



Is It Really God's Word?

Some people have a legitimate concern that just because the bible is historically, linguistically, culturally, and archaeologically accurate, it does not necessarily prove that the Bible is inspired by God. The sports scores in the morning paper are accurate, true, and verifiable as well, yet everyone knows the paper is not 'God-breathed' information. So how do we know the Bible is, in fact, divinely inspired and sovereignly ordained to be written for us, by God, through men of faith who were moved by His Spirit? Unlike the sports pages, the Bible declares within its own writings, that it is the Word of God. So, what exactly does this mean? Did our eternal God really insert Himself into humanity and communicate to us His nature, His plans, and His will ? How can we know for sure? The Bible is indeed God's Word based on the following:

- The wonder of its unity and its Christ-centeredness from beginning to end
- The wonder of its accuracy
- The wonder of its indestructibility
- The wonder of its frankness
- The wonder of its predictive & fulfilled prophecy
- The wonder of its scientific impact, evidence, and revelation
- The wonders of its clear and correct teachings on basic life issues such as marriage, loving others, child-rearing, charity, morality, forgiveness, serving authority, etc.
- The wonders of its life-transforming power in people of all walks of life, from every era of human history, with its truths leading to the salvation of the soul by the Lord's Spirit filling the spiritual void so prevalent in every person born.

SUPERNATURAL UNITY: First, let's examine the bible's uniqueness in its dual/multiple authorship (God and men) and the span of time over which it was written, resulting in one cohesive message. This Book is....

- A) 66 manuscripts written over the length of an estimated 1,500-2,000 year span
- B) Written over 40 generations
- C) Written by more than 40 authors from every walk of life; including kings, peasants, philosophers, shepherds, fishermen, poets, statesmen, scholars, even a physician.
- D) Written in 3 languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek)
- E) Written across 3 continents (Europe, Asia, Africa)

Yet, we have one, single, unified message, one complete book, one unfolding main story, one primary revelation, one central theme...Man's fallen spiritual state and God's redemption of mankind. In subject matter it includes hundreds of controversial issues, yet all writings agree and speak in harmony; recounting multiple historic patterns and pictures of great importance, revealing numerous God-breathed prophecies both fulfilled and awaiting fulfillment, and portraying unfailing continuity in thought and theme, from Genesis to Revelation.

Try picking just 10 authors, and even let them be from one similar walk of life, one place, one era, one mood, one continent, one language, and give them only ONE controversial subject....Would those ten authors agree on that issue? Not a chance. How supernatural is it then, that our Bible, composed of 66 books, 40 generations, +40 authors, all walks of life, all eras, three languages...multiple cultures.... can somehow be a compilation that equals ONE harmonious account of humanity, ONE theme, ONE revelation, ONE epic saga of fallen man and God's eternal solution... HOW???? Because it is God's Book. The Bible is God's act of merciful intervention reaching down to His creation and giving a written, comprehensible revelation of Himself; proclaiming to us in so many ways, what is our ONE hope, our ONE salvation...His Son.

Within this Book God has depicted over and over for us, numerous, repetitive patterns of prophecy, showing us Who Christ is, what He would do, how He could do it, and teaching us over and over of the imminent condemnation and judgment by a holy God upon a rebellious, fallen, and prideful race. Israel's history is not only factual but is used throughout Scripture as our prototype and example of each and every one of our own hearts. At the same time, throughout His message God gives forth pictures and patterns of an eternal promise; a hope for those who would choose to surrender their hearts and lives in order to turn back to Him by faith. He speaks from Genesis to Revelation of a Messiah who can atone for human rebellion and take on our judgment if only we would acknowledge His presence, repent of our own ways, and believe in the atonement accomplished on the cross. Jesus Christ tells us, *"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me (John 5:39).*

