

What do  
you  
believe,  
really?



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## Confirmation Session I

The Bible, Law & Gospel, Sin, Review.  
The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Confession &  
Office of the Keys, The Sacrament of Holy  
Communion, Daily Prayers, Table of Duties,  
Special Topics, Lutheran History, Abortion,  
Stewardship, etc.

Instructor: Rev. Dan Domke



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## What is the Gospel?



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## The Uniqueness of the Bible

- A. Written over a 1600 year span.
- B. Written over 60 generations
- C. Written by 40 plus authors: Kings, peasants, philosophers, fishermen, poets, statesmen, scholars, farmers, herdsman.
- D. Some of the author's
  - Moses - a political leader, trained at the University of Egypt.
  - Peter - a Fisherman
  - Amos - a herdsman
  - Joshua - a military General
  - Nehemiah - a cup bearer
  - Daniel - a prime minister

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## The Uniqueness of the Bible

- Solomon - a king
- Matthew - a tax collector
- Luke - a doctor
- Paul - a Rabbi
- E. The bible was written in different places.
  - Moses wrote in the wilderness
  - Jeremiah wrote in a dungeon
  - Daniel on a hillside and in a palace
  - Paul in a prison
  - Luke while doing research in Isreal

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## The Uniqueness of the Bible

- John on the Island of Patmos
- Joshua while on campaigns
- F. Written on three different continents.
  1. Asia
  2. Africa
  3. Europe

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## Lands where the Bible was written.



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## The Uniqueness of the Bible

G. The bible was written in three languages.

1. The Old Testament in Hebrew. For example, Hebrew as

the common language of all the Old Testament times. 2 Kings 18:26-28

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## The Uniqueness of the Bible

26 Then son of Hilkiah, and Shebna and Joah said to the field commander, "Please speak to your servants in Aramaic, since we understand it. Don't speak to us in Hebrew in the hearing of the people on the wall."

27 But the commander replied, "Was it only to your master and you that my master sent me to say these things, and not to the men sitting on the wall—...28 Then the commander stood and called out in Hebrew: "Hear the word of the great king, the king of Assyria!

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**Genesis 1:1-2 looks like this:  
Hebrews**

1 בראשית ברא אל הים את השמים ואת הארץ:  
2 והארץ היתה תהו ובוהו ושך על פני תהום ורוח אל הים מרחפת על פני המים:

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia, (Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft Stuttgart) 1990.

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2. The Old Testament and the New Testament have Aramaic. For example, Daniel 9:27 looks like this:

27 והגביר ברית לרבים שבוע אחד וחצי השבוע ישבית זבח ומנחה ועל כנף שקוצים משמים ועד-כלה ונחרצה תתך על-שמים: פ

Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia, (Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft Stuttgart) 1990.

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3. Aramaic was a common language of the people during the 6th b.c. century and during Jesus day.

4. The New Testament was written in Koine Greek. For example

John 1:1-2 looks like this:

1 Ἐν ἀρχῇ ἦν ὁ λόγος, καὶ ὁ λόγος ἦν πρὸς τὸν Θεόν, καὶ Θεὸς ἦν ὁ λόγος. Ζούτος ἦν ἐν ἀρχῇ πρὸς τὸν Θεόν.

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**How the bible was prepared.**

A. Writing materials:

1. Papyrus - The English Word is Paper. It grew in shallow lakes in Egypt and Syria.



© 2004 by The Bible Project, Inc.

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**How the Bible was prepared.**

- ◆ 2. Parchment are skins of sheep, goats, etc.
- ◆ Parchment comes from the ancient city by the name of Pergamum, in Asia Minor.
- ◆ 3. Vellum are calf skin, dyed purple, writing was in either the purple dye, gold or silver. Oldest leather scrolls date 1500 B.C.

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**How the bible was prepared.**

Writing materials:

1. Papyrus – the plant on the left is an example of the leaves, and the plant on the right are its stalks. These stalks are cut in an appropriate length, 8 to 9 inches, then sliced thinly, the pieces are sticky and formed into pages. This process is illustrated on the next slide.



