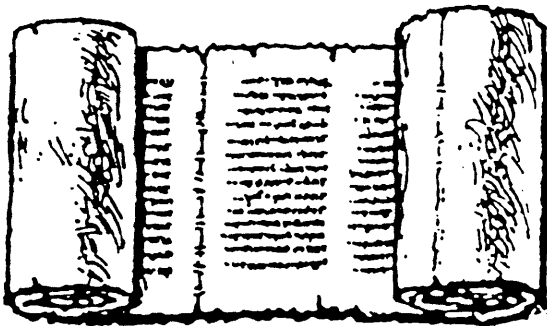
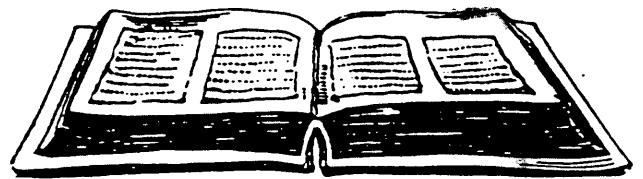
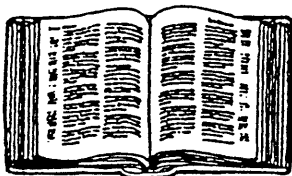
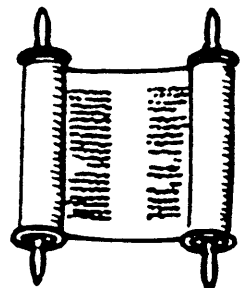
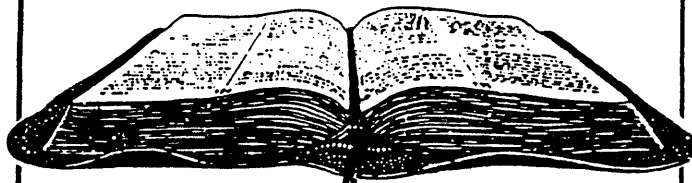
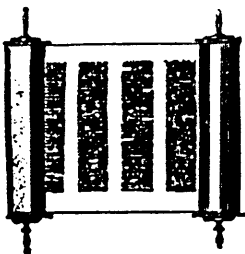


# The Truth About the Bible



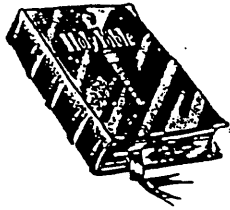
**AN INTENSIVE LOOK  
AT THE  
INSPIRED BOOK**



**Manfred E. Kober, Th.D.**

# The Truth about the Bible

## Spring 2005 Bible Conference



*April 10, 11, 13, 14, 2005*



Sun., April 10, 9:30 a.m. **THE BIBLE, THAT INCOMPARABLE BOOK**

10:30 a.m. **THE BIBLE, THAT INSPIRED BOOK**

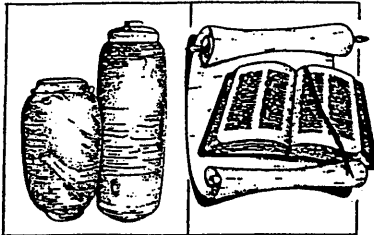
12:00 noon **Fellowship Dinner. . . please join us!**

6:30 p.m. **THE BIBLE, THAT INERRANT BOOK**

Mon., April 11, 6:30 p.m. **THE BIBLE, THAT INFALLIBLE BOOK**

Wed., April 13, 6:30 p.m. **THE BIBLE, THAT INDICTED BOOK**

Thu., April 14, 6:30 p.m. **THE BIBLE, THAT IMPERISHABLE BOOK**



### COME AND HEAR

**Manfred E. Kober, Th.D.**

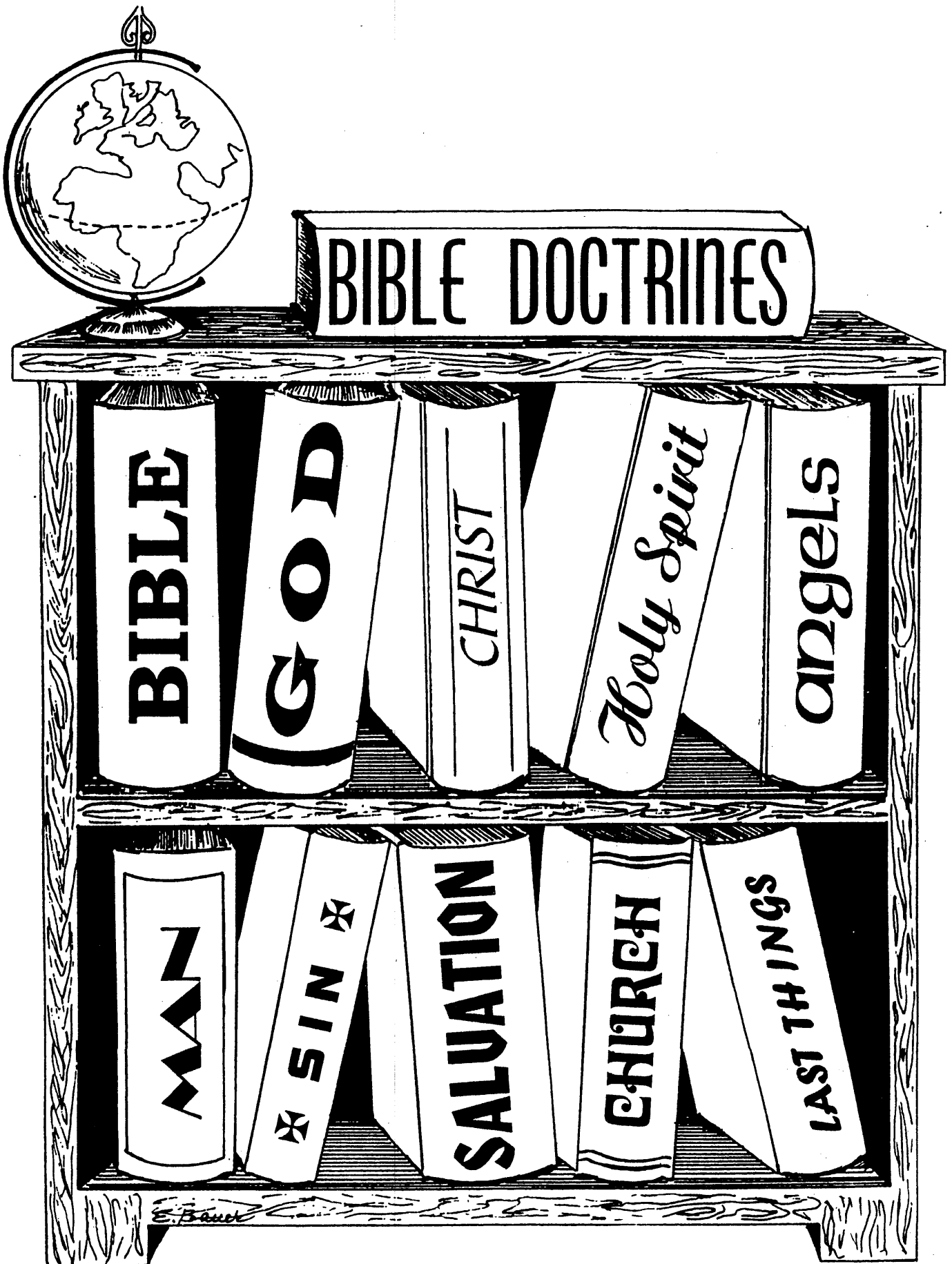
## Bondurant Baptist Church

First and Main Streets  
Bondurant, Iowa

**Pastor Jim Douglass**  
Tel.: (515) 967-3844

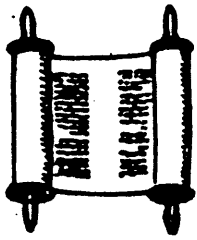


According to the Apostle Paul, the first benefit of Bible study is **doctrine** or **sound teaching** (2. Tim. 3:16). Doctrine gives content and conviction to one's beliefs. Join us for a study of the doctrine of **the Word of God**. Every other doctrine of the Bible depends on the accuracy of the Word of God. Come learn why the **Bible is true** and its critics are wrong.



Manfred E. Kober, Th.D.

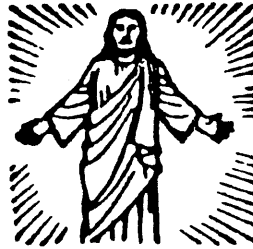
卅九



BIBLIOLOGY



THEOLOGY PROPER



CHRISTOLOGY



PNEUMATOLOGY



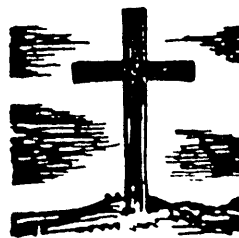
ANGELOLOGY

BIBLE  
DOCTRINES

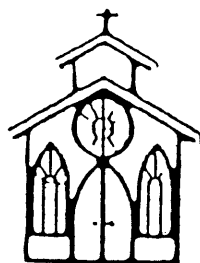
ANTHROPOLOGY



HAMARTIOLOGY



SOTERIOLOGY



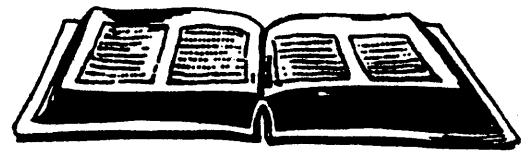
ECCLESIOLOGY



ESCHATOLOGY



# The Doctrine of the Bible and the Doctrines of the Bible



GOD

EPH. 4:6

THROUGH THE BIBLE



CHRIST

LUKE 24:27

THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE



HOLY SPIRIT

II PET. 1:21

OF THE BIBLE



ANGELS

HEB. 1:14

OF THE BIBLE



MAN

EPH. 2:1

IN THE BIBLE



SIN

JER. 17:9

THROUGH THE BIBLE



SALVATION

JONAH 2:9

OF THE BIBLE



CHURCH

I TIM. 3:15

OF THE BIBLE



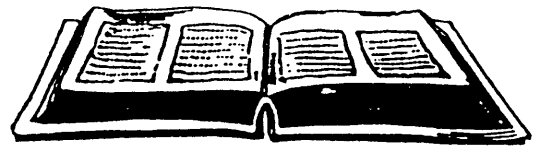
LAST THINGS

REV. 1:19

THROUGH THE BIBLE

Manfred E. Kober, Th.D.

# The Doctrine of the Bible and the Doctrines of the Bible



**GOD**

**FINAL DISCLOSURE THROUGH THE BIBLE**  
**EPH. 4:6** **GLORIFICATION**



**CHRIST**

**FAITHFUL DEPICTION THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE**  
**LUKE 24:27** **EXALTATION**



**HOLY SPIRIT**

**FRIENDLY DISPENSER OF THE BIBLE**  
**II PET. 1:21** **INSPIRATION**



**ANGELS**

**FAR-REACHING DISPATCHERS OF THE BIBLE**  
**HEB. 1:14** **ADORATION**



**MAN**

**FACTUAL DESCRIPTION IN THE BIBLE**  
**EPH. 2:1** **HUMILIATION**



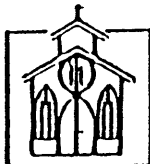
**SIN**

**FATAL DISCLOSURE THROUGH THE BIBLE**  
**JER. 17:9** **DEGRADATION**



**SALVATION**

**FOREMOST DESIGN OF THE BIBLE**  
**JONAH 2:9** **REGENERATION**



**CHURCH**

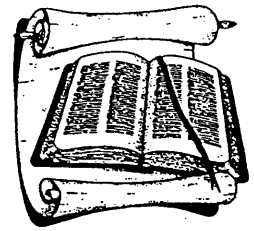
**FIRM DEFENDER OF THE BIBLE**  
**I TIM. 3:15** **PROCLAMATION**



**LAST THINGS**

**FINAL DESTINY THROUGH THE BIBLE**  
**REV. 1:19** **CONSUMMATION**

# THE BIBLE, THAT INCOMPARABLE BOOK



## 1A. THE UNIQUENESS OF ITS ORIGIN:

### 1b. Other books:

Publication of other books involves gathering the material, making an outline, writing, printing and distributing. If there are multiple authors to a book, there needs to be a plan, a collaboration of the contributors and editing of the finished product.

### 2b. The Bible:

The Bible is composed of 6 books  
written by about 3 authors in a period  
of time covering about 1600 years.

### 1c. Its chronology:

It was written over a period of 1,500 years, involving over 50 generations.

### 2c. The composers:

Moses: a politician  
Solomon: a king  
David: a shepherd  
Daniel: statesman  
Nehemiah: a cup bearer  
Peter: a fisherman  
Luke: a physician  
Matthew: a tax collector  
Paul: a rabbi



### 3c. The context:

Moses wrote in a desert  
Jeremiah wrote in a dungeon  
David wrote in the wilderness and palace  
Paul wrote in a prison  
Luke wrote during his travels  
John wrote in exile

Lamp of our feet, whereby we trace  
Our path when wont to stray.  
Stream from the fount of heavenly grace,  
Brook by the traveler's way!