Meanwhile, we know that no other man-created religion or worldview provides such a solution for the souls of fallen humanity. Men alone could never have come up with such a plan – certainly not 40 different men who lived over 40 different generations! The very nature and content of the Scriptures defies all possibility of being solely human in authorship. It's just not possible. The theme is too unified, the patterns too precise, the agreement of all authors too impossible, without God's Sovereign hand and will being at the core of its recording and compilation. The Gospel message alone is supreme evidence of God's authorship, in that mankind will always, always contrive some type of a works-oriented religion to attain his idea of blessings, Godly approval, or eternal rewards. Whereas God has provided the unthinkable – substitutionary atonement – the punishing of one innocent Man born into human existence from heaven above and who is a beloved part of Himself, to save the wicked...which is all of us, because we are born sinful by nature and rebellious toward God, desiring to pursue life on our own terms instead of our Creator's.

What so many people fail to grasp in today's world is that Christianity is not a religion. It is not about man finding ways or performing rituals to appease a holy God. Christianity is a God-given story, a God-given revelation, and a God-inspired relationship between Creator and creature. Scripture teaches of a long-unfolding event and eternal plan which God has asked us to trust upon. That is why faith is required. Christianity is God reaching down into His creation and giving all of Himself that our souls would have the opportunity to live forever in a loving and divine relationship with God. It's not about what we can do for God (man's way,) it's about what God has already done for us. Somehow, numerous men of faith wrote in perfect agreement all about these crucial truths over a span of at least 1500 years.

SUPERNATURAL ACCURACY

Paul the apostle tells us, *"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness."* (2 Timothy 3:16). The Greek word used here is "theopneustos" and is usually translated as "inspiration". In other words, the Bible is 'inspired' by God, or more literally, the term simply means, "God-breathed". The Bible is, in effect, from the breath of God. It claims to be His very Word and it has come from His very mouth. The Old Testament claims this, as does the New Testament. Since the Bible declares it is inspired by God, we can logically assume that it is without error, or, inerrant. The words "inspired" and "inerrant" are usually linked together on this issue. A proper understanding of the inspiration of Scripture must include its inerrancy. The Bible is the Word of God...and God cannot err...(Hebrews 6:18, Titus 1:12). To deny the inerrancy of Scripture is to impugn either the integrity of God or the identity of the Bible as being God's divine Word. The supreme, holy, and righteous character of God demands inerrancy. If every utterance in the Bible is from God and God is a God of truth as the Bible declares Him to be, then the Bible must be wholly truthful.

Jesus said of God's utterances; *"Your Word is truth"* (John 17:17). The Psalmist wrote, *"The entirety of Your Word is truth"* (Psalm 119:160). Solomon declared *"Every word of God is pure"* (Proverbs 30:5) and Paul wrote to Titus, *"God....cannot lie"* (Titus 1:2). The author of Hebrews declares, *"It is impossible for God to lie"* (Hebrews 6:18).

Inerrancy means that when all the facts are known, the Scriptures in their original autographs, properly interpreted, will be shown to be wholly true in everything they affirm whether this has to do with doctrine, morality, or the social, physical and life sciences of this planet. The bottom line continues to be, the Bible has been breathed by God. He used men of faith to write out exactly what He wanted them to write. He kept them free from error while at the same time He allowed their unique personalities and writing styles to convey exactly what He wanted the world to know. Peter tells us that *"holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit"* (2 Peter 1:21). The idea conveyed is that of the wind carrying and directing the sails on a sailboat; so also the breath of God carried and directed the writers and compilers of the Bible. Inerrancy does NOT mean that every word in the Bible is the same. God instead often says the same thing, many times, in many different ways, from many different viewpoints and times, as a direct result of utilizing many different men to write His message. The inspiration of God does not exclude diversity of expression as well. The four Gospels relate the same historical accountings, yet often in different ways, via differing personalities, to different groups of people. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John all may quote Christ as saying the same thing, yet using different words and sometimes emphasizing different points or facts. This does not mean there is inconsistency or error, but rather reflects that there are multiple versions of the same event when told from the unique perspectives and viewpoints of more than one person. All that being said, Bible itself claims it is God-breathed, Holy-Spirit inspired, and the Word of God itself, which is Christ. How are we to believe it? How do we know this compiled written work is produced by our eternal Creator reaching down through our limited universe and communicating to this fallen world?