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1. **Papyrus** – Was cut into thin pieces and laid side by side, vertically and then horizontally.

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II. **How**  
A Writing

Parchment is made from **sheepskin** or **calfskin**. The pages are distinct from paper, not tanned, but stretched under tension, and are translucent. Parchment is very reactive with chemicals and is not waterproof.



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II. **How the bible was prepared.**

Writing materials:

3. **Vellum** is calfskin, dyed purple, writing was in either gold or silver. Oldest leather scrolls date 1500 B.C.

Source of Royal Purple

Murex Brandans


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A Mating Ball of Murex Shells

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### How the bible was prepared.

4. Other materials.

- a) Ostraca - unglazed pottery - potsherd.
- b) Stones
- c) Clay tablets - stylus used to write on them, they were then baked. Clay tablets would last the longest.
- d) Wax tablets - flat wood covered with wax, a metal stylus was used to write with.

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### Forms of Ancient Books

- 1) Rolls or Scrolls  
144' long - most 20' to 35' long.
- 2) Codex or book form  
Christianity was main reason for creation of codex.
- 3) Division into chapters and verses.  
When the bible was first written, there were no separations between words, sentences, or paragraphs. There were no chapters, or titles over chapters, or paragraphs.

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## How the bible was prepared.

4) The first divisions of the bible were in the Pentateuch (means five books) occurred in 586 B.C.

A) 250 AD - The Greek as divided into verses and chapters.

B) 350 AD - Codex Vaticanus - chapter and verses.

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## The different names of the Bible

A. The word bible means "book". It is God's Word.

B. There are a number of names given to the bible.

- 1) Book of Books
- 2) Holy Scriptures
- 3) The Scriptures
- 4) Holy writ
- 5) The Word of God
- 6) The sword of the Spirit. See Eph.. 6:17  
II Thess.2:8, Hebrew 4:12D.

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## The different names of the Bible

B. The Canon

The Word Canon means reed, an English Cane used to measure distances.

The Word Kanon (Canon) comes from the Greek language which was a reed used as a measuring rod and was the standard of measure. In other words every measure was established by a Canon. The canon was the standard measure.

C. The canon is the rule of faith -

The canon is the O.T. and N.T. books. They are the standard by which we are to measure and evaluate, life, faith, and religion. The canon - the bible is God's standard , where we learn God's will, and say "not my will but Yours, Oh Lord".

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## The different names of the Bible

D. The five tests for Canonicity

1. Is it authoritative - did it come from the hand of God?  
Does this book come with a divine "thus saith the Lord"?
2. Is it prophetic - was it written by a man of God?
3. Is it authentic - the father's had the attitude of "if in doubt throw it out" policy, this enhanced the validity of their discernment of canonical books"
4. Is it dynamic - did it come with the life transforming power of God the Gospel?
5. Was it received, collected, read and used by the early church? Was it accepted by the people of God who were eye witnesses to the events of Jesus life.

Note: Peter acknowledged Paul's work as Scripture parallel to O.T. scripture (II Peter 3:16)

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## The Nature and make up of the Bible.

A. The Bible is God's revelation to man.

- 1) God tells us His will, see II Timothy 3:16
- 2) God tells us of Himself, what He is like, His nature.

B. The Bible has two parts.

- 1) O.T. and N.T.
- 2) B.C. and A.D. B.C. means "Before Christ". A.D. means (Anno Domini) which means "in the year of our Lord".

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## The Nature and make up of the Bible.

C. The books of the Bible.

O.T.	N.T.
5 Law	4 Gospels
12 History	1 History
5 Poetry	13 Pauline Epistles
5 Major Prophets	8 Gen. Epistles
12 Minor Prophets	1 Book of Prophecy
Total 39	Total 27

Jesus Christ is the link that joins the Old and New Testaments. And Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old and He begins the New.