Bread for our souls, whereon we feed,  
True manna from on high!  
Our guide and chart, wherein we read  
Of realms beyond the sky.

Pillar of fire through watches dark,  
Or radiant cloud by day!  
When waves would overwhelm our tossing bark,  
Our anchor and our stay!

Riches in poverty! Our aid  
In every needful hour!  
Unshaken rock—the pilgrim's shade,  
The soldier's fortress tower!

Our shield and buckler in the fight!  
Victory's triumphant palm!  
Comfort in grief! in weakness, might!  
In sickness, Gilead's balm!

Word of the ever-living God!  
Will of his glorious Son!  
Without thee how could earth be trod,  
Or heaven itself be won?

Yet, to unfold thy hidden worth,  
Thy mysteries to reveal,  
That spirit which first gave thee forth,  
Thy volume must unseal!

And we, if we aright would learn  
The wisdom it imparts,  
Must to its heavenly teaching turn  
With simple, childlike hearts!

—Bernard Barton.

## 2A. THE UNIQUENESS OF ITS UNITY:

### 1b. The many topics:

History, theology, philosophy, cosmology, anthropology, prophecy, biography, travelogues.

### 2b. The one theme:

#### 1c. The questions:

Who is God?

What is Man?

Is there a way for man to have communion with God?

#### 2c. The quest:

The Bible has one overriding theme: **"Our God is a saving God."**  
It gives the answer to man's basic questions and quest of a right relationship between man and his creator.

--He saved the world from a "formless and void" condition.

--He saved Noah, his family and the animals in the ark.

--He saved Israel from Egypt and its enemies.

--He saved the world through Jesus Christ.

--He will save the universe from all traces of sin in the new heaven and new earth.

#### 3c. The many contributors:

No prior plan caused Matthew to picture Christ as **King**, Mark to write about Him as **Servant**, Luke as true **Man** and John as **Son of God**.



*Symbols of the four evangelists who wrote the Gospels*





### 3A. THE UNIQUENESS OF ITS RELEVANCE:

#### 1b. Its antiquity:

The Bible is written primarily by individuals belonging to a small, national group which speak a language that hardly anyone speaks or reads.

#### 2b. Its actuality:

The Bible is the only book read by men of every age group and every class of society. It fits in every period of world history and is cherished in times of war and in times of peace.

### 4A. THE UNIQUENESS OF ITS APPEAL:

Small children can learn the Bible stories. Scholars can marvel at the profound content.

### 5A. THE UNIQUENESS OF ITS DISTRIBUTION:

#### 1b. The number of its translations and editions is unique.

#### 2b. The Bible is one of the earliest books translated. Around 250 B.C. the entire O.T. was translated into Greek.

#### 3b. Presently, 2,000 individuals work full time, 2,000 part-time on Bible translations.

#### 4b. These are the numbers of Bible translations:

		<u>By 1970</u>	<u>By 1978</u>	<u>By 2002</u>
The whole Bible	249		268	392
New Testaments	329		453	1,012
Portions	<u>853</u>		<u>939</u>	<u>883</u>
Total	1,431	1,660	2,287	

How many different languages has the Bible been translated into?

#### Index of Questions

Translating  
Publishing  
Outreach

**International Bible Society**

"A Great Site for Your Faith"

Bible Resources  
Bible Search

Call to Prayer  
Daily Scripture

Light Magazine  
Ministry Projects

NIV Bible | TN  
Guestbook

About the Bible

#### Statistical Summary provided by UBS World Report, March 2002

A summary, by geographical area and type of publication, of the number of different languages and dialects in which publication of at least one book of the Bible has been registered as of December 31, 2002.

Region	Portions	Testaments	Bibles	Total
Africa	213	279	149	641
Asia	223	228	119	570
Pacific	168	204	33	405
Europe	110	31	62	203
North America	40	26	7	73
Central & South America	127	244	21	392
Constructed Languages	2	0	1	3
Total	883	1,012	392	2,287

There are a total of 6809 languages spoken in the world.

95% of the world's population has at least parts of the Bible in their language.

- 5b. The Bible has been read by more people, published in more languages, purchased in greater numbers than any other book.
- 6b. The Bible (O.T.) was the first written book, the first printed book, and is the most valuable book. The Gutenberg Bible today is worth over \$500,000.
- 7b. The publication of the New International Version (NIV) in 1978 set a record for first-time editions with 1.2 million copies. The Revised Standard Version (RSV) was published in 1952 with one million copies.

#### 6A. THE UNIQUENESS OF ITS TRANSMISSION:

- 1b. More manuscripts are extant of the Bible than those of any other book.
- 2b. Of the N.T. some 5,000 Greek manuscripts are in existence and an additional 13,000 manuscripts of portions of the New Testament. Besides this, there are about 9,000 manuscripts of translations of the N.T.
- 3b. The ancient rabbis had lists of all the letters, syllables, words and lines of the O.T. They carefully checked and double-checked for accuracy of the copy.
- 4b. The Bible has survived despite unprecedented persecution. For centuries men have tried to destroy the Bible. Emperors and kings as well as religious leaders fanatically persecuted Christians and destroyed their holy book.
- 5b. Though the Bible is the most beloved book, it is also the most criticized book in the world (Notice our section on "The Bible, that Indicted Book"). Nonetheless, the Bible has stood the test of time and it is the critics who perished, not the Bible.

#### 7A. THE UNIQUENESS OF ITS MORAL CHARACTER:

- 1b. There exists an unbridgeable moral chasm between the Bible on the one hand and other religious writings on the other.
- 2b. The portrait of man as being totally unable to come to God except through His grace (Eph. 2:8-10).

Well has Lewis Sperry Chafer said, *"The Bible is not such a book that man would write if he could, or could write if he would."*




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#### A WONDERFUL BOOK.

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Book of Books  
 Inspired of God  
 Beautiful in Expression  
 Light of Life  
 Enduring Eternally

## MILLIONS HAVE FOUND IT SO

**HOLY BIBLE**

# THE WORD OF GOD

IS CHARACTERIZED AS BEING:

1. **PERFECT**, *ie.*, COMPLETE AND WITHOUT FAULT,
2. **SURE**, *ie.*, NOT VARIABLE,
3. **RIGHT**, *ie.*, STRAIGHT,
4. **PURE**, *ie.*, WITHOUT ALLOY
5. **CLEAN**, *ie.*, WITHOUT IMPURITIES,
6. **TRUE**, *ie.*, UTTERLY DEPENDABLE,

— PSALM 19: 7-9

"**THY RIGHTEOUSNESS IS AN EVERLASTING RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND THY LAW IS THE TRUTH.**" — PSALM 119: 142

JACK HAMMA

## Revered Through The Centuries

**HOLY BIBLE**

"I KNOW IT IS THE WORD OF GOD" — WOODROW WILSON

"TRUTH, WITHOUT ANY MIXTURE OF ERROR" — JOHN LOCKE

"SURE MARKS OF AUTHENTICITY" — ISAAC NEWTON

"A BOOK WORTH ALL OTHER BOOKS" — PATRICK HENRY

"GROUNDWORK OF HUMAN FREEDOM" — HORACE GREELEY

"THE GOSPEL ... IS A LIVING POWER" — MARLEON I.

"OUR GUIDE IN THE FUTURE" — U.S. GOVT

"SPECIAL REVELATION FROM GOD" — DANIEL WEBSTER

"BEST GIFT GOD HAS EVER GIVEN TO MAN" — A. LINCOLN

"TRUTHS COME FROM ON HIGH" — SIR JOHN HERSCHEL

"NOBLE BOOK! ALL MEN'S BOOK" — THOMAS CARLIZE

"BIBLE READING IS AN EDUCATION IN ITSELF" — LORD TENNISON

"I READ THE BIBLE CONTINUALLY BEAMS FROM THIS SOURCE" — WALTER SCOTT

"THE SCRIPTURES ARE INSPIRED BY GOD" — JAMES KELLOGG

"GOD SUPERNATURALLY DIRECTED THE WRITERS" — ROGER J. ROSSIGNOL, M.D.

"DIVINE INSPIRATION — ETERNAL TRUTHS" — BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, P.D.

SCIENCE WRITER

JACK HAMMA

## STILL WORLD'S 'MOST TRANSLATED BOOK'

THE LATEST INDEX OF TRANSLATIONS ISSUED BY UNESCO (UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION) REVEALS:

**THE BIBLE** 246 TRANSLATIONS

185 TRANSLATIONS

NOICOLAI LENIN OF RUSSIA 115 TRS.

TOLSTOY 98 TRS.

SHAKESPEARE 72

MARK TWAIN 66

CHEKHOV 61

BALZAC 58

DICKENS 53

SOME PORTION OF THE BIBLE IS NOW PUBLISHED IN 1,212 LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS

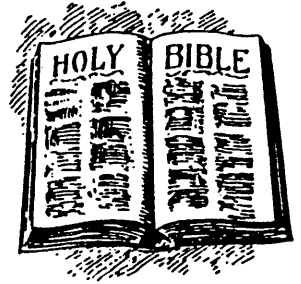
JACK HAMMA

## Printed in Over a Thousand Tongues

THE INFLUENCE OF THE BIBLE HAS DONE MORE TO FREE AND ELEVATE WOMEN THAN ANY OTHER FACTOR IN THE WORLD

JACK HAMMA

# THE BIBLE, THAT INSPIRED BOOK



## 1A. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF INSPIRATION:

1b. Inspiration is fundamental to other doctrines:

1c. It assures us of the truthfulness of the Bible.

2c. It stands to reason that if the Bible cannot be trusted concerning its testimony about itself, it cannot be trusted in other doctrines.

2b. Inspiration is basic to Christianity:

1c. The Christian faith differs from other religions in these areas:

1d. A resurrected Christ.

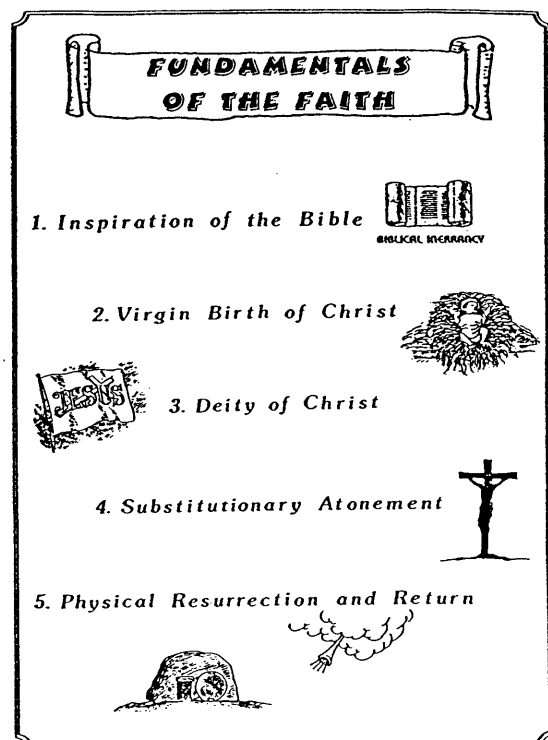
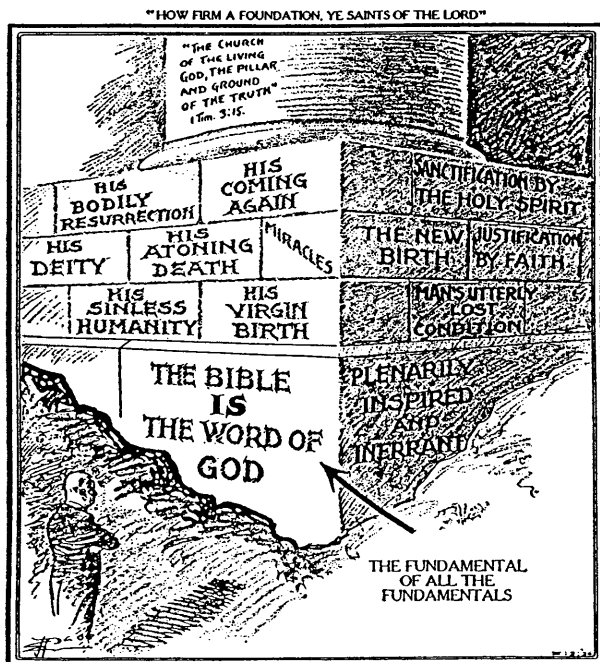
2d. An inspired Bible.

2c. If the Bible is not true, Christianity is an enormous hoax and Christians trust a false hope.

3b. Inspiration is one of the tests of orthodoxy:

1c. A person's view of the Bible affects all his other doctrines.  
A wrong foundation cannot help but lead to a wrong superstructure.

2c. The doctrine of inspiration is the first of the 5 fundamentals of the faith.



4b. Inspiration is the focus of conflict in 20<sup>th</sup> century theology:

1c. Most Christian schools have defected in the area of inspiration.