To be considered to have come from an all-powerful, inerrant God, one would think a book must meet certain criteria: It must be transmitted to us accurately from the time it was originally written so that we have an exact representation of what God said and did – and in fact, it has been: We have over 24,000 manuscript copies of portions of the New Testament in existence (5,300 Greek, 10,000 Latin Vulgate, and +9,300 other early versions). No other document of antiquity even begins to approach such numbers of survival and attestation. This preservation alone displays the supernatural power of God in making sure His Word stands forever. The Old Testament does not have quite the number of ancient manuscripts that the New Testament has, yet the number of documents available is still remarkable to the point of being incredible (especially given the time span these documents have had to endure).

Specifically, Benjamin Kennicott (1776-1780) listed 615 OT manuscripts, Giovanni de Rossi (1784-1788) listed 731 OT manuscripts; there are 1,582 OT manuscripts and Masora on parchment, plus 1,200 Hebrew manuscripts in the Antonin Collection at Leningrad; The British museum has 161 Hebrew OT manuscripts, the Oxford University has 146 Old Testament manuscripts, with a very large number of fragments; The Dead Sea Scroll discovery gives us another complete copy of Isaiah, plus thousands of fragments representing every book except Esther – and proving beyond a shadow of doubt that we have the original bible, because these oldest manuscripts exactly match all the others we have to date, the only differences being minute copy errors by the hands of fallible scribes, in very small matters such as the articles ‘the’ and ‘a’ , capitalizations, or a few minor name spelling differences; nothing affecting the message or the doctrines taught therein.

We indeed have an accurate representation of God’s Word. In addition, the Bible, to be from God, must be correct when it comes to historical personages, places, and events. A book that confuses names, places, dates, lineages, and events has no right to claim it comes from an infallible God. The Bible has throughout history been completely verified and confirmed as being correct in its content with regard to people, places, and events. Throughout the world exists a multitude of extra-biblical writings, secular historical records, multitudes of archaeology digs and discoveries, pinpointed and verifiable locations of cities, records and artifacts of rulers, family name evidences, and the like, all verifying beyond a shadow of a doubt the correctness and accuracy of the Bible and its contents.

SUPERNATURAL INDESTRUCTIBILITY

The Bible is solely unique and supernatural in its survival against all historical attempts to squelch, annihilate, corrupt, and outlaw the words within its pages. No other book has withstood such a plethora of attack and persecution throughout every era of its existence. Instead of disappearing it has become the most widely translated, reprinted, and circulated literature of all time, in all the world, EVER. It has changed individuals, entire cultures, continents, countries and nations. How is this explained other than that GOD has supernaturally preserved and multiplied His Word among the nations? *“The grass withers, the flower fades, But the Word of our God stands forever.”* (Isaiah 40:8) Matthew, Mark, and Luke all depict Jesus Christ as declaring *“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.”* While many will continue to twist and pervert the teachings of Scripture to correlate with their corrupt or deceived perspectives and agendas, there are truly no critics who can disprove the truths taught within the Bible. There are no ‘experts’ or scholars who can refute the information it holds, the history it portrays, the science it displays, the life-altering message it contains. Mankind can fight against the Word of God all he wants, for he has been given that freedom. But no one – no institution, no educational contrivance, no philosophical authority or

manmade false religion can deny that the Scriptures which have been handed down from century to century have proven to be indestructible and prolific as well as reliable, viable, accurate, cohesive, historical, scientific, prophetic, and above reproach on all levels. WHAT OTHER BOOK DOES THIS WORLD HAVE WHICH CAN MAKE SUCH A CLAIM??

