

Can We Trust The Bible?

Ephesians 3:1-13



²³having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, ²⁴because “*All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, ²⁵ But the word of the Lord endures forever.*” Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

1 Peter 1:22 - 25 (NKJV)

How We Got Our Bible

- Conception
- Revelation
- Inspiration
- Canonization
- Preservation
- Translation



CONCEPTION



Conception

- The Bible claims to be the word of God
 - It was *conceived* in the mind of God
 - If we believe in God, we accept that His word is infallible.



¹²“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. ¹³However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare *it* to you. ¹⁵All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore, I said that He will take of Mine and declare *it* to you.”

John 16:12 - 15 (NKJV)

Conception

- The Bible claims to be the word of God
 - It was *conceived* in the mind of God
 - If we believe in God, we accept that His word is infallible.
- He imparted His word to His Son, Jesus
- Jesus imparted His word to the Holy Spirit.



¹⁹And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; ²⁰knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1:19 - 21 (NKJV)

REVELATION AND INSPIRATION



Revelation and Inspiration

- The scriptures were *not of human origin*.
- The Holy Spirit *inspired the apostles* to write the words.



¹For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles— ²if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, ³how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, ⁴by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), ⁵which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:

Ephesians 3:1 - 5 (NKJV)

Revelation and Inspiration

- The scriptures were *not of human origin*.
- The Holy Spirit *inspired the apostles* to write the words.
- The Holy Spirit *revealed* the word of God to the apostles.
- We may understand God's will *by reading the Scriptures*.



¹⁶All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16 - 17 (NKJV)



THE EVIDENCE



The Evidence of Inspiration

- Preservation



Author²	Date Written	Earliest Copy	Approximate Time Span between original & copy	Number of Copies	Accuracy of Copies
Lucretius	died 55 or 53 B.C.	900 A.D.	1100 yrs	2	----
Pliny	61-113 A.D.	850 A.D.	750 yrs	7	----
Plato	427-347 B.C.	900 A.D.	1200 yrs	7	----
Demosthenes	4th Cent. B.C.	1100 A.D.	800 yrs	8	----
Herodotus	480-425 B.C.	900 A.D.	1300 yrs	8	----
Suetonius	75-160 A.D.	950 A.D.	800 yrs	8	----
Thucydides	460-400 B.C.	900 A.D.	1300 yrs	8	----
Euripides	480-406 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1300 yrs	9	----
Aristophanes	450-385 B.C.	900 A.D.	1200	10	----
Caesar	100-44 B.C.	900 A.D.	1000	10	----
Livy	59 BC-AD 17	----	???	20	----
Tacitus	circa 100 A.D.	1100 A.D.	1000 yrs	20	----
Aristotle	384-322 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1400	49	----
Sophocles	496-406 B.C.	1000 A.D.	1400 yrs	193	----
Homer (Iliad)	900 B.C.	400 B.C.	500 yrs	643	95%
New Testament	1st Cent. A.D.	2nd Cent. A.D. (c. 130 A.D. f.)	less than 100 years	5600	99.5%



The Evidence of Inspiration

- Preservation
- Prophetic Fulfillment
- Scientific Foreknowledge
- Timeless
- Influence
- Impartiality
- Harmony



How We Got Our Bible

- Conception
- Revelation
- Inspiration
- Canonization
- Preservation
- Translation