2c. The Scriptures demand a faithful defense of the faith:

Jude 3: Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

## 2A. THE STAGES OF GOD'S SPECIAL REVELATION

The Bible claims to be the product of God in every stage and process.

- Preparation: appointed authors
- Revelation: authentic accommodation
- Inspiration: assured accuracy
- Illumination: adequate apprehension
- Preservation: abiding authority



1b. Preparation:

1c. God prepared the instruments through which He would give His infallible communication:

Gal. 1:15-16 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

Jer. 1:4-5 Then the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

2c. The biblical books give evidence of composition by men especially selected by God, demonstrating various human styles and vocabularies.

## 2b. Revelation:

## 1c. The definition of revelation:

"God's disclosure to man of what man could otherwise not infallibly know."

## 2c. The divisions of revelation:

## 1d. General revelation

## 1e. Creation:



Rom. 1:19-21 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

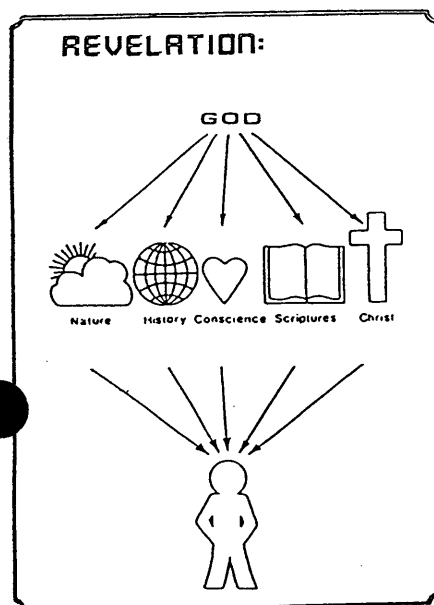
## 2e. Conscience:

Rom.2:15 Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;

## 3e. The course of history:

Acts 17:26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation.

## 2d. Special revelation:



Heb. 1:1 God, who at sundry times and in diverse manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets.

## 1e. Direct communication:

1 Thess. 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.



2e. The Savior:

John 1:18 No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

3e. The Scriptures:



1 John 5:9-11 If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son.

He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son.

And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life; and this life is in his Son.

3c. The differences between general and special revelation:

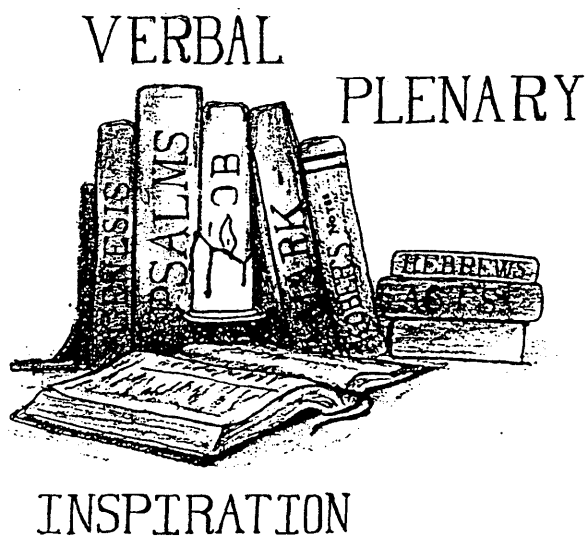
1d. General revelation is sufficient to bring man under **condemnation**. It demonstrates that there is an eternal, sovereign God and that man is morally responsible to Him.

2d. Special revelation is needed to bring man to **salvation**. It demonstrates that God provided a Savior and that this salvation is appropriated by faith.

3b. Inspiration:

1c. The definition of inspiration:

The definition: Inspiration is "God's superintendence of human authors so that using their own individual personalities they composed and recorded without error His revelation to man in the words of the original autographs." Charles C. Ryrie, *A Survey of Bible Doctrine*, p. 38.



2c. The explanation:

1d. Inspiration relates to the absolute accuracy of written revelation in the original manuscripts.

2d. Inspiration secures the accuracy of the written record:

1e. Facts which have been revealed directly by God.

2e. Facts which have been drawn from human sources.

4b. Illumination:

1c. The definition of illumination:

"The ministry of the Holy Spirit which enables all who are in a right relationship to God to understand the Scriptures."

2c. The demand for illumination:

That which the Holy Spirit inspired must be made understandable to the human mind. Understanding God's Word demands regeneration and receptivity on the part of the individual.

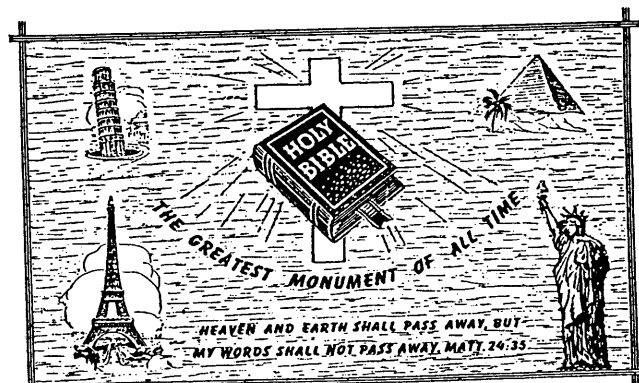
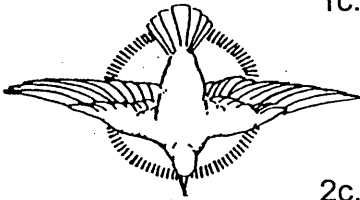
1 Cor. 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

5b. Preservation:

1c. The meaning of preservation:

The providence of God in guarding the Bible against substantial error.

2c. This providence of God is not complete because: (a) we do not have the original manuscripts, and (b) in the present manuscripts some scribal errors may be found.



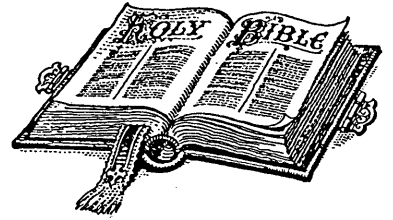


### 3A. THE SUGGESTIONS ON THE AUTHORITY OF GOD'S WORD:

- 1b. Rationalism: makes the Bible subject to reason.
- 2b. Romanism: makes the Bible subservient to tradition and extra-biblical books.
- 3b. Mysticism: the Bible is superceded by direct revelation.
- 4b. Neoorthodoxy: separates the Bible and the Word of God (Christ's).
- 5b. Cults: supplements the Bible with the writings of the founders.
- 6b. Neoevangelicalism: subscribes to biblical errors in non-revelatory matters.
- 7b. Orthodoxy: submits faith and practice to the Word of God.



# THE BIBLE, THAT INERRANT BOOK



## 1A. THE EXTENT OF INSPIRATION:

Fundamentalists subscribe to a high view of Scripture which they label verbal plenary inspiration.

1b. Inspiration is **verbal**.

1c. The Spirit guided in the choice of the very words:

2 Cor. 2:13 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.

2c. Inspiration involves the writer's thoughts as well as his verbal expressions.

3c. Verbal inspiration is not the same as mechanical dictation, at which the writer is simply a human dictaphone.

2b. Inspiration is **plenary**.

1c. The accuracy which verbal inspiration secures extends to every portion of the Bible.

John 10:35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken;

2c. Not all the Bible is equally **relevant**, (c.g. 1 Chron. 1-9), but all the Bible is equally **inspired** (2 Tim. 3:16).

## 2A. THE EVIDENCE FOR BIBLICAL INSPIRATION:

1b. The divine initiative:

2 Tim. 3:15, 16 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

1c. The evidence:

DOCTRINE

What Is Right

CORRECTION

How To Get Right



REPROOF

What Is Not Right

INSTRUCTION

How To Stay Right

## Their Divine Origin

### 2 TIMOTHY 3

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

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

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

## Their Human Origin

### 2 PETER 1

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

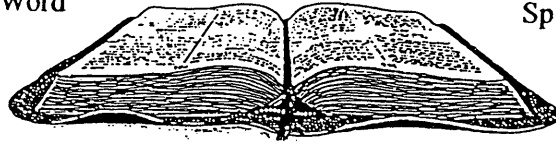
20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

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.

God-breathed Word

therefore

**TRUE**



Spirit-borne men

therefore

**TRUE**

1d. The entire Bible is **God-breathed**.

1e. The term *theopneustos*:

"Given by inspiration of God" is a single Greek term.

1f. Its etymology:

*theos*  
*pneuma*

**ALL SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED BY GOD**

↓  
γραφῆ  
graphē

$\begin{matrix} \text{θεος} & \rightarrow & \text{θεοπνευστος} & \leftarrow & \text{πνευμα} \\ \text{theos} & & \text{theopneustos} & & \text{pneuma} \\ \text{(God)} & & & & \text{(breathe)} \end{matrix}$

2f. Its exactitude:

↓  
God-breathed = God-expired

Paul coined the term to convey the exact nature of biblical inspiration.

2e. Its truth:

1f. The Bible is the result of God's breath.

2f. The term does not mean breathe into (as does inspiration) but breathe out of (expiration).

3f. Paul says that God breathed out the Bible.

2d. The **entire Bible** is God-breathed.

- 1e. The usage of the term Scripture argues for the entire Bible.

The term Scripture is used 55 times in the N.T. and always refers to some part of the Bible. At times it refers to the entire O.T. (Lk. 24:45; John 10:35).

- 2e. Paul considers the N.T. as Scripture as seen in his joining in 1 Tim. 5:18 both the O.T. and N.T. references (Deut. 25:4; Luke 10:7) and calls them Scripture.



1 Timothy 5:18

18 For the scripture saith,  
Thou shalt not muzzle the  
ox that treadeth out the  
corn. And, the labourer  
is worthy of his reward.

Deut. 25:4

4 Thou shalt not muzzle  
the ox when he treadeth  
out the corn.



Luke 10:7

7 And in the same house  
remain, eating and drinking  
such things as they give:  
for the labourer is worthy of  
his hire. Go not from house  
to house.



- 3d. The entire Bible is **God-breathed**:

- 1e. God is true (Rom. 3:4) and truth itself (John 14:6).
- 2e. If God is truth and true, God cannot utter any falsehood.
- 3e. A God-breathed Bible must be a true Bible. The Savior stated categorically that God's word is truth (John 17:17).

Dr. Ryrie has put the matter succinctly "in the form of syllogism, a logical argument consisting of a major premise, a minor premise, and a conclusion."

*Major premise:* God is true (Romans 3:4).

*Minor premise:* God breathed out the Scriptures (2 Timothy 3:16).

*Conclusion:* Therefore, The Scriptures are true (John 17:17).

(*What You Should Know About Inerrancy*, p. 40)

2c. The effects of inspiration:



d. Specifically from 2 Tim. 3:16.

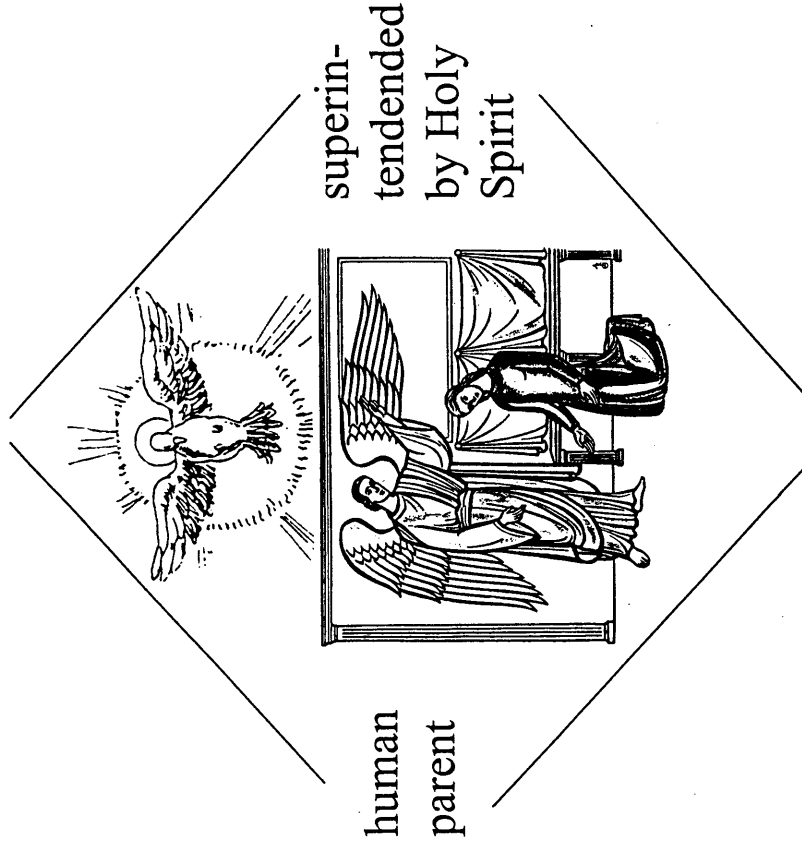
- 1e. The Bible is breathed out from God.
- 2e. The entire Bible is included.
- 3e. All the Bible, like God, is therefore without any errors or defects!

