

THE AUTHORITY OF GOD'S WORD

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Many people today do not have respect for the word of God. Some call it a history book. It contains the history of the dealings of God with man, but it is more than a history book. It is a living book because it contains the living word of the Living God, the maker of the heavens and the earth. Some say it is written by man. And some have difficulty in accepting the truths contained therein because of the differences in the translations. Whatever opinion you have about the word of God, I want you to settle down and read this material, for it will deal with these issues and bring out the authenticity of the word of God and put confidence in your heart to believe and practice the word of God.

THE PROOFS

1. Jesus himself calls it the *word of God* and *scripture*, and says it cannot be broken.

"Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I have said you are gods'? If he called them 'gods,' to whom the word of God came-and the Scripture cannot be broken- what about the one whom the Father set apart as his very own and sent into the world? Why then do you accuse me of blasphemy because I said, 'I am God's Son'?" (John 10:34-36 NIV)

For Jesus to refer to the Word as scripture and God's Word, means the content of the Bible can be trusted. In fact He came to fulfill what was written of Him in the book.

"Therefore, when Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. Then I said, 'Here I am-it is written about me in the scroll- I have come to do your will, O God.'" (Heb 10:5-7 NIV)

"He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." (Luke 24:44-49 NIV)

2. The scripture is given by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

The men that wrote them down wrote as they were inspired and led by God. And because they are of God, God is committed to making them come to pass.

"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." (2 Tim 3:16-17 NIV)

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

3. The prophets claim to speak as the lord bade them.

"That night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying:" (2 Sam 7:4 NIV)

"Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word." Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: "Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. You will drink from the brook, and I have ordered the ravens to feed you there." So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook." (1 Kings 17:1-6 NIV)

4. The Bible (God's word) is not the product of time.

It is eternal and unchanging.

"Your word, O LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens."(Ps 119:89 NIV)

Jesus Christ said,
"Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away." (Matt 24:35 NIV)

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them." (Matt 5:17-18 NIV)

5. The word of God is true.

"All your words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal." (Ps 119:160 NIV)

"God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?" (Num 23:19 NIV)

"May it never be! Rather, let God be found true, though every man be found a liar, as it is written." (Rom 3:4 NASU)

6. The New Testament was written and compiled by the Disciples of Christ at his leading and wish.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matt 28:19,20 NASU)

"Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city." (Matt 23:34 NASU)

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you." (John 14:26 NASU)

"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. "He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you." (John 16:13-14 NASU)

7. The prophecies of the scripture have and are still being fulfilled today.

The birth and the life of Jesus prove the authenticity of the word of God. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the receiving of the Holy Spirit today are proofs that the Bible is real. Healings and miracles today give proof to the reality of the word of God.

8. The Bible is for all people and meets the need of all people.

The scripture is eternal and lives on forever. It is for all ages and all peoples. Cultures may change, knowledge may increase, governments may change, technology may improve, and people change, the word of God still remains the same for all ages and class of people.

9. Historic findings also prove that the word of God is true.

a. Greek historian Herodotus who lived five centuries before Christ, described the Tower of Babel in his book as a massive building with eight ascending stories each recessed with a spiral roadway running round it as a means of reaching the top.

The Babylonian records shows that Nimrod the great built the city agreeing with the Bible account in Genesis 10:9-11.

b. Ur of the Chaldees (Gen.11:31) have been discovered. It has also been discovered that alphabetic writing existed in that land, therefore destroying the

argument of some that Moses writing was not authentic because there couldn't have been any alphabetical writing in those days.

c. Science – The Bible declares that the world is round which until recent discovery was believed to be flat.

“Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been declared to you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.” (Isa 40:21-22 NASU)

- The bible new that stars were innumerable

“And He took him outside and said, “Now look toward the heavens, and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” (Gen 15:5 NASU)

“As the host of heaven cannot be counted and the sand of the sea cannot be measured, so I will multiply the descendants of David My servant and the Levites who minister to Me.” (Jer 33:22 NASU)

- The bible prophesied about lightning or electricity being used (Radio) to convey speech from one place to another.

“Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are?” (Job 38:35 KJV)

- The bible new that the interior of the earth is a fire.

“As for the earth, out of it cometh bread: and under it is turned up as it were fire.” (Job 28:KJV)

Scientist have now proved that as you go deeper into the ground the earth gets hotter to a region were everything melts and it's flowing like a river.

- The Bible predicted the invention of television.

“And they of the people and kindreds and tongues and nations shall see their dead bodies three days and an half, and shall not suffer their dead bodies to be put in graves.” (Rev 11:9 KJV)

- The Bible predicted the coming of the automobile (vehicles).

“The shields of his soldiers are red; the warriors are clad in scarlet. The metal on the chariots flashes on the day they are made ready; the spears of pine are brandished. The chariots storm through the streets, rushing back and forth

through the squares. They look like flaming torches; they dart about like lightning.” (Nah 2:3-4 NIV)

The man of God saw the vehicles moving with great speed may be during the night, that he likened it to flaming touches darting about like lightening. Normal chariots don't move with that kind of speed.

CONCLUSION

From all we have considered, it is clear that the Bible is the Holy Scripture. It is the word of God for all people and all ages. It is to be trusted and applied to one's life at all times. It has been proven to be true and real. The archeological evidence of the accounts of the Bible proves its authenticity. Science discoveries helped to prove the Bible to be true in it's declarations. Today, we see a lot of Bible prophecies coming to pass and confirming that the word of God is true and trustworthy.

I encourage you to put your faith in the word of God contained in the Bible and don't joke with the instructions contained in it. The word of God cannot fail and will never fail. Whatever God says, he is committed to it. His word never fails to come true. Many in history who thought that God was joking paid with their lives. God says only what he means and means everything he says. Believe him and comply with his demands.