

Is the Bible Reliable?

The Evidence from History, Archeology, Science, and Life

THE TESTIMONY OF JESUS

- Jesus personally affirmed portions of the Scripture that today even some Christians find to be the parts most difficult to believe. He affirmed the _____ account quoting from both Gen. 1 & Gen. 2.

Matthew 19:4-5 4 And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning '*made them male and female*,' 5 and said, '*For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh*' ?

- Jesus affirmed the account of _____ and the whale and the city of Nineveh.

Matthew 12:39-41 39 But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. 40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. 41 The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah *is* here.

- Jesus affirmed the account of Noah and the _____.

Matthew 24:37-39 37 But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. 38 For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

The point is this. If you believe that Jesus is _____, and you have made Him your Lord (master) then you must reckon with the fact that Jesus affirms the _____ of Scripture, at its most difficult points.

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

THE TESTIMONY OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY

- Sir William Ramsey
 - In the late 1800's the eminent British Scholar Sir William Ramsey had come to disbelieve the accuracy of the historical accounts of the N.T. He set out to

examine the _____ records of the book of Acts with a predisposition to disbelieve them. By archeological examination, he began his investigation. After years of searching and researching, he never found an inconsistency or error in all of the references of Luke to the first century AD. He later said, "Luke's history is _____ in respect of its trustworthiness."

- Ramsey went on to search for the seven churches of the _____. He found the remains of them all and wrote what remains today the most definitive work on these seven historical churches.

- **More challenges to Luke**

Luke was attacked for many years regarding his description of a _____ under Augustus during the time of Jesus' birth. More discoveries however showed that Augustus did order regular census throughout the empire. Records of how the census was to be conducted have been found requiring that people return to their ancestral _____ to be registered.

- **Jericho**

Skeptics have also ridiculed the story of the fall of the city of Jericho. Between 1930 and 1936, the British Archaeologist Garstang excavated the ruins of the ancient city. He found something so startling that he had members of his team sign a written statement concerning their discovery. Normally, the walls of cities fall _____ when they are besieged. In the case of Jericho, the walls fell _____, leaving a virtual stairway for its attackers to enter the fallen city. Why is that significant? Because Joshua 6:20 says, **So the people shouted when *the* priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.**

Bryant Wood in *Biblical Archaeology Review* offers a list of additional _____ between the biblical account and the archeological evidence found at Jericho.

- The city was strongly _____.
- The attack occurred just after harvest time in the spring.
- The inhabitants had no opportunity to _____ with their food stores.
- The siege was short.
- The walls were leveled.
- The city was not plundered.
- The city was _____.

THE TESTIMONY OF SCIENCE

- Often there is conflict between scientific _____ and the Bible. But there is never conflict between scientific _____ and the Bible.
- The Bible has affirmed scientific facts ages _____ they were discovered by empirical science.
 - In 1492, many still thought the world was _____. But in 700 BC Isaiah wrote in **Isaiah 40:22** *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*
 - The understanding that the earth is _____ in space is a recent discovery, but it is mentioned in Job. **Job 26:7** *He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing.*
 - Unearthing the remains of _____ is a recent development, but they are also described in Job 40 & 41. **Job 40:15–17** *15 “Look now at the behemoth, which I made along with you; He eats grass like an ox. 16 See now, his strength is in his hips, And his power is in his stomach muscles. 17 He moves his tail like a cedar; The sinews of his thighs are tightly knit.*
 - Genetic research and the discovery of DNA has shown us why every living kind of plant and animal can only reproduce after its own _____. But the creation account of Genesis 1 said centuries ago that this was true as it used the phrase “according to its kind” repeatedly.
 - Linguistic research indicates that all languages originated out of _____ language. Exactly what Genesis 11 say: **Genesis 11:1** *Now the whole earth had one language and one speech.*
 - Time reported several years ago of very conclusive research in the area of mitochondrial DNA that every living person could be traced back to a _____ female ancestor. They named her the primeval EVE. **Genesis 1:27-28a** *27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it...”*

Below is taken from Answers in Genesis

answersingenesis.org/is-the-bible-true/5-scientific-accuracy/

ASTRONOMY: The Bible claims the universe had a _____. Philosophers and scientists rejected that claim for over two thousand years, but now astronomers believe the universe had a beginning, the so-called big bang (though with a very different time frame).

ANTHROPOLOGY: The Bible claims that all humans are “_____” descended from one man and one woman (Acts 17:26; 1 Corinthians 15:45; Genesis 3:20). Some nineteenth-century biologists argued that different races descended from lower animals, but today genetics has verified that there is only one human race.

BIOLOGY: The Bible claims that God created animals “_____.” Nineteenth-century biologists argued that animals evolved from other, very different animals, but today biology confirms that creatures reproduce within their own kind.

GEOLOGY: The Bible claims that God destroyed the earth and the creatures inhabiting it in the _____. Nineteenth-century geologists argued that rock layers and the fossils found in them were formed as sediments were deposited slowly, but today geology confirms that many rock layers were deposited catastrophically, burying fossils within only minutes or hours.

So if the Bible wins hands down in every earthly thing we can test, why don't people trust what it says? The issue is not the truth of Scripture, but vain reasoning and “willful ignorance” (Romans 1:21).

Romans 1:21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

THE TESTIMONY OF CHANGED LIVES

- **The _____**
 - Before they witnessed the resurrection, they were timid, scared, and disassociated from Christ to avoid persecution.
 - After they witnessed the resurrection, they were bold, fearless, and willing to die for the cause of Christ.

No one making up such an amazing account would cast themselves in such a negative light. The account's honesty has an air of reality, which points to its truth.

- **People throughout history**

Time and again the helpless and destitute as well as the haughty and proud have picked up this book, read it, believed it, trusted Christ, and had their lives _____.

- **People in our church**

- We've seen people _____ by the riches of this world—transformed.
- We've seen people of _____ convictions—transformed.
- We've seen people in utter and total _____—transformed.

CONCLUSION: What the Bible says is true. You can believe it.