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**The Nature and make up of the Bible.**

D. 66 books in the Bible

E. How was the Bible written?

1. Holy Men wrote the bible - II Peter 1:21
2. The Bible is inspired II Timothy 3:16

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**F. Verbal Inspiration**  
S.C. page 48 question 3.

1. God placed the very thoughts and words in their minds.
2. Not given in a trance, - (mechanical inspiration)

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**The Nature and make up of the Bible.**

3. Each man who wrote - his personality comes through, his thought processes, etc. yet still inspired.

See I Corinthians 2:13, I Peter 3:15, Romans 16:22

Note: Tertius wrote Romans, Paul dictated to Tertius who was Paul's secretary. So in Romans Tertius's style of writing comes out as well as St. Paul's style of speech.

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4. Luke 1:3, Luke did research.

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God" II Timothy 3:16 The bible is Gods Word: True, Clear and perfect. No mistakes, inerrant - infallible.



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Trust Worthiness of the Bible

Hittites - In 1906 the royal archives of the Hittites themselves were discovered in excavations at Boğazkale.

Liberal Scholars Denied the existence prior.

"Hittites." Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 2000. © 1993-1999 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.



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Ebla - ancient city of northern Syria, discovered in 1968 by the Italian archaeologist Paolo Matthiae at Tell Mardikh

Found references to Abram as a trading partner!

References on clay tablets – were receipts.

3rd millennium BC the time of Abraham

"Ebla," Microsoft® Encarta® Encyclopedia 2000. © 1993-1999 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

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### Ruins at Ebla



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Tablet from Ebla

Stele from Ebla

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•The discovery of the Ebla archive in northern Syria in the 1970s has shown the Biblical writings concerning the Patriarchs to be viable. Documents written on clay tablets from around 2300 B.C. demonstrate that personal and place names in the Patriarchal accounts are genuine.

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•The name "Canaan" was in use in Ebla, a name critics once said was not used at that time and was used incorrectly in the early chapters of the Bible. The word "tehom" ("the deep") in [Genesis 1:2](#) was said to be a late word demonstrating the late writing of the creation story.

•"Tehom" was part of the vocabulary at Ebla, in use some 800 years before Moses. Ancient customs reflected in the stories of the [Patriarchs](#) have also been found in [clay](#) tablets from Nuzi and Mari.

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### The Dead Sea Scrolls

In 1947 Jum'a, a shepherd of the Ta'amireh tribe of the nomadic Bedouins, discovered ancient scrolls rolled up in leather and cloth in a cave to the northwest of the Dead Sea in the Qumrân Valley.

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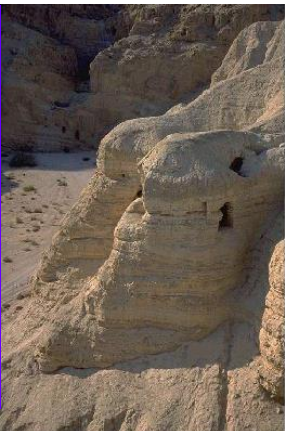
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Qumran. The entrance to the cave in the marl steps near the north-western shore of the Dead Sea where, in 1947, a Bedouin boy found scrolls in a clay jar, apparently hidden during the Great Revolt against Rome. Preserved by the dryness of the desert, the Dead Sea Scrolls provide a rich, fascinating source for the understanding of the streams in Jewish sacred literature and the Messianic thought at the beginning of Christianity.

Isachar, Hanan, Images of the Holy Land, (Herzlia, Israel: Apogee Press) 1997.



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A remarkable archaeological find, the scrolls formed the first part of a collection of Hebrew and Aramaic manuscripts that were discovered in quick succession after Jum'a's original find.

These ancient texts, which include the Book of Isaiah in its entirety and fragments from all other books of the Old Testament except for the Book of Esther, turned out to be **more than 1000 years** older than any other known Hebrew texts.