FRANKNESS

An amazing feature of the Bible is the frankness with which it deals with frailties of the people of God and even the shortcomings of its own authors. The Bible paints a direct and realistic portrait of its characters, resisting the temptation to mythologize or perfect them as we would expect men to do and as we can see in other so-called 'holy books'. Scripture does not conceal the failures and poor choices made by great men of God such as Noah, Abraham, King David, and the apostles. Again, God cannot and does not lie, because He is holy and perfect; therefore we have a very real accounting of very real people, making the message and its faithful carriers that much more believable while at the same time helping us today to understand that no matter our own failings, God loves us and is seeking our hearts just as He sought out the many imperfect yet key people we read of in Scripture to walk with Him by faith. The fact that the personalities in the Bible are flawed does not detract from God's message. It is the holiness of God that the Bible proclaims, not the holiness of man. Yet lest we forget, we are most certainly told that the greatest Person revealed in the Bible, the One of whom in the whole Bible speaks, is indeed without sin, and as perfect and holy as His Father; Jesus Christ our Lord.

SUPERNATURAL PROPHECY

The Bible and its fulfilled prophecies are enough for any lawyer and any court of law to deem not only trustworthy on a legal level, but supernatural on a mathematical level. There is no other book, no other writings, no other prophetic material on earth which can claim 100% accuracy in fulfilled prophecy to date. Therefore, should we not be ever so attentive to that which has been prophesied in Scripture but has NOT yet been fulfilled? God declares, *"Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure..'"* (Isaiah 46:9,10). God prophesies throughout His Word so we can believe it was indeed written by Him. He does it for His Name's sake and for the sake of drawing mankind to seek Him by causing us to recognize His Omnipotence, Omniscience, and Omnipresence. Our Creator knows all, from the end to the beginning. He wrote the Book; He knows the ending. If only we would humble ourselves and seek to learn of His higher truths and purposes for us, so we can begin to walk with Him by faith on His narrow path while we are still here on earth during this very temporary lifetime!

One THIRD of the bible is prophetic in nature. ONE THIRD. God tells us what is going to happen well before it actually happens – often hundreds and even thousands of years before it happens. Yet so many of us STILL seem bent on disregarding the only Book He prepared for us! History shows us His prophecies have come true with 100% accuracy. There is no human being on earth who can do this. There is no other so-called ‘holy book’ which has done this. Only God and His infinite wisdom and foreknowledge can achieve such a feat. Whether we speak of the cities of Tyre, Sodom, or Gomorrah, or whether we speak of Christ’s first coming and all its many details, or whether we speak of scattered, broken Israel, becoming a nation again in ONE day; all prophecies spoken of in the Bible and thus far fulfilled have a 100% accuracy record! There are 333 prophecies alone detailing Christ’s first coming and these have all been fulfilled to the letter. By the laws of probability there *is one chance in 83 billion* that all 333 could be fulfilled in history by one person. How do we account for this? The only answer is that the Holy Spirit directed these prophetic words to be written by chosen men of faith. Please understand, entire books have been written by learned Bible scholars detailing the numerous prophecies of Scripture which have been completely and accurately fulfilled. This short writing contains only a tiny smattering of such truths to make a point – a very huge point – about the Bible’s supernatural power to foretell the future.

There are no other manmade religions which can proclaim to know the future. And please, take special note: **There are no other religions in this world which prophesied the advent or coming of their own leaders or supposed prophets (Mohammed, Joseph Smith, Buddha, Confucius, etc....) thousands or even hundreds of years before those leaders existed.** Yet the Scriptures not only detail how the world was created and the specifics of how mankind spiritually fell away from his God, but It also foretells of a Messiah, the SON of GOD, a Savior, who would come to the earth and reconcile all things, including the spiritually corrupted state of the human soul. Thousands of years before He came, before Jesus Christ was born, the Scriptures taught of Him and what He would do for our broken world. Christ is foretold in Genesis and heralded throughout the Bible as our promised Savior, the Messiah. There is no other belief system, ‘religious’ practice, or sacred book on earth which even attempts such a thing with regard to their ‘chosen’ angels, gods, prophets, or sages. The only conclusion to be made is that the Bible was written by our all-knowing, ever-present, all-powerful God who resides outside of time, space, and matter (eternity) and thus, only God Himself can truly tell us important facts about what we view as ‘the future’.

