

Top 10 Reasons
to

Trust Your Bible

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What the Critics are saying...

1. The Bible has errors – Dr. Bart Ehrman
2. The Bible cannot be trusted – Jesus Seminar
3. The Bible was written by men – Humanism
4. The Bible is mythological – George Frazier
5. The Bible is historically inaccurate – I. Finkelstein
6. The Biblical manuscripts are corrupt – Islam
7. The Bible contains some legend – Neo-Evangelicals

Scripture Contains Four Crucial Characteristics that Guarantee Truth:

1. **God Cannot Err** — Paul said ‘God cannot lie’ - Tit 1:2; Heb 6:18
2. **Inspired Text** — Paul said ‘all Scripture is inspired’ (Greek *Theopneustos*) – 2 Tim 3:16
3. **Inerrant Text** — Jesus said there are ‘No errors in the Bible’ - Jn 17:17; 2 Pet 1:16
4. **Infallible Text** — Jesus said the ‘Scriptures can’t be broken’ – Jn 10:35

The Logic Is Clear for Us!

If God Cannot Err...

The Bible is the Word of God...

Then, the Bible Cannot Err.

REASON 1

JESUS (who is God) said the BIBLE can be trusted!

- **Whatever Jesus (who is God) teaches is TRUE!**
(Jn 17:17 – “Your Word is Truth”)
- **Resurrection/miracles confirms it – Rom 1:4**
- **Jesus confirmed the OT, Promised the NT**
(Lk 24, 27, 44; Jn 14:26; 16:13; Mt 5:17)
- **Accurate testimony of Jesus – Jn 5:36**

JESUS SAYS...

1. Divinely Inspired – Mt 22:43
2. Reliable/Historical – Mt 12:40; Mt 19; Mt 26:43
3. Indestructible – Jn 10:35
4. Inerrant – Jn 17:17
5. Unity – Heb 10:7; Lk 24: 27, 44
6. Scientifically Accurate – Mt 19:2-5
7. Final – Mt 4:4, 7, 10 – ‘It is written...’

REASON 2

QUANTITY of BIBLICAL MANUSCRIPTS is more than adequate to reconstruct the originals!



REASON 2

QUANTITIES of BIBLICAL MANUSCRIPTS are more than adequate to reconstruct originals!

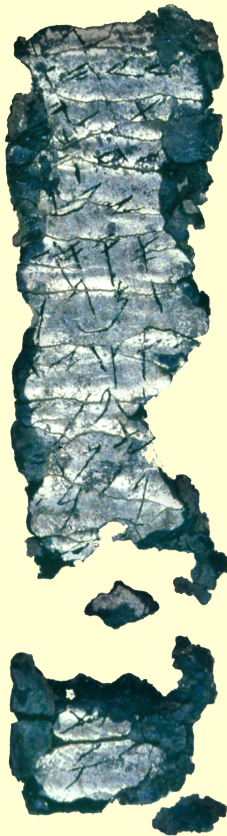
- 1. The most numerous mss. of any ancient work**
- 2. 5,800+ Greek copies**
- 3. 19,000+ copies of various languages**
- 4. Church Father Bible quotes could reconstruct most of the New Testament!**

REASON 3

EARLY DATES of OT/NT manuscripts!

