

Messianic Prophecies:

Isaiah 53:2–12. Predicts twelve aspects of the Messiah's sufferings and death, all of which were literally fulfilled (Matthew 26-27; Mark 15-16; Luke 22-23; John 18-19). Jesus . . . 1) Was rejected, 2) Was a man of sorrow, 3) Lived a life of suffering, 4) Was despised by others, 5) Carried our sorrow, 6) Was smitten and afflicted by God, 7) Was pierced for our transgressions, 8) Was wounded for our sins, 9) Suffered like a lamb, 10) Died with the wicked, 11) Was sinless, 12) Prayed for others.

01) Over 500 witnesses and the apostles saw Jesus alive following his death and resurrection:

- 1) First appearance to Mary Magdalene & the other Mary (Matthew 28:8-10) (Eye Witness count=2)
- 2) Second appearance to Cleopas and another disciple on the road to Emmaus. And were told of another appearance to Simon (Peter) (3rd appearance) who saw the risen Christ. (Luke 24:13-35, Mark 16:12) (Eye Witness count=5)
- 4) Fourth appearance to the 10 apostles excluding Thomas who left just before he came and some other disciples. (John 20: 19-25) (Eye Witness count=15)
- 5) Fifth appearance to the 10 disciples and Thomas. (John 20:26-28) (Eye Witness count=26)
- 6) Sixth appearance at the sea of Tiberias (i.e. sea of Galilee) to 7 disciples. (John 21) (Eye Witness count=33)
- 7) Seventh appearance to over 500 brethren at once. (1 Corinthians 15:6) (Eye Witness count=533)
- 8) Eighth appearance to James. (1 Corinthians 15:7) (Eye Witness count=534)
- 9) Ninth and final bodily appearance when he ascended into heaven witnessed by the 11 apostles and possibly many more disciples?? (Luke 24:50-53) (At minimum, Eye Witness count=545)

Jesus quoted from at least 24 Old testament books of the Bible. Jesus' resurrection verified by over 500 witnesses is proof that He is the Son of God. His reference to the Old testament scriptures is the ultimate validity to the truth of the text. That it is GOD's word, NOT MAN's! AMEN!

Interesting Facts about the Bible:

66 Books (39 old, 27 new), 40 authors, across 1,500 yrs
Number of times the word "God" appears: 3,358
Number of times the word "Lord" appears: 7,736
Number of different authors: Approximately 40
Number of languages the Bible has been translated into: more than 1,200.
Number of new Bibles distributed (sold or given away) in the U.S.: about 168,000 per day.
Number of Books:66, Chapters: 1,189, Verses: 31,101, Words: 783,137, Letters: 3,566,480.
Longest book: Psalms (150 chapters), Longest chapter: Psalm 119 (176 verses), Longest verse: Esther 8:9 (78 words), Longest word (and name):Mahershalahashbaz (Isaiah 8:1),.
Middle books: Micah and Nahum, Middle chapter: Psalm 118, Middle verse: Psalm 118:8,
Shortest book (number of words): 3 John, Shortest chapter (number of words): Psalm 117, Shortest verse: John 11:35 (2 words: "Jesus wept")
The invention of the printing press in 1450 made it possible to print books in large quantities. The first book printed was the Bible.

Credits:

- 1-Way of the Master School of Biblical Evangelism.
- 2-(http://gospelway.com/bible/bible_preservation.php)

Top 10 Reasons why you can Believe and Trust the Bible:

10) Corroborating secular (non religious) writings:

Secular writings exist from the time of Jesus confirm His birth, ministry, death, and resurrection. Writings confirming His birth, ministry, death, and resurrection include Flavius Josephus (A.D. 93), the Babylonian Talmud (A.D.70–200), Pliny the Younger's letter to the Emperor Trajan (approx. A.D.100), the Annals of Tacitus (A.D. 115–117), Mara Bar Serapion (sometime after A.D. 73), and Suetonius' Life of Claudius and Life of Nero (A.D. 120).

09) The Bible is the foundation of morality & law:

Morality:The 10 Commandments are the basis for morality.
The sovereignty of God not of the State or Man.

The Mayflower Compact: 1st governing document of the Plymouth Colony, "for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith".

Northwest Ordinance: Required Christianity to be taught by the newly-admitted states in their schools.

Declaration of Independence: All men are created Equal.
Bible: Acts 10:34

Constitution: The rule of Law rather than the authority of men. The mention of God in all 50 state Constitutions. The first amendment and religious freedoms.

Currency: In God we Trust.

Oaths: Swearing into offices, and Court testimonies.

Pledge of Allegiance: One nation under God.

Blue Laws: Laws honoring the Sabbath day.

08) Reliable Text:

We have the 1st century Greek New Testament manuscripts and the Old Testament Dead Sea Scrolls dated 300BC which validate our current text. It has not degraded over time. No other book has as many copies of the ancient manuscripts as the Bible. In fact, there are over 24,000 copies of New Testament manuscripts, some made within 35 years of the writer's death.

07) The Bible agrees with Science, and Archeology:

Earth: At a time when it was believed that the earth sat on a large animal or a giant (1500 B.C.), the Bible spoke of the earth's free float in space; (Job 26:7) and that the Earth is round (Isaiah 40:22).

Water Cycle: Ecclesiastes 11:3 states that "if the clouds be full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth." Amos 9:6 tells us, "He calls for the waters of the sea, and pours them out upon the face of the earth."

Air Currents: Solomon described a "cycle" of air currents 2,000 years before scientists "discovered" them (Eccl 1:6).