SUPERNATURAL REVELATION OF SCIENCE

Any revelation from God should be without scientific errors or myths which would betray human authorship. Evidence of divine inspiration in the Scriptures includes the fact that many of the principles of what we know as modern science were actually recorded as known facets of nature in the Bible *long before scientists confirmed them experimentally*. They are not stated in technical terminology, but spoken of in the common vernacular of man's everyday experience. Nevertheless, they are in complete agreement with the scientific conclusions we accept today.

- A.) The round shape of the earth (Isaiah 40:22)
- B.) Infinite extent of the sidereal universe (Isaiah 55:9)
- C.) Law of conservation of mass and energy (2 Peter 3:7)
- D.) The hydrologic cycle (Ecclesiastes 1:7)
- E.) Vast number of stars (Jeremiah 33:22)
- F.) The equivalence of matter and energy (Hebrews 1:3)
- G.) Law of increasing entropy (Psalm 102:25-27)
- H.) The paramount importance of blood in life processes (Leviticus 17:11)
- I.) Atmospheric circulation (Ecclesiastes 1:6)
- J.) Gravitational field (Job 26:7)

There are many Creation Science videos, teachings, writings, and in-depth explanations available to learn from today. Secular indoctrination via the illogical and unproven theory of Darwinian evolution has unfortunately hidden these resources from society's understanding and have mocked the truths that can be found should one look for them. Much of modern civilization has become spiritually blind with regard to Creation Science and its true, provable, evidences which can be so easily discovered if sought. Look for materials and teachings by Dr. Henry Morris, Kent Hovind, Brian Young, 's teachings. They focus on the evidences of our young earth, the true fossil record, and the scientific details of outer space, atoms, biology, physical science, the flood, and even the exodus of Israel out of Egypt, which can be proven and understood through the lens of Scripture and the existence of a Creator. There are websites for research and reading all across the internet that are so easy to explore and learn from, such as www.AnswersinGenesis.org, www.icr.org, www.creationinstruction.org, and many more. There are innumerable creation scientists with extremely impressive credentials who teach the laws of science in light of how the Bible supports everything we know about science. There is a reason why people like Sir Isaac Newton believed in the Bible...his brilliant mind discovered what the Scriptures already taught!!

It cannot be denied that there are layers and layers of settled sediment with upside down trees found throughout every layer of the Grand Canyon showing us exactly how the earth naturally settles after a massive flood... read Genesis to learn God's account of Noah's Flood, and then

take the time to compare the Grand Canyon with what happened when Mount St Helens in Washington state erupted in 1980, causing a massive flood, and a nearby lake catastrophically washed out, leaving behind the very same types of layers, as well as a plunging ravine, and trees lying haphazardly throughout many layers of settled sediment. The Mount St. Helens eruption gave us a veritable proof of a smaller scale event directly comparable to exactly what happened in the Grand Canyon region thousands of years ago during Noah's great flood. Scientists have discovered mammoths frozen solid with leafy greens still in their mouths, giant clams and giant palms of tropical nature, all encapsulated in ice at the tops of mountains in the north pole, showing us a world that clearly used to be different; one in which clearly a calamitous event occurred which placed these things in ice for our discovery (i.e., a worldwide flood) just as the Bible describes.