Douglas Burrows/Liaison Agency[1]

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### Dead Sea Scrolls

The oldest Hebrew text we had was from about **1100 AD**.

The leather, metal and papyrus scrolls, which survive in varying states of preservation, came to light in a series of archaeological finds that began in 1947.

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### Paleographic evidence indicates that most of the documents were written at various dates between about 200BC and AD68 ( see Paleography).

Archaeological evidence further supports the latter date, since excavations at the site establish that it was sacked in AD68.

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Douglas Burrows/Liaison Agency

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One example that will serve to make the point of reliability is that of the Isaiah scroll. Some 70 ft long, it took over three years to unroll.

Made of a copper alloy, little change took place over a thousand years, except for a few letters in one word being different in the text. The word was 'light' in Isaiah 53:11. This brings to mind what Jesus said, that not one jot or tittle shall of my word will be lost or changed.

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The smallest letter "Not one jot or tittle": the jot is the smallest letter of the Hebrew Alpha bet.

Not even the jot will be lost in terms of how God preserves His Word.

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Here is a comparison of the first letter of the Hebrew alpha Bet and the jot. It is the Ah-leph and the

Yohd: **a y** this is the Word of God preserved by God Himself.

Matthew 5:18

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## THE ISAIAH SCROLL

"So he came to Nazareth . . . and went to synagogue on the Sabbath day as he regularly did. He stood up to read the lesson and was handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the scroll and found the passage which says: The spirit of the Lord is upon me . . ." (Luke 4:16-18)



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## The Isaiah Scroll (Manuscript A) was one of the first group of seven scrolls found in Cave I at Qumran, and it is the only one, out of the approximately 200 biblical scrolls discovered, to be found in its entirety.

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## Isaiah, who lived in the eighth century BC, was one of the greatest classical prophets of the First Temple period and a popular, venerated figure in Second Temple times.

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**He also held a central place in the life of the Dead Sea sect, because of his prophecies concerning redemption and the End of Days. In addition, the book of Isaiah plays a key role in the New Testament, particularly in the Gospels, since Christians interpret many of his prophecies as proof of Jesus' identity as the messiah.**

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**Why is there no evidence for Joseph in Archeology?**

The Pharaoh of Joseph's day was probably Apepi, or Apopis, the last of the Hyksos kings. When the Egyptians overthrew the Hyksos, all signs and reference to Joseph was destroyed because of the Egyptians' hatred of the Hyksos. Easton, M. G., M. A. D. D., Easton's Bible Dictionary, (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.) 1996.

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**Prophecies concerning the Messiah demonstrate biblical trustworthiness and divine origin.**

- ✔ Over 300 (333) prophecies concerning Messiah all have come true in the person of Jesus Christ
- ✔ 29 came true in one 24 hr. period concerning his suffering and death.

**If just eight came true for one person, the probability of it coming true is 1 in 10(17<sup>th</sup>). That is one with 17 0's behind it.**

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To understand the number, if you take one silver dollar to  $10^{17}$  you cover the state of Texas in two feet of silver dollars.

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**THE BURIAL CAVE OF CAIAPHAS**

The New Testament refers to the High Priest Caiaphas. Records of the Temple of Jerusalem where destroyed and history has not been able to verify that Caiaphas, like Christ, existed. If assume you can't trust the bible. However.....

1,950 years after the crucifixion of Jesus, a public works project in Jerusalem building a water park in November 1990 accidentally uncovered an ancient burial cave.

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The inscription in the burial chamber was that of the Caiaphas family. The Caiaphas name had only been mentioned in the New Testament and by Flavius Josephus, no Jewish records have been found with Caiaphas' name linked to being the high priest.

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## Ossuary of Joseph Caiaphas

The remains of a 60-year-old man were found in the burial cave that are the High Priest Caiaphas. The inscription on his craved ossuary was the name Yehosef bar Qafa (Joseph, son of Caiaphas). Coins found in the cave were bronze minted in 42/43 (C.E.) during the reign of Herod Agrippa I.