2d. Generally from the nature of a true revelation:

- 1e. Inerrancy: **truthfulness**
- 2e. Infallibility: **trustworthiness**
- 3e. Authority: supreme claim to allegiance and obedience
  - 1f. The problem of spiritual authority:  
If the Bible contains error, man's mind will sit as a judge over the Scriptures to determine what is and what is not true.
  - 2f. The possibilities of spiritual authority:  
(as listed by Pache, *The Inspiration and Authority of the Scriptures*, p. 132).
    - 1g. the authority of the Lord and His written revelation;
    - 2g. the authority of the church and its "infallible" pope;
    - 3g. the authority of human reason, with its self-styled sovereignty.

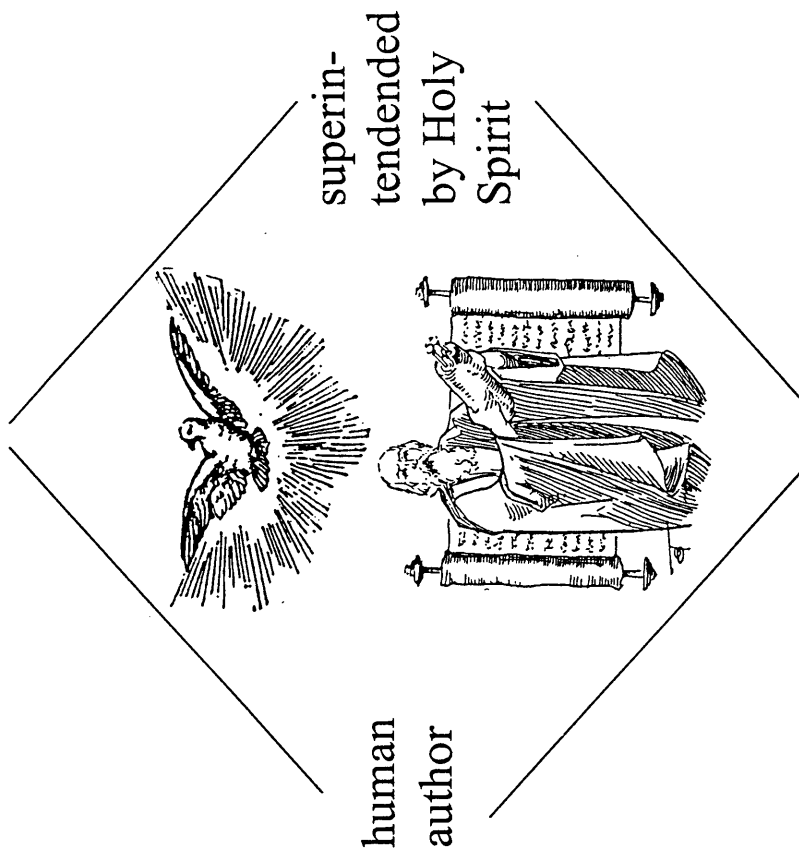
# THE TWO WORDS OF GOD

GOD



*The Living Word*  
(without sin)

GOD



*The Written Word*  
(without error)



2b. The evidence from human instruments:

2 Pet. 1:19-21 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

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.

- 1c. The certification of the prophetic word: vs. 19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

Peter claims that the written revelation is more certain than God's audible voice which James and John and he heard on the Mount of Transfiguration.

- 2c. The origination of the prophetic word: v. 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

- 1d. The Scriptures are not the result of the writer's own investigation into the nature of things.

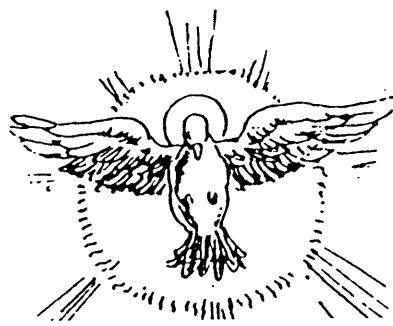
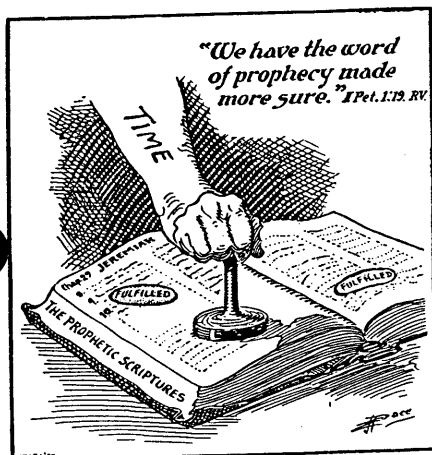
- 2d. The Scriptures are not the product of its writers' own thinking.

- 3c. The production of the prophetic word: v. 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.

- 1d. Peter emphatically denied that the Scriptures owe their origin to human initiative.

- 2d. Peter emphatically asserts that the source of the Scriptures is in God.

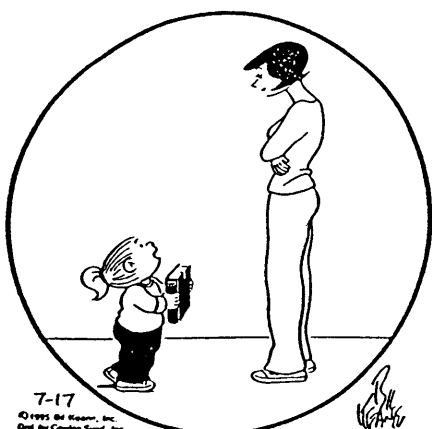
- 3d. Peter clearly states that the Holy Spirit is the determining influence in the production of the Scriptures:





- 1e. What is borne is taken up by the bearer and conveyed by the bearer's power, not its own, to the bearer's goal, not its own.
- 2e. The action of moving is not continuous—the writers were moved from time to time.
- 3e. In the moving of the Spirit the individual's capacities are used in an infallible manner. His personality, vocabulary and training are used in the production of God's word.
- 4e. The Spirit becomes the co-author and controlling agent with each human writer of the Bible.
- 5e. In the New Testament, Old Testament passages written by human authors are assigned to the Holy Spirit as author: Mk. 12:36 cf. Ps. 110:1
- 6e. Sometimes the record reflects the author's style and emotions:  
Rom. 9:1-3; 10:1 I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost, That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart. For I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my kinsmen according to the flesh.

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

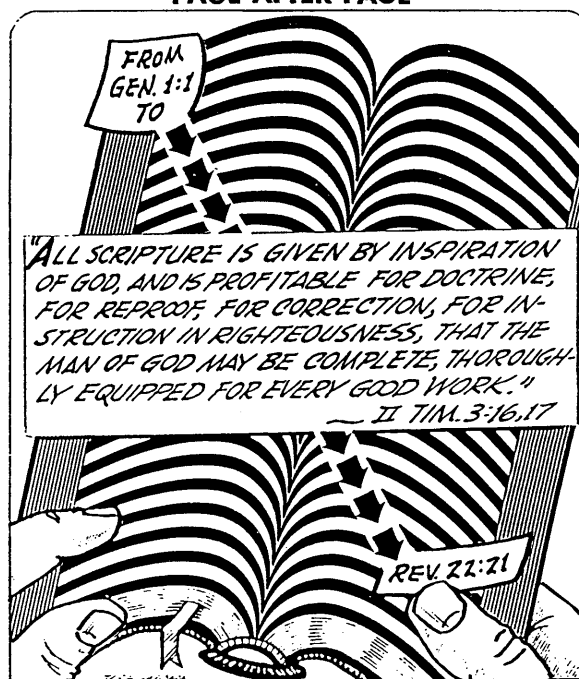


7-17

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"Did God write the Bible Himself?  
Or did He have some Holy  
Ghost writers?"

#### PAGE AFTER PAGE





### 3A. THE EFFECTS OF INSPIRATION: INERRANCY

1b. The significance of inerrancy:

1c. The denials of inerrancy:

1d. The liberals:

"Every Christian believes that the Bible is an inspired writing, but every sensible Christian knows that there are varying degrees of inspiration. The Book grew out of the religion of a people. Originally it was not so much a guide for their living as a statement of their experience. . . Many people are more troubled than helped by the miracle stories. That is unfortunate; they should fortify faith rather than weaken it. Many of them are interwoven with a belief in demonology and that is confusing. All of them were written a considerable time after the occurrence and that does not aid accuracy in detail." (Roy L. Minich, *What the Church Has to Offer*, p. 26, 28).

2d. The Neoevangelicals:

"The Bible is infallible, as I define that term, but not inerrant. That is, there are historical and scientific errors in the Bible, but I have found none on matters of faith and practice' (Stephen T. Davis, *The Debate about the Bible* (Philadelphia: Westminster, 1977, p. 115," cited by Ryrie, *What You Should Know about Inerrancy*, p. 29).

2c. The definition of inerrancy:

Webster's Unabridged Dictionary of 1913 defines inerrancy thusly:

**in-er'ran-cy** (-ăn-sī), *n.* [Cf. *L. inerrans* not wandering.]  
Exemption from error; infallibility.

The absolute *inerrancy* of the Bible. *Century Mag*  
**in-er'rant** (-ănt), *a.* [*L. inerrans, -antis*, not wandering.  
See *IN-* not; *ERR.*] 1. Inerratic. *Obs.*

2. Free from error or mistake; unerring; infallible.

An *inerrant* gift for tone color. *R. Burton.*

3c. The demands of inerrancy:

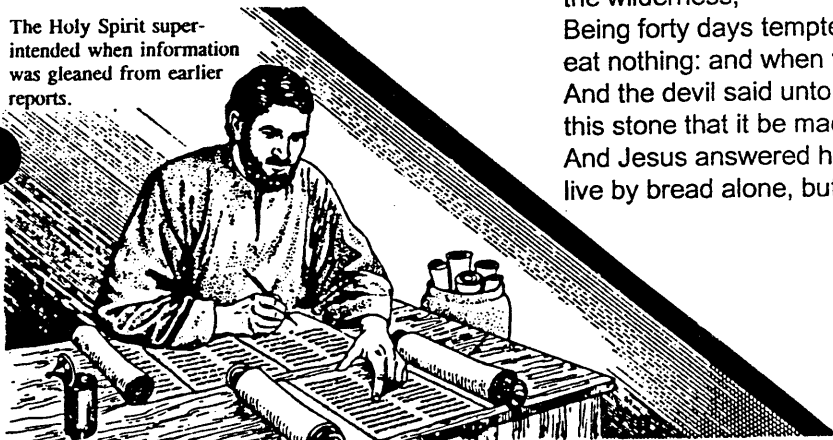
Inerrancy is one of the fundamentals of the Christian faith and needs to be taught and defended (Jude 3):

1. *Inspiration of the Bible*
2. *Virgin Birth of Christ*
3. *Deity of Christ*
4. *Substitutionary Atonement*
5. *Physical Resurrection and Return*

4c: The details of inerrancy:  
Inerrancy includes:

- 1d. Divine writing: Deut. 9:10 And the Lord delivered unto me two tables of stone written with the finger of God; and on them was written according to all the words, which the Lord spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly.
- 2d. Human research: Luke 4:1-4 And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,  
Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered. And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.  
And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.

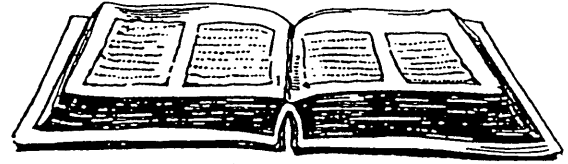
The Holy Spirit superintended when information was gleaned from earlier reports.



- 3d. Emotional outbursts: Rom. 9:1-3
- 4d. Heathen philosophy: Titus 1:12
- 5d. False statements  
The content of Genesis 3:5 may be false, but the record is true. This is actually what Satan spoke.

# THE BIBLE, THAT INFALLIBLE BOOK

## 1A. THE TESTIMONY OF THE SAVIOR:



### 1b. The Savior and the Infallibility of the Word:



### 1c. The Scriptures are infallible in every place:

John 10:34-35 Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?

If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken:

Ps. 82:6 I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.

### 2c. The Scriptures are inerrant in the minutest details:

Mat. 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.

'a letter' ↓  
בְּרֵאשִׁית  
↓  
'a stroke'  
88 Jot and tittle

#### JOT AND TITTLE

Jesus once said to his disciples: 'I tell you this: so long as heaven and earth endure, not a letter, not a stroke, will disappear from the Law until all that must happen has happened' (Matt. 5: 18). The 'letter' to which Christ referred is the *yod*, the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet, and the 'stroke' is the tittle, the small projection on some Hebrew letters (88). The same passage in the Authorized and Revised Versions refers to 'one jot or one tittle'.

(The Cambridge Bible Commentary, New Testament Illustrations, 1966, p. 84)

### 3c. The Scriptures are accurate in the very tense of verbs:

Mt. 22:32 I **am** the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

John 8:58 Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I **am**.

### 4c. The Scriptures are to be believed in their entirety:

Lk. 24:25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:

Mt. 22:29 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.

