

The Bible Is The Word of God!

Because God is, He must reveal himself unto men—that is, He must make His will known to His creatures. There is no way for men to come to know God without God's initiating the effort to manifest the way that is right and cannot be wrong. When we read the Bible claims to be the Word of God, we cannot disregard them; honesty compels us to examine the Book to determine the validity of its claims. The claims by themselves are insufficient to convince us, but it is sure that a book without such claims would not be the Word of God. Since the claims are present, let us see whether they can be confirmed.

Throughout the centuries, whenever God revealed His will to men, He confirmed it. The confirmation for those close to the situation came in the form of direct miracles, witnessed by men. For those not present for the working of the miracles, there were additional evidences—fulfillment of prophecy and the testimony of credible witnesses to the miracles that were wrought. Let us look to some of those other evidences to confirm the Bible's claims.

The evidences that we will consider will be internal and external. The value of internal evidence lies in points that can be made on the basis of the book's teaching, claims, accuracy, agreement, and prophecy. External evidences—those provided by archaeology, geography, history, and science—provide confirmation in those areas that can be tested: in every case external evidence has corroborated the Bible. In areas such as doctrine, there is no confirmation that external evidence can offer. The Bible's trustworthiness in many areas that can be tested, however, convinces us that we can accept its trustworthiness in other areas.

I. The Assurances of the Writers

- A. 2 Tim. 3:16-17
- B. 2 Pet. 1:21
- C. Mk. 13:11
- D. 1 Cor. 2
- E. Eph. 3:3-5
- F. Jn. 10:35
- G. Many O.T. passages, such as the first verse of many chapters in Jeremiah

II. The Agreement of the Writers (No Discordant Note) 1500 yrs., 40 writers

(poetry, history, biography, letters parables, proverbs, and prophecy; shepherd, vinedresser, fisherman, tax collector, kings, lawgivers, tent makers, priests, educated and uneducated, rich and poor)

- A. In theme - Christ
- B. In prophecy - no disagreement
- C. In meaning - N.T. writers on O.T. prophecy, types, and use
- D. In teaching - Paul and James
- E. Is there any known unified collection that can compete with the Bible in its agreement?

III. The Anticipation of the Writers (men cannot foresee such things.)

- A. Moses in Gen. 1:26—"us"; John 1:1-3

- B. Jesus in Lk. 17:31, 34—rotundity and rotation of the earth
- C. Moses in Deut. 12:23 and Lev. 17:11—life in the blood
- D. Paul in Acts 17:26 (one blood) and 1 Cor. 15:39 (kinds of flesh)
- E. Prophets on life of Christ (Liddon says 332 prophecies); ancient civilizations - Tyre (Ezek. 26:12,14), the Jews (Lev. 26:33; Mic. 3:12; Mt. 11:23)

IV. The Accuracy of the Writers

- A. In science—biogenesis (Gen. 1:11)
- B. In history—politarchs (Acts 17:6)
- C. In geography—up, down, and locations
- D. In ethnology—nations, kinship, locations
- E. In details of prophecy—Isa. 53

V. The Adaptability of the Bible

- A. Meets needs and fulfills desires
- B. Solves problems and answers questions

Many years ago I entered the wonderful temple of God's Revelation. I entered the portico of Genesis and walked down through the Old Testament art gallery, where the pictures of Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Samuel, David, and Daniel hung on the wall.

I entered the music room of the Psalms where the Spirit swept the keyboard of nature and brought forth the dirge-like wail of the weeping prophet Jeremiah, to the grand impassioned strains of Isaiah, until it seemed that every reed and harp in God's great organ of nature responded to the tuneful touch of David, the sweet singer of Israel.

I entered the chapel of Ecclesiastes where the voice of the preacher was heard; and passed into the conservatory Sharon, where the Lily of the Valley's sweet-scented spices filled an perfumed my life.

I entered the business office of Proverbs, and passed into the observatory room of the prophets, where I saw many telescoped of various sizes, some pointing to far-off events, but all concentrated upon the Bright Morning Star which was soon to rise over the moon-lit hills of Judea for our salvation.

I entered the audience room of the King of Kings, and saw the viewpoint of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John; entered Acts of Apostles, where the Holy Spirit was doing his office work in the formation of the infant church. I passed into the correspondence room where sat Paul, Peter, James, Jude, and John penning their epistles.

I stepped into the throne [room] of Revelation, where all towered into glittering peaks, I saw the King seated upon his throne in all his glory—and I cried: "All hail the power of Jesus' name, let angels prostrate fall; bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all."

—Author Unknown