**Christ Before Caiaphas**  
 1308-11  
 Tempera on wood,  
 45,5 x 53,5 cm  
 Museo dell'Opera  
 del Duomo, Siena

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Caiaphas was high priest for 18 years, A.D. 18-36. He most likely gained the position by marrying the daughter of Annas, head of a powerful high-priestly clan (John 18:13). Caiaphas is infamous as the leader of the conspiracy to crucify Jesus.

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## New Testament Preservation

The New Testament, on the other hand, is the best-attested text that survives from the Greco-Roman world. Complete and nearly complete New Testament manuscripts date from the first century, and numerous existing fragments were probably copied within a 50 years of the original composition of the text.

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Evidence of the truth concerning the New Testament

THE HIGH PRIEST AND THE ROMAN PROCURATOR

"As soon as morning came, the chief priests, having made their plan with the elders and lawyers . . . put Jesus in chains; then they led him away and handed him over to Pilate." (Mark 15:1)

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Two of the major figures in the story of the trial and crucifixion of Jesus are directly represented by these two exhibits.

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The first is an ornate ossuary, in which were interred the bones of Caiaphas the High Priest who, as related in the Gospels, was involved in the arrest of Jesus and, together with the elders and scribes, handed him over to the Romans.

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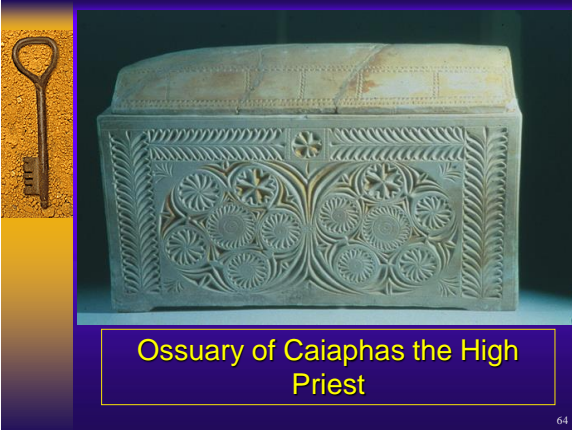
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Ossuary of Caiaphas the High Priest

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The second exhibit is a stone with a dedicatory inscription to the emperor Tiberius that mentions Pontius Pilate, the Roman procurator of Judea who sentenced Jesus to death by crucifixion.

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**CRUCIFIXION AND DEATH**

"... there they crucified him, and with him two others, one on either side..." (John 19:18)



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**Ossuary – James, Son of Joseph, brother of Jesus.**



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**Aramaic-Translation-James, son of Joseph, brother of Jesus.**



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The 63 A.D. date is important because we know that James was martyred in 62 A. D. The body would have been placed in a tomb for a year to allow the body to decompose and then the bones were placed in the bone box.

All this substantiates the biblical evidence as true and factual. Why is it that we don't believe the bible in the first place?

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Simple: If the world believed the bible to be true, it would have to acknowledge the one true God.

The world wants to remain God and man does as well!

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### Oldest evidence of Jesus

The ossuary, as the bone boxes are known, dates to A.D. 63 and has an inscription in Aramaic which translates to: "James, son of Joseph, brother of Jesus," said Andre Lemaire, an expert in ancient writing who identified the box in Jerusalem spring (2002).

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January 13, 2003 - Jerusalem



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Israeli geologists said Monday they have examined a stone tablet detailing repair plans for the Jewish Temple of King Solomon that, if authenticated, would be a rare piece of physical evidence confirming biblical narrative.

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A. There are a number of names given to the bible.

***The word bible means "book". It is God's Word.***

- 1) Book of Books
- 2) Holy Scriptures

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### 3) The Scriptures

4) Holy writ

5) The Word of God

6) The sword of the Spirit. See Eph.. 6:17/

II Thess 2:8 (Christ is often pictured with a sword coming out of His Mouth, indicates the power of the His Word/Hebrew 4:12

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The number of manuscripts attest to the reliability of the manuscripts.