Study the Bible and learn from Creation Science scholars, professors, and teachers about these incredible and provable subjects. One cannot deny the innumerable archaeological uncovering of scores of ancient civilizations which are all depicted in the pages of Scripture; or the existence of dinosaur tracks imprinted alongside the footprints of men fossilized in the same location, obviously traversing the earth together, because the LORD God made every living creature at the same time. One cannot deny the *world's oldest tree is only as old as the Flood....*and yet it makes so much sense. Finally, according to science, archeology, and historical record, there is no denying that Jesus Christ came to this earth in a miraculous way as an infant, who grew up to teach a deeper understanding of Scripture, who converted innumerable Jews and Gentiles to a soul saving faith in Him as being God's promised Messiah, who performed miracles, healed thousands, and taught of heart-changing, divinely empowered, life-altering repentance brought forth solely by faith, who offered the only way of salvation for the human soul, who proclaimed eternal life and the walk of faith known as 'The Way', who Himself became the ultimate atoning sacrifice God required by being unjustly crucified, who died on the cross and was miraculously resurrected 3 days later to walk the earth triumphantly, proclaiming God's acceptance of His atonement. He was physically seen by over 500 people after His death. These truths are recorded by more sources than just Scripture. Secular historians, Jewish historians, and the enemies of Jesus and His followers all have writings describing these events.

Fox's Book of Martyrs shows us the stunning faith of the apostles and the born-again believers who came after them, as they stood firm in their faith and the teachings of Christ even while undergoing disgusting and heinous forms of torture and death. It is clear to all that no one would be willing to die or be tortured in such extreme ways for an unsubstantiated, false belief system. These people were willing to die simply because they KNEW they had God's Truth, they KNEW Jesus Christ was the fulfillment of God's many prophecies; they KNEW He was the only way, the truth and the wholeness of life both here and in eternity. All these facts legitimize the supernatural infallibility and power of God's Word, because only the indisputable truths of God

could inspire masses of people to stand so strong on their faith in the face of such evil persecution. We have visited Israel on a multitude of occasions, and while these short sojourns were never long enough to fully experience the evidence and information available, the time we did spend there was certainly enough to see many biblical ruins, ancient Scripture manuscripts, archeologically significant caves, buried cities, and artifacts, all of which cannot help but cause those who explore them to virtually re-live the events of the Bible while there. Again, all forms of science support what the Bible depicts and all that is portrayed in the Bible supports true science. Only God could have written of these things before we had the ability to test, experiment, and discover the facts. Four reference the below list contains just a few of the thousands of 20th and 21st century creation scientists:

Dr. James Allan, geneticist

Dr. Steve Austin, Ph.D. in geology

Dr. John Baumgardner, Ph.D. in geophysics and space physics

Dr. Donald Chittick, Ph.D. in physical chemistry

Dr. Tim Clarey, Ph.D. in geology

Dr. Ken Cumming, Ph.D. in biology

Dr. Vernon R. Cupps, Ph.D. in nuclear physics

Dr. Raymond Damadian, Pioneer of the MRI Scanner

(In 1994, Dr. Damadian told the magazine Creation, "The highest purpose a man can find for his life is to serve the Will of God." He questions whether a society that abandons God's absolute standards revealed in the Bible can "discern the just from the unjust.")