## SUMMARY:

1. The Scriptures are completely infallible.
2. The very letters and distinguishing features are inerrant.
3. The tense of verbs is inspired.
4. the Scriptures are to be believed in their entirety.

## 2b. The Savior and the inspiration of the New Testament:

Christ not only believed in the total inspiration of the Old Testament, He also put His imprimatur on the New Testament.



## 1c. The inspiration of the Gospels:

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.**

## 2c. The inspiration of the Epistles:

John 16:14, 15 He shall glorify me: for he **shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.**

All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I that **he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.**

## 3c. The inspiration of the prophetic portions of the N.T.:

John 16:12, 13 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot hear 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 shew you things to come.**

## 4c. The inspiration of the historical portion of the N.T.:

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, **after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me** both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

## 3b. The Savior and the accuracy of the Old Testament:

## 1c. His recognition of the accuracy of the Old Testament:

Never once did Christ cast the slightest doubt on any Old Testament passage. He quoted it frequently in His ministry and used it effectively in His encounter with Satan during His temptation (Matt. 4; Luke 4).

2c. His references to Old Testament events:

- 1d. Some of the events quoted by Christ are supernatural.
- 2d. Some of the events quoted by Christ are controversial and attacked by the critics.
- 3d. Some of the events quoted by Christ are questioned by the skeptics.

The Lord felt the O.T. to be historical and reliable in every aspect as witnessed by the quotations reproduced below  
(From Vine's *The Divine Inspiration of the Bible*, pp. 38-39)

We may view our Lord's testimony to the Inspiration of Old Testament Scripture in another way. He was constantly giving His endorsement to the historicity and Divine authority of Old Testament narratives, apart from the principle we have been considering. He obviously views as authoritative several passages which have been considered by higher critics as uninspired or even legendary. The Gospel narratives make clear that both Christ and those whom He was addressing invariably regarded the historical records as authentic. Let us examine these allusions.

Besides His references mentioned above, to Jonah's being three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, to the provision of the manna in the wilderness, and to Abraham and Moses, He speaks of the following circumstances as facts, the historicity of which He Himself confirmed, and His hearers, both disciples and opponents, accepted without question:

	RECORDED IN	NEW TESTAMENT.
The creation of man...	Gen. 5. 2	.. Matt. 19. 4
The murder of Abel, ..	Gen. 4 ..	.. Matt. 23. 35
The times of Noah, ..	Gen. 7 ..	.. Matt. 24. 37
The Flood, ..	Gen. 7 ..	.. Luke 17. 27
The days of Lot, ..	Gen. 13	.. Luke 17. 28
The destruction of Sodom, ..	Gen. 19	.. Luke 17. 29

#### Evidences in Scripture.

The Word of God to Moses,	Exod. 3. 6	.. Matt. 22. 32
The rite of circumcision ..	Gen 17. 10	.. John 7. 22
The giving of the Law, ..	Exod. 20	.. John 7. 19
The commandments of the Law,	Exod. 20. 12-16	.. Matt. 19. 18
The ceremonial law re leprosy,	Lev. 14	.. Mark 1. 44
The lifting up of the serpent of brass, ..	Num. 21. 9	.. John 3. 14
The profanation of the Temple by the priests, ..	see Num. 28. 9, 10; 1 Chron 9. 30-32	.. Matt. 12. 5
David's eating of the shew-bread, ..	1 Sam. 21	.. Matt. 12. 3
The glory of Solomon, ..	1 Kings 10	.. Matt. 6. 29
The Queen of Sheba's visit to Solomon, ..	1 Kings 10	.. Matt. 12. 42
The famine in the days of Elijah ..	1 Kings 17	.. Luke 4. 25

The sending of Elijah to a widow in Sidon.	..	1 Kings 17	..	Luke 4. 25
The healing of Naaman by Elisha,	.. ..	2 Kings 5	..	Luke 4. 27
The stoning of Zechariah,	..	2 Chron. 24. 21		Matt. 23. 35
Daniel's prophecy of the abomination of desolation,		Dan. 9. 27, etc.		Matt. 24. 15
Jonah's message to Nineveh,		Jonah 3. 5	..	Matt. 12. 41

This list is suggestive in more ways than one. The authority of the Lord's opinions as to the validity of Old Testament passages is set in contrast in several cases to Higher Critical views. On this see below.

Again, the list, coupled with His other references to the Old Testament, shows how His mind was stored with the Holy Scriptures. It was His habit to use them on all occasions, and to base His arguments upon them.

## 2A. THE TEST OF PROPHECY:

1b. The significance of prophecy:

1c. Its significance to the content of the Bible:

1d. One-fourth of the Bible at the time at which it was written was predictive prophecy.

1e. In the O.T., 17 out of the 39 books are prophetic.

2e. In the N.T., the book of the Revelation, entire chapters in the Gospels and lengthy passages in the epistles are devoted to prophecy.

2d. Approximately half of all biblical prophecies have been fulfilled.

2c. Its significance to the confirmation of the Bible:

Fulfilled prophecies of the Scriptures are incontrovertible evidence that the Bible is the inerrant Word of God.

One of the mightiest links in the great chain of evidence that sustains the doctrine of the inspiration of the Bible is that of prophecy and its fulfillment. Students in every age have been swayed by this unanswerable argument, and some of the greatest thinkers of the Christian centuries have been led into faith by this testimony. The reader may remember the famous case of Tatian, who was the author of the Diatessaron. This great philosopher and apologist of the second century writes in simple but graphic language of his own conversion. He tells us that after having taken his degree in philosophy, he purposed to devote his entire



life to the search for truth. He states that while he was giving his most earnest attention to that matter he came in contact with the Old Testament Scriptures. Finding them superlatively above the errors of men, he was led to put faith in those writings very largely “through the foreknowledge displayed of future events” by the writers of the Old Testament text. (Harry Rimmer, *Internal Evidence of Inspiration*, p. 183).

#### 1d. The challenges of God:



Isaiah 41:21-23 Produce your cause, saith the LORD; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob.

Let them bring them forth, and shew us what shall happen: let them shew the former things, what they be, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come.

Shew the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye are gods: yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold it together.

Isaiah 41:26 Who hath declared from the beginning, that we may know? and beforetime, that we may say, He is righteous? yea, there is none that sheweth, yea, there is none that declareth, yea, there is none that heareth your words.

Isaiah 41:28 For I beheld, and there was no man; even among them, and there was no counsellor, that, when I asked of them, could answer a word.

Isaiah 43:12 I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God.

Isaiah 44:26 That confirmeth the word of his servant, and performeth the counsel of his messengers; that saith to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be inhabited; and to the cities of Judah, Ye shall be built, and I will raise up the decayed places thereof:

Isaiah 46:9-11 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:

Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it.

#### 2d. The value of the challenge:

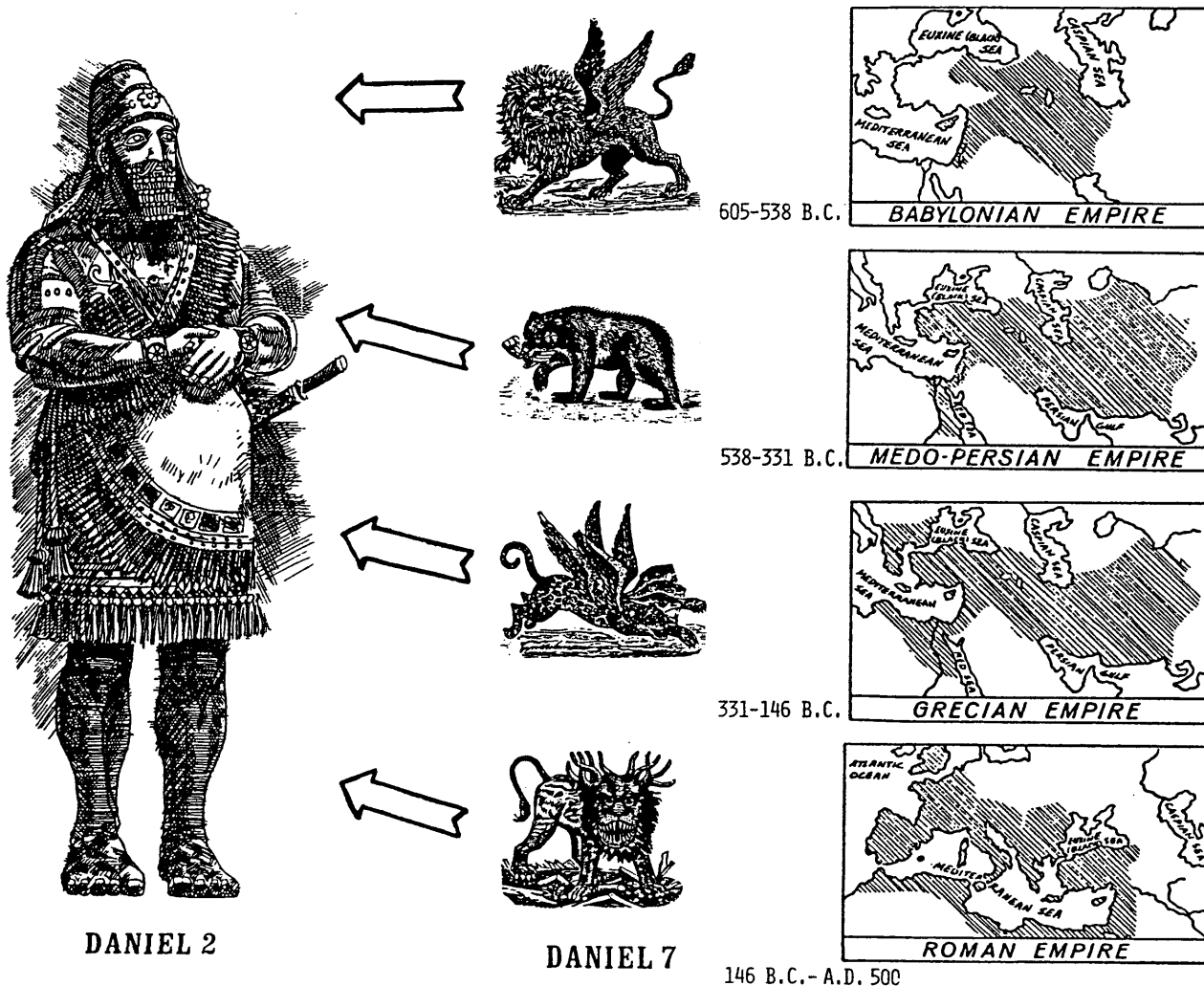
1e. Negatively, fulfilled prophecy is an infallible criterion by which to test pagan religions and pious imposters.

2e. Positively, fulfilled prophecy involves irrefutable evidence of the truthfulness of God's Word.

2b. The scope of prophecy:

1c. The program for the nations:

Dan. 2; Dan. 7



2c. The people of Israel:

- 1d. Sojourn in Egypt: Gen. 15:13-16
- 2d. Infidelity, captivity, dispersion, regathering: Deut. 28
- 3d. Seventy years of Babylonian captivity: Jer. 25:11; 29:10
- 4d. Israel's survival until the end of time: Jer. 31: 35-36



- 5d. Future regathering:
  - 6d. Possession of the land from Egypt to the Euphrates: Gen. 15:18
  - 7d. Future salvation: Zech. 12:10; Rom. 11:25-26
- 3c. The person of Christ:
- 1d. In the O.T., 333 specific predictions are made concerning Christ .
  - 2d. Many of these predictions were fulfilled at Christ's first coming.
  - 3d. The prophecies are specific in nature and literal in their fulfillment.

The following fulfilled prophecies concerning Christ are taken from Matthew's gospel: (Renè Pache, *The Inspiration and Authority of Scripture*, pp. 216-217).

the miraculous birth (Matt. 1:22-23; Isa. 7:14)  
the location, Bethlehem (2:5-6; Micah 5:1)  
the descent into Egypt (2:15; Hosea 11:1)  
the massacre of the innocents (2:17-18; Jer. 31:15)  
the childhood at Nazareth, in Galilee (2:23; 4:12-16; Isa. 8:23; 9:1)  
the forerunner, John the Baptist (3:3; 11:10; Isa. 40:3)  
the healing of the sick (8:16-17; Isa. 53:4)  
the beloved Servant of Jehovah (12:16-21; Isa. 42:1-4)  
the hardening of the people (13:14-15; Isa. 6:9)  
the teaching by means of parables (13:35; Ps. 78:2)  
the hypocrisy of the Pharisees (15:7-9; Isa. 29:13)  
the coming of Elijah (17:10-11; Mal. 4:6; cf. Mark 9:12)  
the entry into Jerusalem, riding upon an ass (21:4-5; Zech. 9:9)  
the making of the temple into a den of robbers (21:13; Isa. 56:7; Jer. 7:11)  
the perfection of praise from the mouth of babes and sucklings (21:16; Ps. 8:2)  
the rejection of the head stone of the corner (21:42; Ps. 118:22)  
the Messiah whom David called Lord (22:43-44; Ps. 110:1)  
the thirty pieces of silver offered by the chief priests (26:15; 27:3-10; Zech. 11:12-13)  
the betrayal by Judas (26:24; Ps. 41:9)  
the smiting of the Shepherd and the dispersal of the sheep of the flock (26:31, 56; Zech. 13:7)  
the arrest, and the numbering of Jesus' soul with the transgressors (26:54, 56; 27:38; Isa. 53:7, 9, 12)  
the coming of the Son of man in the clouds (26:64; Dan. 7:13)  
the insults, spitting and smiting on the face of the Messiah (26:67; 27:30; Isa. 50:6; 52:14)  
the wine mingled with gall, the vinegar (27:34; John 19:29; Ps. 69:21)



the crucifixion, the piercing of the feet and the hands (27:35; Ps. 22:16)

the casting of lots for the garments (27:35; Ps. 22:14-18)

the railings during the death agony (27:39-44; Ps. 22:6-8)

"My God, why hast thou forsaken me?" (27:46; Ps. 22:1)

the burial in the tomb of the rich man (27:57-60; Isa. 53:9)

the resurrection (28:7; Isa. 53:10; Ps. 16:8-9)

the good news carried to all nations (28:19; Isa. 49:6)

Truly, the person and the work of Christ are inseparable in Holy Scripture!