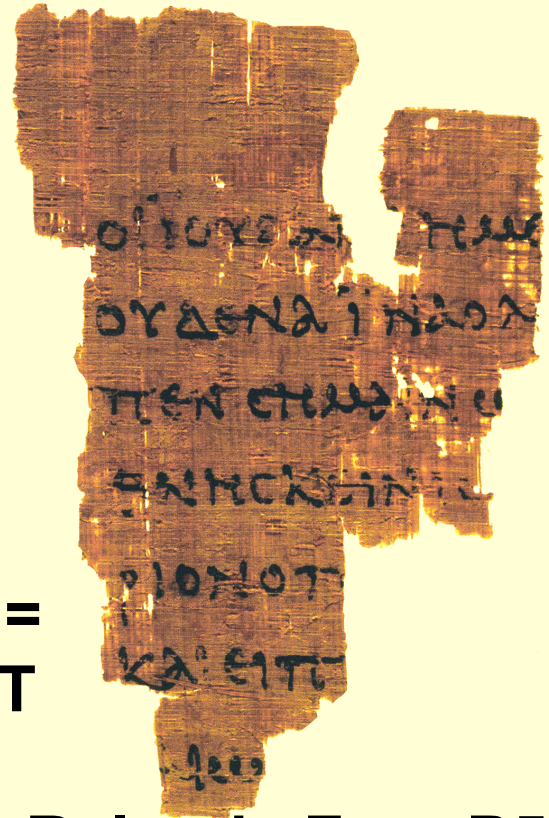
Ketef Hinnom Silver Scrolls

600 BC



= 200 yrs before
the end of OT

30 yrs after =
the end of NT



John Rylands Frag P52
ca. AD 125

REASON 3

Author	Ancient Title	Date of Original	Earliest Manuscript	Yrs Gap from Original
Plato	<i>Dialogues</i>	4 th BC	AD 900	c. 1,250
Homer	<i>Illiad</i>	9 th BC	400 BC	c. 500
Herodotus	<i>The Histories</i>	484-425BC	AD 900	c. 1,350
Aristotle	Assorted works	4 th BC	AD 1100	c. 1,400
Thucydides	<i>Peloponnesian Wars</i>	460-400 BC	AD 900	c. 1,300
Aristophanes	Assorted works	448-385 BC	AD900	c. 1,300
Sophocles	Assorted works	496-406? BC	AD 1000	c. 1,400
Julius Caesar	<i>The Gallic Wars</i>	58-44 BC	AD 900	c. 950
Tacitus	<i>Annals of Imperial Rome</i>	AD 58-120	AD 1100	c. 1,000
Pliny-Younger	<i>History of Rome</i>	AD 62-113	AD 850	c. 750
Suetonius	<i>The Twelve Caesars</i>	AD 70-140?	AD 950	c. 900
Total Manuscripts for Ancient Sources				
Greek New Testament		AD 45-100	AD 117-325	30-300

REASON 4

NT is most ACCURATELY COPIED work!

**Bruce Metzger – Bible 99.5%; Mahabharata 90%;
Iliad 95%**

Westcott & Hort – Bible 98.33%

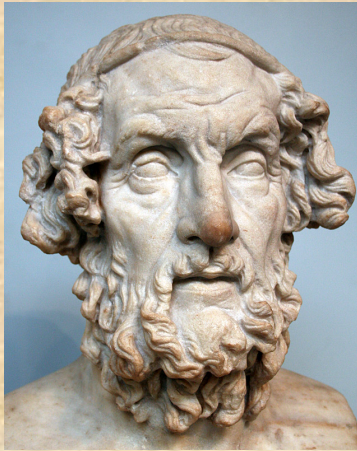
John Wenham – Bible 99.8+%

Ezra Abbot – Bible 99.75%

A.T. Robertson – Bible 99.9%

REASON 4

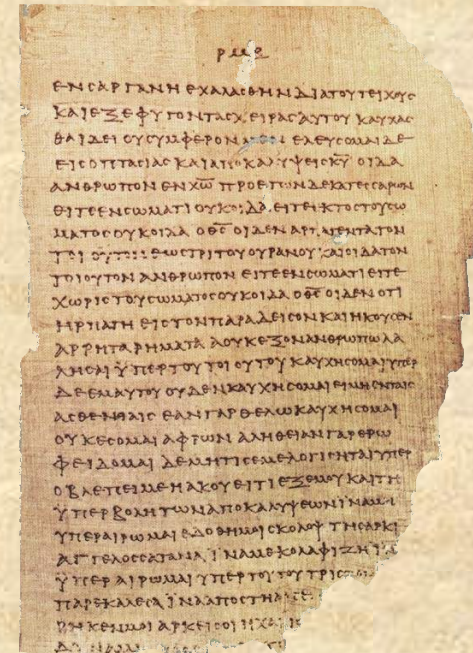
NT is most ACCURATELY COPIED work!



Homer's *Iliad*
1758 Copies
350 yr Gap
95% accuracy



New Testament
5800+ GK copies
30-300 yr gap
99.5+% accuracy



REASON 5

Bible has COUNTERPRODUCTIVE FEATURES!

1. Testimony of Women/They were first evangelists
2. Apparent triumph of Christ's enemies
3. Helpless and weak appearance of Christ - Death
4. Disciples are fearful
5. The extreme failure and denial of the disciples (Judas, Peter)
6. Dim-witted and slow understanding of those closest to Jesus

REASON 6

The Bible TESTIFIES on its own behalf!