Dr. David A. DeWitt, Ph.D. in neuroscience

Dr. Donald DeYoung, Ph.D. in physics

Dr. Geoff Downes, Ph.D. in tree physiology

Dr. Danny R. Faulkner, Ph.D. in astronomy

Dr. Robert Gentry, nuclear physicist

Dr. Duane Gish, Ph.D. in biochemistry

Dr. D.B. Gower, Ph.D. in biochemistry

Dr. Stephen Grocott, Ph.D. in organometallic chemistry

Dr. George Hawke, Ph.D. in air pollution meteorology

Dr. Jonathan Henry, Ph.D. in chemical engineering

Dr. Ed Holroyd, III, Ph.D. in atmospheric science

Dr. Bob Hosken, Ph.D. in biochemistry

Dr. Neil Huber, anthropologist

Dr. Russ Humphreys, Ph.D. in nuclear physics

Dr. Nathaniel T. Jeanson, Ph.D. in cell and developmental biology

Dr. John K. G. Kramer, Ph.D. in biochemistry

Dr. Jason Lisle, Ph.D. in astrophysics

Dr. Ian Macreadie, Molecular Biologist and Microbiologist
Dr. George Marshall, Ph.D. in ophthalmic science
Dr. David Menton, Ph.D. in cell biology
Dr. Henry Morris, Hydrologist, Author of over 60 books, and “Father of the Modern Creation Movement”
Dr. John Morris, Ph.D. in Geological Engineering
Dr. Gary E. Parker, Ed.D. in biology/geology
Dr. Georgia Purdom, Ph.D. in molecular genetics
Dr. Ariel A. Roth, Ph.D. in biology
Dr. Jonathan Sarfati, Ph.D. in physical chemistry
Dr. Joachim Scheven, Paleontologist
Dr. Andrew Snelling, Ph.D. in Geology
Dr. Ker C. Thomas, D.Sc. in geophysics
Dr. Larry Vardiman, Ph.D. in atmospheric science
Dr. John Whitmore, Ph.D. in biology
Dr. A.E. Wilder-Smith, Ph.D. in physical organic chemistry
Dr. Kurt Wise, Ph.D. in paleontology

SUPERNATURAL EFFECTIVENESS OF ITS LIFE TEACHINGS

The Scriptures teach God’s instructions on how to have a right marriage, how to properly raise children, how to be productive members of society, how to define what is morally right and morally wrong. The reason Todd and I began turning to God and His Word is because we read a Christian-based book which instructed the reader as to what a Godly marriage ought to look like, and how God intended the marriage relationship to function. These very principles are taught on the pages of Scripture. When we put these teachings and precepts into practice in our own relationship, and the truths God teaches become immediately relevant and life-altering, for when they are obeyed, the marital relationship is mind-blowingly successful. God’s instructions are entirely different than what the modern world teaches and displays, and it is for this reason today’s marriages are often a mockery of this sacred covenant, and far too often end quickly due to dissatisfaction, disharmony, and inherent selfishness. Because of those amazing marriage instructions, we then began turning to Scripture for parenting principles. It was not long before we began utilizing God’s Word for every instruction He has ever given pertaining to this life. Thousands of believers can attest to this phenomena; additionally proving once again the amazing, supernatural truths and fundamental wisdom that can only be found in a book written by God.

SUPERNATURAL LIFE-TRANSFORMING POWER

There is such thing as an internal witness and testimony to the Word of God and its power to save and sanctify the lives of those who believe. Obviously thousands upon thousands of people throughout the world and throughout time have been supernaturally changed and affected by God's Word. Lives have been changed, cultures have been turned upside down, there is no place in the world that has not been affected one way or the other by the Bible. Personally, I have read the Bible itself, over and over, for decades, and each time I read it through, I learn a great deal more about the Lord I serve than I knew before. God's Word has changed me, morally, spiritually, emotionally, and intellectually. I am fully confident that He will continue to change me throughout the rest of my earthly life. I would never be able to be the person I am today without the action of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God influencing my soul. Just like Lot in Sodom and Gomorrah, while I might increasingly find myself vexed daily by the deteriorating condition of our fallen, spiritually degenerate, and godless society, I also find I am growing more at peace from within – a peace that cannot be explained. It truly is *"...the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding..."* (Philippians 4:7)

Those who abide in the teachings of Scripture will consistently hold a better understanding of today's world and its agendas, politics, and tumultuous developments because their biblical worldview makes all things clear. Prophecy is ever unfolding before us, and while it can be unsettling, it is expected and the believer will not be shocked by it, nor will they be moved from their biblical faith. You do not have to be a Harvard graduate, a Yale scholar, or an MIT engineer to know more about our world, our race, our political maneuverings, our human history and genealogy, our various global occurrences and their meanings and eventual effects, the undeniable facts of the eternal realm and the eternal human soul, than any unbeliever who has graduated from such places of renown. The boast of any true Christian can only be in Jesus Christ, who is the Author and Finisher of the faith that saves souls. He is the Source of all knowledge and understanding, and it is available to everyone. If we would only trust and believe, and study His Word to show ourselves approved and credible to others. *"Study to show thyself approved to God, a workman that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."* (2nd Timothy 2:15)