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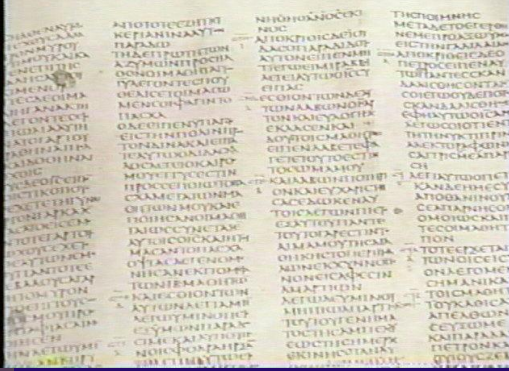
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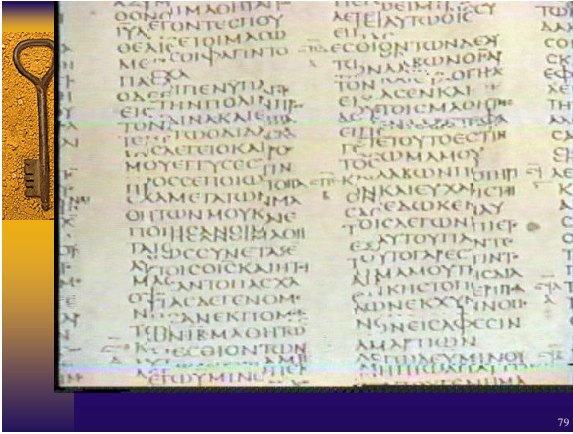
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## The Number of Manuscripts

### Seven copies of Plato's Tetralogies

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Plato

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## The Number of Manuscripts



Ten copies of Caesar's Gallic wars



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## The Number of Manuscripts



643 copies of Homer's Iliad



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## The Number of Manuscripts



5366 copies of New Testament!



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The more manuscripts you have the easier it is to establish what the original said.

Further, the more the bible is compared to other literature, the more we are sure the bible is reliable.

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The Bible is superior to other books of the day in terms the time that lapsed between its original writing and the oldest copy.

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### Caesar's Gallic Wars

Written in



60 BC      A. D.

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**Caesar's Gallic Wars**

Timeline showing the period from 60 BC to 900 A.D. A yellow arrow labeled "Oldest Copy" points to the year 900 A.D. A purple bar at the bottom states "A span of almost a 1000 years".

60 BC      900 A. D.

A span of almost a 1000 years

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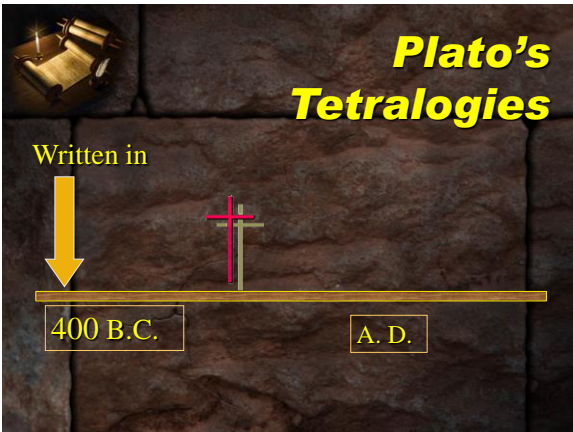
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**Plato's Tetralogies**

Timeline showing the period from 400 B.C. to A.D. A yellow arrow labeled "Written in" points to the year 400 B.C.