#### 4c. The provisions for the Church:

- 1d. Rapture: 1 Thess. 4:13-18
- 2d. Rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ: 1 Cor. 3:11-4:5
- 3d. Rejoicing at the Marriage of the Lamb: Rev. 19:7-9
- 4d. Return with Christ: Rev. 19:11-14
- 5d. Reign with Christ in the Millennium: 1 Cor. 16:2-3
- 6d. Rule over the angels: 1 Cor. 6:2-3
- 7d. Residence in the New Jerusalem: Rev. 21; Heb. 12:22-23

#### 3b. The specificity of prophecy:

##### 1c. Representative prophecies concerning Christ:

Woychuck lists seven specific representative prophecies concerning Christ with their historical fulfillments:

- (1) "Bethlehem," the place of His birth was announced (Micah 5:2) 700 years before it occurred (Matt. 2:1);
- (2) He rode "upon a colt the foal of an ass" (Matt. 21:4-11), as was foretold by Zechariah (9:9) 500 years before Christ;
- (3) The purpose of His substitutionary death is clearly stated by Isaiah (ch. 53) 700 years in advance (I Peter 2:21-24);
- (4) Isaiah (53:12) also predicted how He would be "numbered with the transgressors" (Mark 15:28);
- (5) His very garments were disposed of (John 19:23-24) exactly as predicted 1000 years earlier (Ps. 22:18);
- (6) Contrary to all custom, His bones were left unbroken (John 19:33) as had been anticipated for a whole millennium (Ps. 34:20); and
- (7) His glorious resurrection (John 20), though not believed, was prophesied 1000 years in advance (Ps. 16:10).

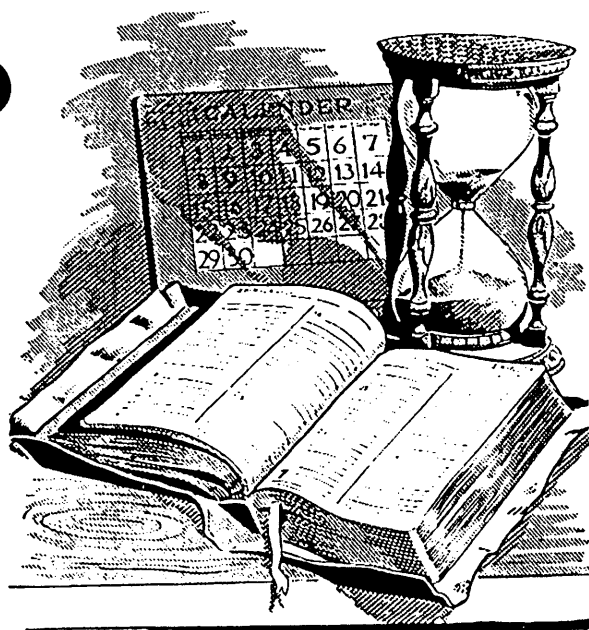
(*The Infallible Word*, pp. 66-67.)

##### 2c. The probability of chance fulfillment:

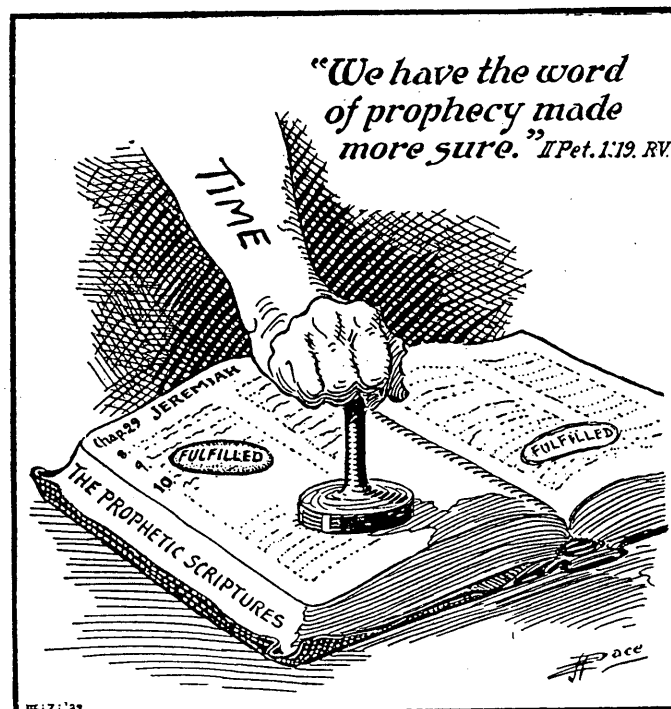
Following the laws of mathematical probability of several occurrences, we arrive at the conclusion that the probability of chance fulfillment of the three hundred prophecies simultaneously in one person would be one chance out of a number that would be written as *one*, followed by at least a thousand zeros. Imagine a grain of sand marked so as to distinguish it from all the rest, and then being placed in a globe the size of our whole earth, filled with unmarked grains of sand. Stir the whole mass thoroughly, and then let a blind-folded man find the marked grain of sand. The chance that he would find it on his first attempt would be many quadrillion times more likely than the chance that the 300 prophecies could have been fulfilled simultaneously in the person of Christ apart from divine inspiration of the prophetic Scriptures.

*(The Infallible Word, pp. 67-68.)*

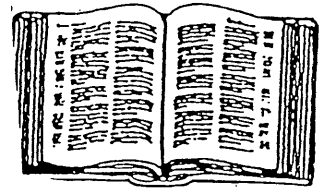
Fulfilled prophecies, as veritable miracles of divine revelation, are the clear signature of the omniscient, eternal and truthful God. The exact, concise and literal fulfillment of prophecy is the strongest proof for the absolute veracity of God's eternal and supernatural Book.



When the Bible was written, one-fourth of it was prophetic. Half of the prophecies have been fulfilled, all of them completely and literally, attesting to the accuracy and dependability of God's Word.



# THE BIBLE, THAT INDICTED BOOK



## 1A. THE SOURCE OF THE ATTACKS:

### 1b. Attacks outside Christendom:

#### 1c. The secularist mentality:

The Bible has no relevance to modern man and should be abandoned.

#### 2c. The humanist/atheist approach:

Man is self-sufficient and needs to be liberated from superstition and enslaving morés.

#### 3c. The Islamic attack:

The Q'ran supercedes the Bible which has been misinterpreted by idolatrous infidels.

#### 4c. The Communist philosophy:

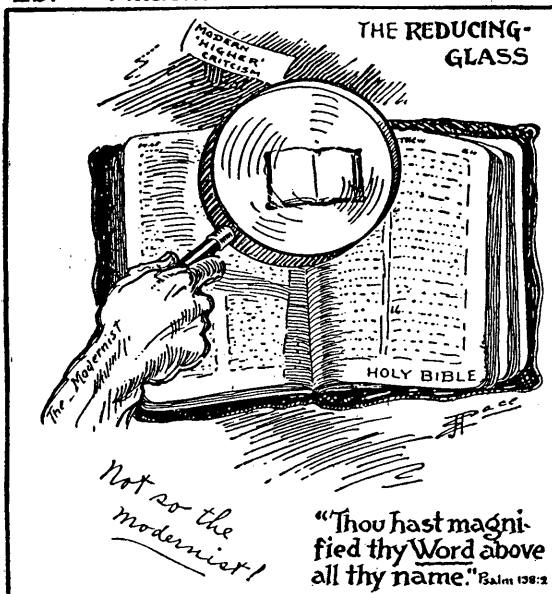
Religion is the opiate of the people. The transformation of the new man proceeds from the insights of Marx, Engels and Lenin, not from some superannuated book which enslaves the minds of men.

#### 5c. The scientific attack:

The Bible presents a primitive worldview of antiquity which modern science has demonstrated as false and misleading.



### 2b. Attacks from within Christendom:



Worse than any Assyrian invasion

1c. The higher-critical approach to the Scriptures:

Since Descartes (1596-1650), European scholars, especially of France and Germany, have applied reason to explain away the supernatural elements of divine revelation.

--David Friedrich Strauss (1808-1874)

--Julius Wellhausen (1844-1918)

2c. The demythologizing of Rudolf Bultmann:

Modern science has shown that miracles are impossible. We need to go beyond the supernatural myths and explain the intention of the original writers (*Sitz im Leben*).

3c. The neo-orthodox approach:

The Scriptures are a human book. Humans err. Therefore, the Bible contains errors. These errors, however, do not detract from the true Word of God which is Christ.

Makers of the Modern Theological Mind

**EMIL  
BRUNNER**

J. Edward Humphrey

Edited by Bob E. Patterson



Makers of the Modern Theological Mind

**KARL  
BARTH**

David L. Mueller

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Makers of the Modern Theological Mind

**RUDOLF  
BULTMANN**

Morris Ashcraft

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4c. The neo-evangelical efforts:

In the 1950's a group of evangelicals expressed their dissatisfaction with fundamentalism in these areas:

- science: modern science has demonstrated that Genesis 1-2 cannot be taken literally.  
Russell Mixer of Wheaton College espoused theistic evolution.
- separation: neo-evangelicals wished to infiltrate liberal mainline denominations, not to separate from them, in an effort to bring them to a more conservative position.  
(Have their efforts during the past 50 years accomplished that?)  
Billy Graham and cooperative evangelism
- Scripture: The Bible should not be defended in all areas. It is true in revelatory matters, but may contain error in non-revelatory areas.  
Daniel P. Fuller, Fuller Theological Seminary

2A. THE SCOPE OF THE ATTACKS:

1b. Ethical attacks:

Dr. Walvoord has well-summarized the situation:

Many critics have been outspoken in their denunciation of Old Testament ethics. The destruction of entire cities and nations as commanded by God, including men, women, and children, the tolerance of slavery and warfare, and lack of express condemnation of other attitudes and actions that seem incongruous with a God who is holy, just, and good, are itemized with enthusiasm by those who find the Old Testament far below a proper standard of ethics. That there are problems in the area no one will deny, but the chief problem arises in the lack of human comprehension of divine righteousness and of the motivation which is evident in divine commands to exterminate wicked people whom God has tolerated for many generations.

(Merrill C. Tenney, ed., *The Bible, the Living Word of Revelation*, p. 193-194)

2b. Historical attacks:

1c. Comprehensive attacks:

The history of the Bible is supposedly in conflict with secular history.



- The Bible mentions individuals who apparently never lived:  
Sargon II  
Pontius Pilate
- The Bible refers to cities destroyed by Israel when, in fact, they were not:  
Jericho  
Ai
- The Bible refers to peoples who never existed:  
Hittites  
Horites



It should be remembered in light of countless refutations of the higher critics through archeology, that **absence of evidence is not evidence of absence**. Simply because archeologists have not discovered a certain place, person or people mentioned in the Bible does not mean that they never existed.

## 2c. Contemporary attacks:

Even evangelical denominations are yielding to higher critical theories. A case in point is the situation in the Christian Reformed Church. In their publication *The Banner*, of March 26, 2001, James VanderKam published an article, "When Archeology Conflicts With the Bible."

# When Archeology Conflicts with the Bible

Without claiming to offer an overall solution, I'd like to offer a few points to keep in mind. The first is a very basic one: we should distinguish the biblical story (sometimes present in differing versions, as in Kings and Chronicles) from our interpretation of it, just as archeological data should be separated from our reading of it. Neither interpreters of the Bible nor archeologists should claim complete objectivity in their work. Throughout Christian history many theories have risen about how the biblical stories should be read (as allegories, as historically factual, as family and national lore, and so on). Likewise competing theories exist about how to do archeology and read the evidence.

report? One obvious difference, of course, is that the biblical writer placed it within a theological framework; the author wrote not in the first instance to give details about Jericho, its structure, and its history but to describe God's miraculous gift of that part of Canaan to God's people.