Ocean Currents: Man discovered the existence of ocean currents in the 1850s, but the Bible declared the science of oceanography 2,800 years ago. (Psalm 8:8)

Ocean Mountains: Only in recent years has man discovered that there are mountains on the ocean floor. This was revealed in the Bible thousands of years ago. (Jonah 2:6)

Conception: Genesis 3:15 reveals that a female possesses a "seed" for childbearing. This was not common knowledge until a few centuries ago.

Blood: As a source of life; (Leviticus 17:11)

Germs: The Bible says specifically to wash under "running water" (Lev 15:3). Until recent years, doctors washed in a bowl of water, leaving invisible germs on their hands.

Archeology: No archaeological discovery has ever controverted a Biblical reference .

The Dead Sea Scrolls: Discovered in 1949 preserved from the 3rd century B.C., confirm the reliability of the Old Testament text.

The Hittite empire: Scriptures make more than 40 references to the great Hittite Empire. However, there was no archaeological evidence to substantiate the biblical claim that the Hittites existed. In 1906, Hugo Winckler uncovered a huge library of 10,000 clay tablets, which completely documented the lost Hittite Empire.

The Exodus Discoveries: Chariot wheels discovered on the bottom off the red sea. The rock on Mount Sinai (Saudi Arabia) at Rephidim that Moses struck and bore water.

06) Total harmony:

Written over a period of about 1,500 years by more than 40 writers from all walks of life. Some were fishermen; some were politicians. Others were generals or kings, shepherds, or historians. They were from three different continents, and wrote in three different languages. They wrote on hundreds of controversial subjects yet they wrote with agreement and harmony. They wrote in dungeons, in temples, on beaches, and on hillsides, during peacetime and during war. Yet their words sound like they came from the same source. So even though 10 people today couldn't write on one controversial subject and agree, God picked 40 different people to write the Bible—and it stands the test of time.

05) Preserved & Indestructible:

God promised that he would preserve his word. The Bible teaches that God is all-powerful and can do anything He chooses to do (Jer. 32:17,27; Matt. 19:26; Mark 14:36; Job 42:2). If He therefore chooses to preserve the Scriptures so that man cannot destroy them, He is completely able to do so. The question then is whether or not He has chosen to preserve the Scriptures.

God Desires All Men to Know, Believe, & Obey His Will. (1Timothy 2:4)

God Revealed the Scriptures So Men Could Know His Will. (Rev. 1:1-3)

God Intended the Scriptures to Guide People of future generations (Deuteronomy 17:18-20). Thus a written record is required.

Other Inspired Sources of Revelation Have Ceased. (Jude 1:3, Rev 22:18)

(http://gospelway.com/bible/bible_preservation.php)

04) The Bible declares that it is the Word of God:

Genesis opens with the words "God said" nine times in the first chapter. The statement "Thus says the Lord" appears 23 times in the last Old Testament book, Malachi. So you have "God says" from Genesis to Malachi. "The Lord spoke" appears 560 times in the first five books of the Bible and at least 3,800 times in the whole of the Old Testament! Isaiah claims at least 40 times that his message came directly from the Lord; Ezekiel, 60 times; and Jeremiah, 100 times.

03) Without error; Infallible/Inspired: Direct words of God:

2Peter 1:21 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.

Old Testament Writers Claimed their Message Was from God: Isaiah 1:2 - The Lord has spoken. Jer 10:1,2 - Hear the word which the Lord speaks. Thus says the Lord.. Ezek 1:3 - The word of the Lord came expressly. Hos 1:1,2 - The word of the Lord that came ... the Lord began to speak by Hosea, the Lord said... Jonah 1:1 - The word of the Lord came to Jonah. Micah 1:1 - The word of the Lord that came to Micah. Zech. 1:1 - The word of the Lord came to Zechariah.

New Testament Writers Claimed Their Message Was from God: 1 Corinthians 14:37 -the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. Ephesians 3:3-5 - The things Paul wrote were made known to him by revelation. Formerly these things were not known but have now been revealed by the Spirit to apostles & prophets. 1 Thessalonians 4:15 - We say by the word of the Lord. 1 Timothy 4:1 - The Spirit expressly says. [2 Thessalonians 3:12; John 12:48-50; Acts 16:32; Romans 1:16; 1 Thessalonians 1:5]

Inspired Men Claimed that What Other Writers Wrote Was from God: Matthew 1:22 A quotation was spoken by the Lord through the prophet. Acts 1:16 The Spirit spoke by the mouth of David. Acts 28:25 - The Holy Spirit spoke by Isaiah the prophet. Hebrews 1:1,2 - God spoke in times past to the fathers by prophets. But now He has spoken to us by His Son. Matthew 15:4 - Jesus Himself confirmed that Scriptures were from God. He quoted the Law revealed through Moses and said it was what God commanded.

The Writers Denied They Wrote by Human Wisdom: Jer 14:14 - If a man speaks as though he has a message from God falsely, and the message is just his own idea, that man is a false prophet and deserves to be punished and rejected as a prophet (23:16,26; Ezekiel 13:2-7,17).

02) Fulfilled Prophecies:

The Scriptures predicted the rise and fall of great empires like Greece and Rome (Daniel 2:39,40), and foretold the destruction of cities like Tyre and Sidon (Isaiah 23). Tyre's demise is recorded by ancient historians. Another startling prophecy was Jesus' detailed prediction of Jerusalem's destruction, and the further spreading of the Jewish diaspora throughout the world, which is recorded in Luke 21. In A.D. 70, not only was Jerusalem destroyed by Titus, the future emperor of Rome, but another prediction of Jesus Christ in Matthew 24:1,2 came to pass—the complete destruction of the temple of God.