Written in

400 B.C.      A. D.

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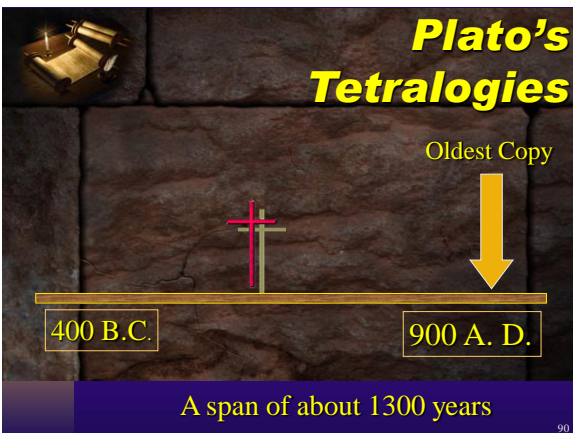
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**Plato's Tetralogies**

Timeline showing the period from 400 B.C. to 900 A.D. A yellow arrow labeled "Oldest Copy" points to the year 900 A.D. A purple bar at the bottom states "A span of about 1300 years".

400 B.C.      900 A. D.

A span of about 1300 years

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**Homer's Iliad**

Written in

900 B.C.

A. D.

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**Homer's Iliad**

Oldest Copy

900 B.C.

400 B.C.

A.D.

A span of 500 years

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**The New Testament**

Completed

B.C.

80-90 A.D.

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# The New Testament

B. C.



Oldest Copies

125 A. D. to 200 A.D.

A span of about 190 to 210 years with some fragments only 25 year span.

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## V. The Nature and make up of the Bible.

A. The Bible is God's revelation to man.

- 1) God tells us His will,  
see II Timothy 3:16
- 2) God tells us of Himself, what He is like, His nature.

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B. The Bible has two parts.

- 1) The Old Testament and the  
New Testament
- 2) B.C. and A.D.
  - B.C. means "Before Christ"
  - A.D. means (Anno Domini) which means "in the year of our Lord".

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### C. The books of the Bible.

OLD Testament	New Testament
5 Law	4 Gospels
12 History	1 History
5 Poetry	13 Pauline Epistles
5 Major Prophets	8 Gen. Epistles
12 <u>Minor Prophets</u>	1 <u>Book of Prophecy</u>
Total 39	Total 27

Jesus Christ is the link that joins the Old and New Testaments. And Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old and He begins the New.

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### D. 66 books in the Bible

### E. How was the Bible written?

1. Holy Men wrote the bible – II Peter 1:21
2. The Bible is inspired  
II Timothy 3:16

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### F. Verbal Inspiration

S.C. page 48 question 3, \_

1. God placed the very thoughts and words in their minds.
2. Not given in a trance, - (mechanical inspiration)
3. Each man who wrote - his personality comes through, his thought processes, etc. yet still inspired.

See I Corinthians 2:13, I Peter 3:15, Romans 16:22

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Note: Tertius wrote Romans, Paul dictated to Tertius who was Paul's secretary. So in Romans Tertius's style of writing comes out as well as St. Paul's style of speech.

4. Luke 1:3, Luke did research.

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II Timothy 3:16

The bible is Gods Word: It is True, Clear and perfect. No mistakes, inerrant - infallible.

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"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

*II Timothy 3:16*

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**What constitutes All Scripture?**  
**The answer lies in both testaments.**

Ephesians 2:20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

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**Old Testament example**

2 Samuel 23:2 “The Spirit of the LORD spoke through me; his word was on my tongue.

Mark 12: 36 David himself, speaking by the Holy Spirit, declared...’ John 17:20 “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,

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**Stela with King David’s Name on it David really existed.**

**The King David artefact**

Avraham Biran is an experienced and recognized Israeli archaeologist who excavated for 27 years in ancient Dan in northern Israel. In his 1994 book *Biblical Dan*, he reported finding a broken stela on which was an Aramaic inscription. The stela had been used simply as filling in a wall which was dated to the third quarter of the 8<sup>th</sup> century bc, but the style of writing suggested that it had been originally written in the 9<sup>th</sup> century bc.