There is still reason for thinking that the biblical story rests on a historical foundation, though we may not know

and certainly cannot prove exactly how extensive that foundation may be. The work of archeologists helps students of the Bible because it reveals much about the lives of people in various places—what their homes were like, what sorts of work they did and the tools they used, what roads

Second, we should recall that the biblical writers, though they worked under divine inspiration, wrote in the literary forms of their times, not in modern categories. It's easy to assume that if a biblical story says something happened, it did so in precisely the way the text says. But can we be sure?

Do we know, for example, that the ancient writer who described the conquest of Jericho in Joshua 6 was offering something like a modern newspaper

connected places, and the like.

*P. robustus*  
(South Africa)

*P. boisei*  
(Eastern Africa)



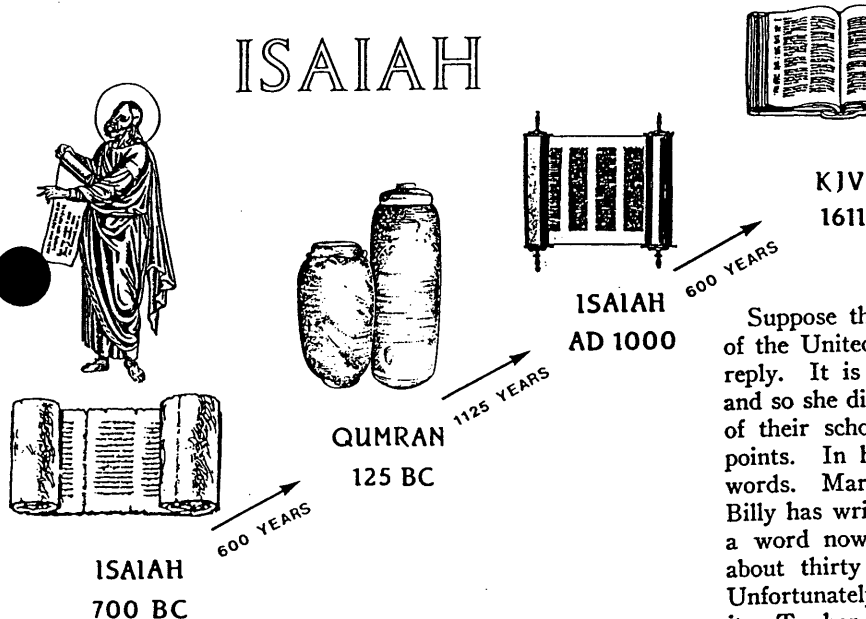
3b. Scientific attacks:

- 1c. The science of astronomy has demonstrated the myth of Gen. 1-7.
- 2c. The discovery of fossils points to a great antiquity of the human race.
- 3c. The modern worldview allows for no supernaturalism.

4b. The transcriptional attacks:

We do not have the autographa, making it impossible to know what errors crept into the biblical manuscripts since they were written.

This attack has been capably answered by Edward J. Young:



Suppose that a schoolteacher writes a letter to the President of the United States. To her great joy she receives a personal reply. It is a treasure which she must share with her pupils and so she dictates the letter to them. They are in the early days of their schooling, and spelling is not yet one of their strong points. In his copy of the letter Johnny has misspelled a few words. Mary has forgotten to cross her t's and to dot her i's. Billy has written one or two words twice, and Peter has omitted a word now and then. Nevertheless, despite all these flaws about thirty copies of the President's letter have been made. Unfortunately, the teacher misplaces the original and cannot find it. To her great sorrow it is gone. She does not have the copy which came directly from the President's pen; she must be content with those that the children have made.

Will anyone deny that she has the words of the President? Does she not have his message, in just those words in which he wrote it to her? True enough, there are some minor mistakes in the letters, but the teacher may engage in the science of textual criticism and correct them. She may correct the misspelled words, and she may write in those words which have been omitted and cross out those which are superfluous. Without any serious difficulty she may indeed restore the original.

It should be clear that errors are bound to appear in almost anything that is copied. If the reader will copy out five pages of his English Bible he will doubtless make the discovery, on reading over his work, that he has made some mistakes. This does not mean that there are mistakes in the Bible but merely that there are some mistakes of copying (copyist's errors, as they are called) in what the reader has written out.

Such is the case with the manuscripts of the Bible which are extant. They are remarkably close approximations to the original, and by means of the careful study of textual criticism it is more and more possible to approach that original. An example will make this fact clear. The Hebrew language, in which our

(*Thy Word is Truth*, p. 57)



### 3A. THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE ATTACK:

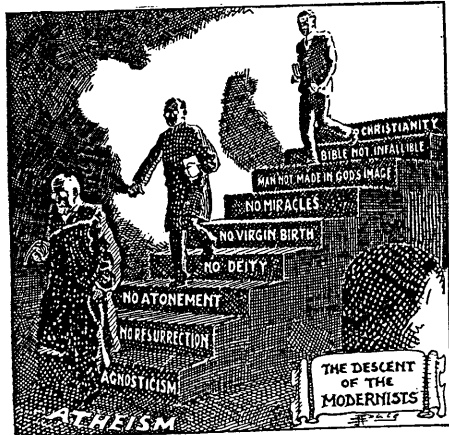
- 1b. The problem of doubting God's Word.
  - 1c. It disparages the veracity of the one true God, making Him a liar.
  - 2c. It denigrates the omnipotence of God Who wishes to reveal His word and will but is hindered by human error to do so.
  - 3c. It denies the credibility of the Savior Who claimed, "Thy word is truth" (John 17:17). And if Christ Himself erred in His view of Scripture, He cannot be the sinless Son of God and Savior.
- 2b. The presence of higher criticism in the Church.
- 3b. The procedure of the Bible believer:
  - 1c. He realizes that he may never be able to give a satisfactory solution to all the problems.
  - 2c. He relies on the God Who cannot lie to eventually provide the answer to apparent problems and contradictions.
  - 3c. He is reluctant to doubt the truthfulness of the Bible:

If one wishes to prove a contradiction in the Bible, three things must be established.

- 1) The translation is absolutely correct.
- 2) The critic's interpretation is the only possible interpretation.
- 3) A reconciliation of the text is absolutely impossible.

The Church Father Saint Augustine, wrote similarly to Jerome,

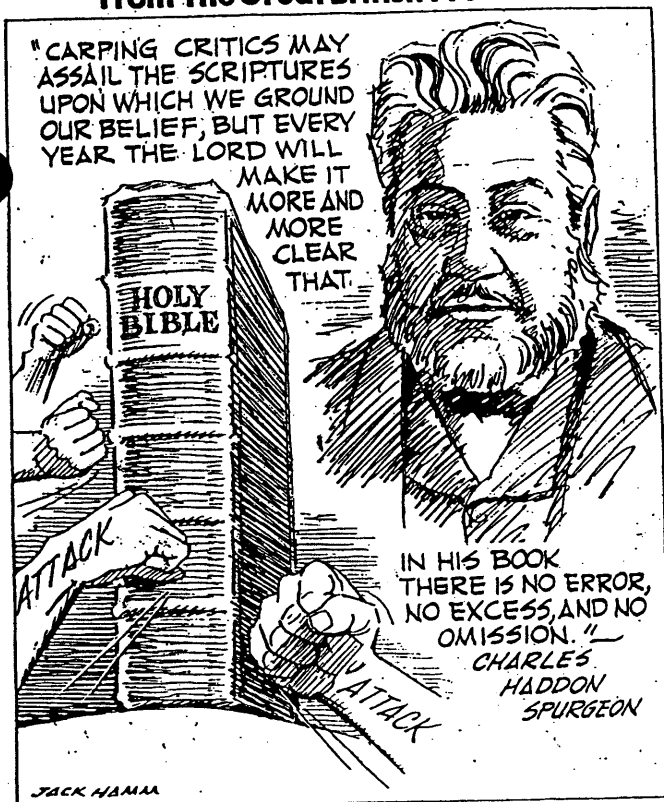
If, here or there, I stumble upon something which seems not to agree with the truth, I make no doubt that either the copy is faulty, or the translator did not express exactly the thought of the original, or that I do not understand the matter. (René Pache, *The Inspiration and Authority of Scripture*, p. 157).



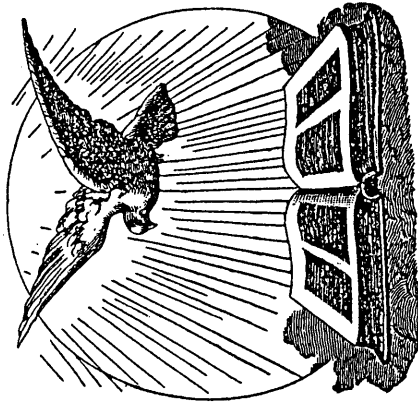
- 4c. He rests on the fact that the truth of God's Word is its own best defense. In the words of C. H. Spurgeon: "There is no need for you to defend a lion when he is being attacked. All you need to do is open the gate and let him out!"

For anyone who by faith accepts the biblical testimony concerning Christ and salvation, it is easy to accept its testimony concerning its own veracity. The believer is convinced of the truthfulness of God's Word through the inner witness of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:16) rather than through accumulation human proofs and intellectual arguments. He is convinced that God's Word is truth by a "demonstration of the Spirit and of power" (1 Cor. 2:4-5).

### From The Great British Preacher



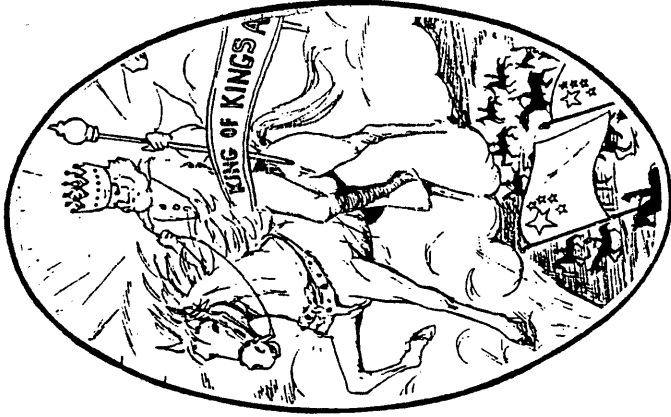
# THE WORD OF GOD



## 1. THE WRITTEN WORD

John 10:35

If he called them gods,  
unto whom the word of  
God came, and the  
scripture cannot be  
broken.



## 2. THE LIVING WORD

Rev. 19:13

And he was clothed with  
a vesture dipped in  
blood: and his name is  
called The Word of God.



## 3. THE PREACHED WORD

Acts 13:46

Then Paul and Barnabas waxed  
bold, and said, It was necessary  
that the word of God should first  
have been spoken to you: but  
seeing ye put it from you, and judge  
yourselves unworthy of everlasting  
life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.



Manfred E. Kober, Th.D.



## THE BIBLE, THAT IMPERISHABLE BOOK

### 1A. THE INCEPTION OF THE BIBLE MAKES IT ETERNAL:

1b. Its existence in heaven:

1c. The significance of Psalm 119.

1d. The 119<sup>th</sup> Psalm is the longest "chapter" in the Bible.

2d. Of its 176 verses, all but six mention the Word of God.

3d. The Psalm is a paeon of praise, thanksgiving and adoration to God for His eternal and immutable Word.

2c. The sublimity of Psalm 119:89:  
For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

1d. Before the Word was communicated to man, it existed in heaven.

2d. The Word in man's hands is but a copy of the fixed and unchanging Word in heaven.

3c. The significance of other verses in Psalm 119:

Psalm 119:152  
Concerning thy testimonies, I have known of old that thou hast founded them for ever.

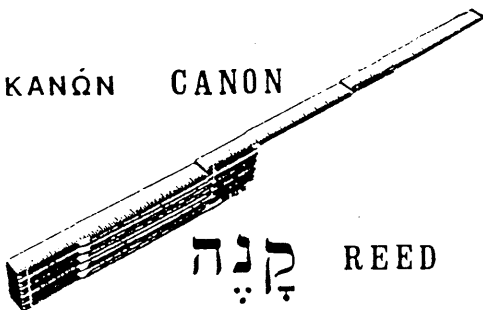
Psalm 119:160  
Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth forever.

2b. Its existence among men:

1c. In eternity past God's Word was fixed as to extent and content:

1d. The extent:  
God has purposed eternally our present 66 books.

KANŌN CANON

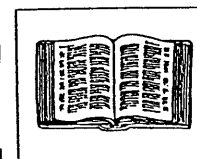


### The standard for canonicity

EVIDENCE OF  
INSPIRATION

AUTHORITY OF  
THE WRITER

①



②

③

UNANIMITY  
OF THE CHURCHES

④

CREDIBILITY OF  
THE CONTENT

2d. The content:

God has purposed eternally the message of the Bible.

2c. In time man has been unable to subtract or add to the Scriptures:

1d. The Council of Trent attempted in 1545 to force the inclusion of the Apocrypha.

2d. God decreed that the books of the Apocrypha should not be part of the Bible. The Protestant Bible, the all time world's best seller, does not include them.