1. Bible Lacks mythological tone (2 Pet 1:16; LK 3:1-2).
2. Bible is historically accurate (Jn 3:12).
3. Eye-witnesses to the events of Scripture (*αυτόπται* = eyewitnesses) = **AUTOPSY**
4. Luke's precise use of VOCABULARY in the Book of Acts – next slide....

REASON 6

The Bible TESTIFIES on its own behalf!

Luke's Use of Vocabulary in Acts:

1. Correct language spoken at Lystra as “Lycaonian” (14:11)
2. Proper form of the name “Troas” (16:8)
3. Uses proper designation of “Politarchs” for magistrates ruling Thessalonica (17:6)
4. Correct Athenian slang word for Paul as a “seed-picker” (*spermologos*) (17:18)
5. Uses “areopagites” as proper title for member of Athenian court (17:34)
6. Proper title “grammateus” for chief magistrate (clerk) in Ephesus (19:35)

REASON 6

The Bible TESTIFIES on its own behalf!

Luke's use of vocabulary in Acts:

7. Correct Roman title of honor as “neokoros” (19:35)
8. Uses plural “anthupatoi” referring to two men functioning as proconsuls at same time (19:38)
9. Uses precise term “bolisantes” for taking ocean depth soundings near Malta (27:28)
10. Correctly uses “First man of the Island” designation for Malta's ruler (28:7)

REASON 6

The Bible TESTIFIES on its own behalf!

Sir William Ramsey on Luke as a historian:

Without error, Luke records –

~ 32 Countries

~ 54 Cities

~ 9 Islands

~ 12 Confirmed Ruling Figures (Lk 1-3)

REASON 7

The Bible is SCIENTIFICALLY accurate!

1. Earth free-floats in space – Job 26:7
2. Earth is circular (orb) – Isa 40:22
3. Incalculable number of stars – Jer 33:22
4. Number of stars are finite – Isa 40:26
5. Accurate comparison between number of sand grains on seashore to the number of stars in the heavens – Gen 22:17
6. Universe is expanding – Isa 42:5
7. Useable energy is wearing out/Entropy – Ps 102:25-26
8. Creation multiplies according to its Kind – Gen 1

REASON 7

The Bible is SCIENTIFICALLY accurate!

9. Universe had a beginning – Gen 1:1
10. God has created all mankind from one genetic ancestor – Acts 17:26
11. God intelligently designed the universe
– Ps 19; Isa 45:18
12. Light travels in a path and can be divided
– Job 38:19/Job 38:24

REASON 8

The Bible records accurate PROPHECY!

1. A prophesied Messiah – Gen 3:15
2. Jesus born of a virgin – Isa 7:14
3. Messiah from the House of David
– Jer 23:5; 2 Sam 7
4. Messiah born in Bethlehem – Mic 5:2
5. Entered Jerusalem on a donkey – Zech 9:9
6. Sold for 30 pieces of silver – Zech 11:12
7. Messiah would be cut-off, pierced, wounded,
smitten, spat upon, and bruised – Is 53/Dan 9
8. Messiah would be resurrected – Ps 16:10
9. Cyrus named 150 years prior to birth – Isa 45

REASON 9

Bible is consistent with the extra-biblical Record!

- ◆ Jesus lived during the reign of Tiberius Caesar
- ◆ He lived a virtuous life
- ◆ He was a wonder worker
- ◆ He had a brother named James
- ◆ He was acclaimed to be the Messiah
- ◆ Crucified under Pontius Pilate
- ◆ Crucified on the eve of Passover
- ◆ Darkness / Earthquake occurred when He died
- ◆ Disciples believed He rose from the dead
- ◆ Disciples willing to die for their belief
- ◆ Gospel spread to Rome / Worshipped as God

REASON 10

ARCHAEOLOGY confirms the Biblical History, even though only 1% of sites excavated!

- ◆ Thousands of discoveries to date (IAA Database)
- ◆ 30 persons in the NT confirmed
- ◆ 60 persons in OT confirmed
- ◆ 60 confirmed details in Gospel of John
- ◆ 80 confirmed historical details in Acts
 - see C.J. Hemer

REASON 10

ARCHAEOLOGY confirms the Biblical History!

Importance of Biblical history:

1. Historical statements are **inseparable from doctrine** – Rom 4:25 (Died = Forgiveness; Raised = Justification)
2. Confirmed history makes **spiritual aspects believable** – Jn 3:12
3. History helps **clarify, confirm, illuminate** the Bible
4. History tells of **God's love** for mankind – Jn 3:16

The Popular Handbook of Archaeology and the Bible (2013)