Scripture and the faith it teaches is an incredible gift from our Creator. It is a supernatural, one - of-a-kind gift that cannot be duplicated or destroyed. Contrary to what its critics like to promote, the Bible is not a crutch for society's downtrodden. It does not feed an ignorant faith to idiots, nor does it teach the religion of do-gooders. It is instead the sole foundation of knowledge and purpose for those who seek the one true God and the true meaning of the life He has given to each and every one of us. The Bible gives us an intellectually based faith in that which is unseen, but is real; a knowledge that is eternally driven and future-focused. Scripture

proclaims an assured hope, a long-prophesied hope, a hope which was fulfilled at the cross of Christ and will play out in eternity whether one is ready for it or not. The Bible is the entire foundation from which intelligent life on earth can seek its Creator in this dark, violent, diseased, broken and imperfect world. There is no other book like it because God wrote no other book than this one.

The Word of God **is** our eternal Messiah, Jesus Christ, made manifest in written language; Christ **IS** the Word of God. *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”* (John 1:1-5) In the beginning, God spoke.... Jesus is the Word which God spoke. He is the instrumentation of Creation and He is the salvation of men. He is the implementation of our Triune God through which all things are made possible for mankind. It’s all about Jesus – always has been, always will be, He is the Alpha and the Omega. Scripture is exactly what it says it is; holy and God-breathed, infallible and unchanging, and it contains all we need to know for this life and the next. The God of the Bible is VERY REAL and VERY PRESENT. We cannot pretend He has not been sovereignly ruling and reigning this universe since time began. We cannot ignore His Hand and its reach, for He has revealed Himself in many ways and means throughout history and time, and most significantly today, He does so through His infallible Word. There comes a point in every truth seeker’s walk where the evidence of God and the fact of His Word as being the only unchangeable and indisputable truth mankind has access to becomes utterly irrefutable, undeniable, incontrovertible.

Believing in the Bible cannot be forced. Free will is free will – a dignity God gave us all to make our own decisions about life, about ourselves, and about Him. But please understand that we are all held personally accountable to God for the kind of lives we live and for the offer of faith and salvation God has given. In the end, only you can do the research and find out for yourself what the Bible has to say – **not** what all the false, new age, ecumenical and feel-goodism apostate teachers of today like to proclaim (Joel Osteen, Joyce Meyers, Benny Hinn, Rick Warren, etc). Just as the Book of Proverbs so often proclaims, you must seek after and attain godly wisdom, get knowledge about who He is and who you are, and get understanding of His Word. *“Get wisdom! Get understanding! Do not forget, nor turn away from the words of My mouth”.* (Prov 4:5) *“Wisdom is the principal thing; Therefore get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.”* (Prov 4:7) *“How much better to get wisdom than gold! And to get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver”* (Prov 16:16).

Put in the effort to learn about Creation Science, Biblical Archaeology, Biblical Prophecy, and Israel. Knowledge of God and the truths of His Creation makes Him much more real and

relevant to our own hearts and lives. Find worthy Bible teachers and read their books, look for solid authors from eras that were not yet compromised with the cheap grace gospel so rampant in the United States today. We recommend A.W. Tozier, Charles Spurgeon, A.B. Simpson, Oswald Chambers, C.S. Lewis. And Finney. Present day biblical teachers we can suggest would include people like Jacob Prasch, Tim Leech, Cory Winn, or even the late Chuck Smith. Listen to their commentaries, download their podcasts, sermons, or teachings. Pray for God's leading in your life. Pray for His Holy Spirit to open your eyes, your ears, and your heart to His Truths, His will, and a right relationship with Him through His Son. Most importantly, open the only Book God gave mankind to learn of Him, abide in His ways, and be saved by the faith that transforms your heart and makes you born again from above by the Holy Spirit of God Himself. Amen.