In this inscription was the expression ‘BTH DW’ which would be read as ‘House of David’. This was convincing confirmation of the detailed Biblical historical records that David and his house (family) were known in the 9<sup>th</sup> century bc. The critics were disconcerted. At first they said that it was simply the name of a place like Bethshemesh (House of the Sun) or Bethshelem (House of Bread). The only catch to that suggestion was that Bethshemesh and Bethshelem are known sites but there is no known city called Beth David. So, in their desperation to discredit the Bible, some critics accused Biran of forging the stela. However, there is no evidence to support this claim.

**Reference**

1. Biran, A., *Biblical Dan*, Israel Exploration Society, Jerusalem, pp. 275-278, 1994.

18 [www.AnswersInGenesis.org](http://www.AnswersInGenesis.org) 105

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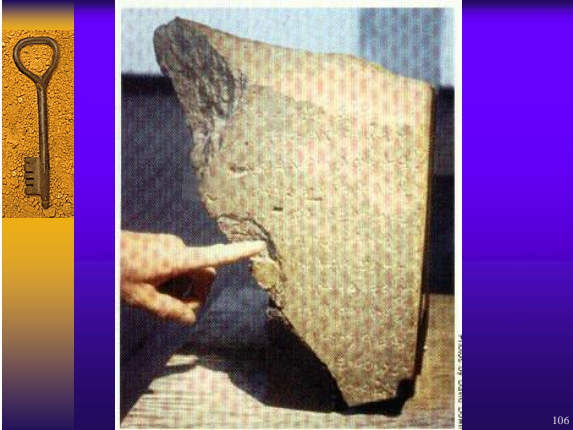
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How do we read the bible?

1. Remember it is a Divine Book, God wrote it.
2. As with God in all things, man must submit his will and reason to the Lord.

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3. We do not set our reason aside, but use it, until reason runs into conflict with God's word. Then and only then do we set reason aside.
4. Sin affects our reason, thus we cannot trust it.
5. That is why we read the bible and interpret it on the basis of the "Analogy of Faith".

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**“Analogy of Faith”**

We let the clear word interpret those passages we cannot understand.

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**The Nature and make up of the Bible.**

G. Purpose of the Bible

1. To make us Christian
2. A sign Post to point us to the Cross.
3. The bible is the sign post that points us in the only direction that leads to heaven and Christ is that road.
4. The only way to heaven is only through Jesus, you'll never get there by setting on the sign post or never reading it. To teach us, II Timothy 3:16 Doctrine means "teaching". Christian doctrine is what is taught in the bible.

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**Christ's Blood Atonement-The Lord's Supper**

♦ I Cor. 11.28

- Recognizing the Lord's Body
  - Discerning the Lord's Body (takes spiritual insight/ability) this comes with the gift of faith. Eph. 2:8-9
  - diakrinw v. Present, active, participle
    - fact, sub. Is doer, ing- action
    - Judgment through/make a distinction in
    - If one does not discern the body, he eats & drinks judgment on himself.
- krima means judgment, damnation, condemnation

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Christ's Blood Atonement-The Lord's Supper  
- And Close/closed communion

- ◆ Lutherans have always practiced close/closed communion.
- ◆ Galesburg rule
  - 1875 ruling at Galesburg, Ill. Of the General Council of the Ev. Lutheran Church in America regarding pulpit and altar fellowship. Essentially, it says, Lutheran pulpits for Lutherans only.
  - The goal was to maintain pure preaching and teaching of the Gospel and the correct administration and teaching of the sacraments.

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Christ's Blood Atonement-The Lord's Supper  
- And Close/closed communion

- Closed communion – the Lord's table should be closed to those who do not share our faith in part or in whole.
- Why? Consider 2 John 7 ff
- V. 8 Warning about losing your salvation through compromising the truth.
- V. 9 Whoever does not hold to the teaching of Christ, (the whole scripture for He wrote it) does have God! If we believe the scripture this is serious. It is a matter of salvation or no!
- V. 11 If we have fellowship (presence shows approval) with those who teach false doctrine, by attending the Lord's supper with them we are approving of that false doctrine.

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