, the Authorized King James Bible. When men turn to other versions, usually “because they are easier to understand,” what are they really trying to understand? It certainly is not sound Bible doctrine. If they retain any semblance of truth, it is because they got it either directly or indirectly from the KJB.

Eve understood what Satan passed off as God’s word. But what she understood was not what God said! To mankind’s great loss she believed the first revision over the original. What she thought she understood was not what she understood at all. How many today are being duped into accepting a “Holy Bible” that is not holy at all?

The issue is not so much which version, but rather where do you find unadulterated bible truth? The question is not which Bible, but how much do you love the Lord Jesus Christ, and appreciate what He has done for you? Christ and His great work of redemption; has been no more highly exalted than in the Authorized King James Version. Every other English version fails in varying degrees to hold Christ and His work to the highest degree. If one is loyal to the Saviour who loved him and gave Himself for him, he will cling to that old King James Bible, because it is only there that Christ is upheld in all His glory to His exalted position of ultimate preeminence above all things.

Believer do you love Him supremely? Then stick with the Bible that exalts Him supremely: the Authorized King James bible.

Appendix Four

The AntiChrist's New Age Bible

- I. The Twisted Indictment-Isaiah 14:12
 - a. A title of Jesus Christ: Day Star (1Peter 1:19)
 - b. A second title for Jesus Christ: Bright and Morning Star (Rev. 22:16)
 - c. If we accept the newer translations, then Lucifer is removed as the one in whom iniquity was found (Ezekiel 28:12-19), and with the substitution of titles for our Lord, Jesus Christ appears to be the one to whom God's indictment is addressed.
- II. The Tainted References
 - a. Was Jesus a Sinner? (Matthew 5:22) the phrase, "without a cause" is omitted from almost all modern translations, making Jesus Christ guilty of sin when He drove the money-changers out of the temple. If He sinned, as the newer translations infer, then He could not be the spotless Lamb of God, who shed His sinless, pure blood for the remission of our sins, and we are yet in our sins!
 - b. The deity of Christ (John 1:1) Christ's becomes a god among many gods when the "a" is added to read "and the Word was a God." This is an open door to the New Age teaching that we too like Jesus can become a god! It destroys the Bible fact that Jesus is God, and beside Him there is no other.

- c. No Comprehension (John 1:4) the newer versions substitute words such as “extinguish, arrest, overcome” in place of the biblical word, “comprehend”. In context with the whole of the Gospel of John, the lack of comprehension of these two, who Christ was and why he came, bears out that the word is correctly translated in the King James Bible.
1. “He came unto His own, and His own received Him not.” John 1:11
 2. Neither Mary, nor the wedding guests did comprehend! (chapter 2)
 3. Nicodemus did not comprehend! Chapter 3
 4. The woman at the well did not comprehend! Chapter 4
 5. The remainder of the book shows that the religious leaders, roman soldiers, Pilate, the crowd, one of the two thieves, Peter, Thomas, the woman who came to the empty tomb all did not really comprehend!
- d. The forgotten Begotten (John 3:16) Various translations render the most memorized verse “only son, one and only son,” destroying the unique relationship between Jesus Christ and His heavenly Father. If He is God’s only son, then we are not and never can be sons of God see 1 John 3:1-3. We become sons of God through faith in Christ’s work of redemption because He, alone could offer Himself the sinless sacrifice as the sinless Son of God
- e. Easy Believeism/Positive Thinking (John 6:47) Almost all modern-day translations omit “me” when Jesus says “He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.” Just believe anything: another religion, yourself,

another human being, an inanimate object or statue, even Satan himself, and you will still get to heaven!

- f. How Big is Your God? John 14:2 is He so small and powerless, that the best he can do for us in heaven is a booth? Or a room an abode or house? I've got a mansion just over the hilltop, and we will share in the riches of Christ Jesus for all eternity as joint heirs with Him! My God is no pauper!
- g. Vain Belief Acts 8:37 Chapter 8 is a study in contrasts. It is the study of one man's false profession of faith and another's true profession. The multiple proofs that Simon's being "baptized also" was only dry sinner becoming a wet sinner shows that he only followed the crowd to maintain his standing and exploit it for his own gain. The Ethiopian Eunuch on the other hand made a good profession of faith in Jesus Christ in verse 37. This verse is correct in the KJB because it follow the biblical pattern set down in Romans 10:9-10.
- h. Where's the Blood? Ephesians 1:7 and Colossians 1:14 left in Ephesians in most new translations, the phrase; "in his blood" it is taken out of the same phrase in Colossians. That is how apostasy starts, a bit at a time. Sure enough, by the time the false Jehovah's Witnesses get around to inventing their own "bible" they have taken it out of both places!
- i. The He who Hee Haw 1 Tim. 3:16 Almost all the new translations substitute "He" for "God" in this verse. It destroys the fact that Jesus is God, and it was as God incarnate that Jesus came to Earth, died, and rose and ascended back to heaven.
- j. The Egg and I 1 John 5:7 human understanding and reasoning cannot comprehend how three can be one.

But faith believes god and knows it is so! This verse is essential, because doctrine can not be founded on supposition and innuendo, but on a clear statement from god that says this or that is so.

- III. The New Age Lie 2 Thess. 2: 7-12
 - a. coming to a church near you – the Antichrist’s New Age Bible¹
 - b. The epistle of Barnabus
 - c. The shepherd of Hermas