2A. THE INCORRUPTIBILITY OF THE BIBLE IS ASSUMED:

1b. The assertion of Peter:

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.

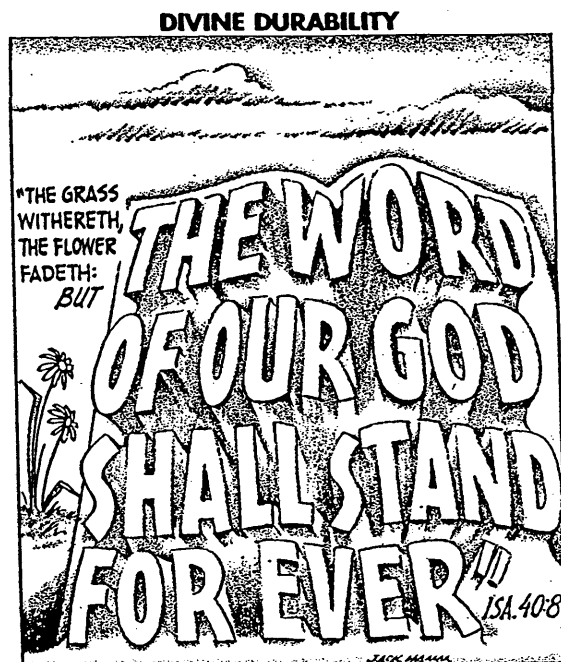
For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man is as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof fadeth away:

But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

2b. The O.T. source of Peter:

Isaiah 40:8

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



3b. The intention of the Apostle:

1c. The Word of God abides forever.

2c. The Word of God abides forever incorruptible, inerrant, without mistake, contradiction or error.

3c. God made sure that His inerrant Word in heaven would come inerrant to earth and continue inerrant for all eternity.

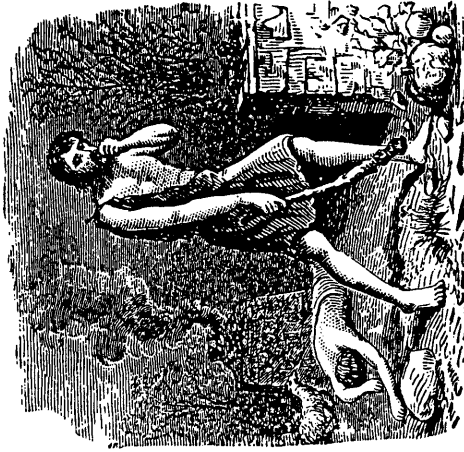
# Christ and the Canon

**Matthew 23:35**

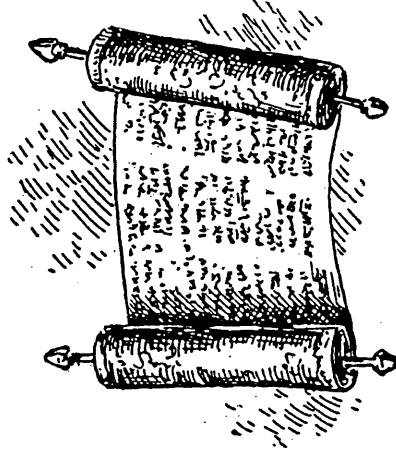
That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel unto the blood of Zacharias son of Barachias, whom ye slew between the temple and the altar.

**Luke 11:51**

From the blood of Abel unto the blood of Zacharias, which perished between the altar and the temple: verily I say unto you, It shall be required of this generation.



Murder of Abel.



THE STONING OF ZECHARIAH.

**Genesis 4:8**

And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

**2 Chronicles 24:20-21**

And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, which stood above the people, and said unto them, Thus saith God, Why transgress ye the commandments of the LORD, that ye cannot prosper? because ye have forsaken the LORD, he hath also forsaken you. <sup>21</sup>And they conspired against him, and stoned him with stones at the commandment of the king in the court of the house of the LORD.

4b. The implications of the doctrine:

- 1c. The same Holy Spirit who preserved the living Word from corruption continually protects the written Word from corruption.
- 2c. While other ancient manuscripts are available only as single copies or in fragmentary form, God's Word is extant in thousands of copies, including at least 5,000 copies of the Greek New Testament.

### 3A. THE INDESTRUCTIBILITY OF THE BIBLE IS ASSERTED:

1b. The deduction from the Bible:

- 1c. The immediate context of Isa. 40:8c

Isa. 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.

- 2c. The literal rendering of Isa. 40:8

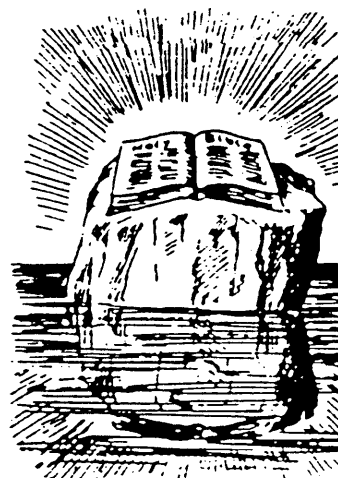
- 1d. The use of the word *yaqum*.

The Hebrew word means to rise, with the imagery of something that is crushed but made to stand again.

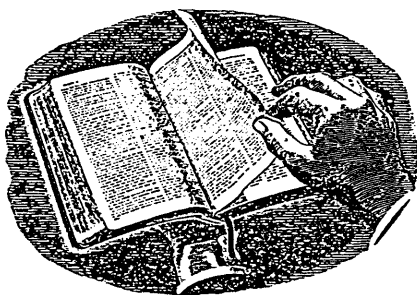
- 2d. The significance of the term:

W. A. Criswell shows the importance of this term:

The import of the prophet's word is that in contrast to the short-lived things of earth, the Word of God though crushed, persecuted, despised, or attacked with intent to destroy, shall rise, shall stand, shall abide forever.  
(*The Bible for Today's World*, p. 115).



## 3c. The spiritual significance of Isa. 40:8:

**God's Unchanging Word . . .**

*For feelings come and feelings go,  
And feelings are deceiving;  
My warrant is the word of God,  
Naught else is worth believing.*

*Though all my heart should feel condemned  
For want of some sweet token,  
There is One greater than my heart  
Whose word cannot be broken.*

*I'll trust in God's unchanging word  
Till soul and body sever;  
For, though all things shall pass away,  
His word shall stand forever.*

— Martin Luther

The comfort of the passage was very real to the Israelites living in Babylonian captivity. Throughout the ages, believers have been blessed by the recognition that the Word of God in general, and His promises in particular, stand forever. The words of the commentator Albert Barnes, penned in 1881, are, if anything, more relevant now in the post 9-11 period than even in his day.

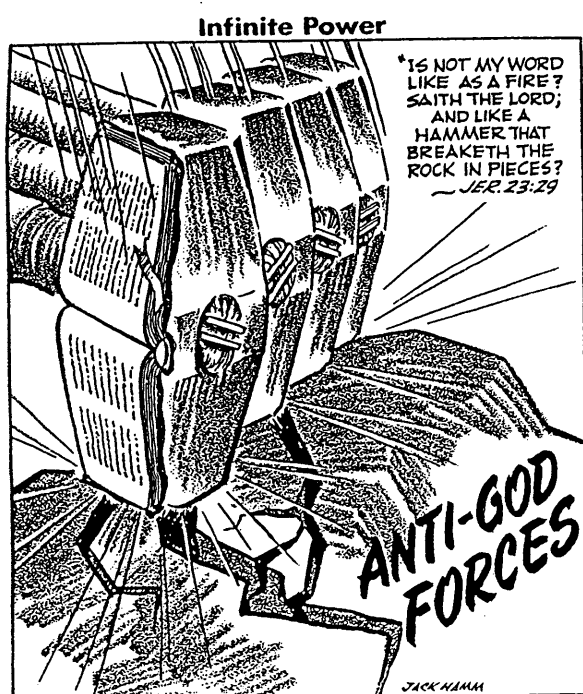
Here are Barnes' excellent comments:

*But the word of our God.* The phrase, "word of our God," refers either to his promise to be the protector and deliverer of his people in their captivity; or, in general, means that *all* his promises shall be firm and unchanging.

*Shall stand forever.* Amidst all revolutions among men, his promise shall be firm. It shall not only live amidst the changes of dynasties, and the revolutions of empires, but it shall *continue* for ever and ever. This is designed for support to an afflicted and oppressed people; and it must have been to them, in their bondage, the source of high consolation. But it is equally so now. Amidst all the changes on earth; the revolutions of empires; the vanishing of kingdoms, God is the same, and his promises are unfailing. We see the grass wither at the return of autumn, or in the drought; we see the flower of the field lose its beauty, and decay; we see *man* rejoicing in his vigour and his health, cut down in an instant; we see cities fall, and kingdoms lose their power and vanish from among nations, but God changes not. He presides in all these revolutions, and sits calm and unmoved amidst all these changes. Not one of his promises shall fail; and at the end of all the changes which human things shall undergo, JEHOVAH, the God of his people, will be the same (*italics in the original, Isaiah, pp. 63-64*).

## 2b. The demonstration from history:

Satan has used every means and every avenue to attack and destroy God's Word. In each case he has been marvelously unsuccessful!





### 1c. The pagan persecution of the Word:

In A.D. 303 Diocletian, Emperor of the Roman Empire, decreed that every Bible should be destroyed and every Christian slain. He thought that if he could destroy the Book of the Christians, their faith would cease to exist.

Constantine succeeded Diocletian and declared himself a Christian. In A.D. 312 he replaced pagan Roman symbols with the cross. The faith which Diocletian thought he had exterminated became the official religion of the Roman Empire within 9 years after Diocletian's decree.

### 2c. The ecclesiastical persecution of the Word:

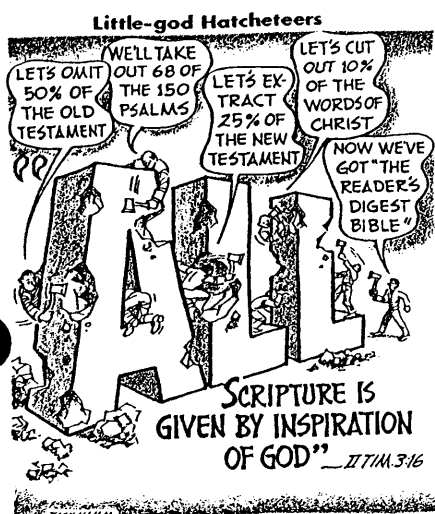


John Wycliffe translated the Bible into the vernacular of the people of England. Those found with Wycliffe's Bible had it tied around their necks and were burned at the stake. The Inquisition tried to kill Wycliffe. He died before they reached him but the inquisitors exhumed his body and burned it, scattering the ashes over the River Swift. The River Swift runs into the Avon, that into the Severn, the Severn into the sea, which, in turn, bathes the shores of the seven continents. Wherever the ashes of Wycliffe washed, the waters which carried the ashes bore ships containing his Bible.

### 3c. The rationalistic persecution:

1d. The deadliest attack on the Bible came from German rationalism, which attacked the Bible from within the Church, denying its supernatural elements and positing pagan myths, folklore, superstition and legends. The Bible was said to be no more valuable than ancient Egyptian writings or Hindu holy books.

2d. Added to the external rationalistic attacks the Bible have been internal attacks originating among evangelicals. Many leaders in the New Evangelical camp have championed a view of the Bible that we are to take a statement seriously but not literally. The Bible is important, but not inerrant. It is sufficient to teach us salvation, but not reliable in matters of creation and science.



Criswell refers to the familiar and false prediction of Voltaire:

So deadly and so merciless has been the poison of rationalism in the schools, in the universities, in the seminaries, in the pulpits, until it has seemed that the prophecy of Voltaire, the infidel who died in 1788, would come to pass. Voltaire said, "One hundred years from my day there will not be a Bible in the earth except one that is looked upon by an antiquarian curiosity-seeker." And it has sometimes looked as though there might come to pass what Hume, the infidel, envisioned. "I see the twilight of Christianity," he said. Yet one hundred years from the time of Voltaire's prediction, a first edition of Voltaire's work sold in the market in Paris for eleven cents. And on that identical day, the British Government paid to the Czar of Russia \$500,000 for the Codex Sinaiticus, a copy of the Word of God discovered by Tischendorf in the monastery on Mount Sinai! When Hume said, "I see the twilight of Christianity," he was much confused. He could not tell sunrise from sunset.

*(The Bible for Today's World, p. 117)*

How interesting that 50 years after Voltaire's death, his house was converted into a printer's shop where Bibles were printed!

ALL-TIME BEST SELLER



I paused last eve beside the blacksmith's door  
and heard the anvil ring, the vesper's chime,  
And looking in I saw upon the floor  
Old hammers, worn with beating years of time.

"How many anvils have you had?" said I  
"To wear and batter all these hammers so?"  
"Just one," he answered. Then with twinkling eye:  
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."

And so, I thought the Anvil of God's Word  
For ages skeptics; blows have beat upon,  
But though the noise of falling blows was heard  
The Anvil is unchanged; the hammers gone.

- John Clifford

