

# **We Can Trust the Bible**

By Willie Alvarenga

**Objective:** Show the audience evidence that proves we can trust the Word of God.

**Proposition:** The Bible is the only inspired Book from God we can trust.

## **Introduction:**

### **1. The Bible:**

- a. It is the Book of books
- b. It contains 66 books
- c. It was written in approximately 1,500 years
- d. It was written by 40 authors
- e. It contains 1,189 chapters
- f. It contains 31,101 verses

### **2. The purpose of this lesson is to show information that can help us to have a deep confidence in the Bible.**

- a. Sadly to say, many people today do not trust in the Bible.
  - b. Some have given themselves to the task of proving the Bible is not what it claims to be.
3. I am sure that most of us already trust in the Bible. If this is the case, let me encourage you to pay attention to this lesson so that you can be ready to give an answer in case someone ask you about the Bible (cf. 1 Peter 3:15).
4. Let us consider the following points about the topic under consideration:

*According to the Word of God, man can trust the Bible for the following reasons:*

## **I. The Bible is inspired of God.**

A. Consider the internal evidence that proves the inspiration of the Scriptures:

### **1. 2 Timothy 3:16-17**

- a. The Bible is inspired of God, which literally means, “given by the breath of God”
- b. Gr. **PASA GRAPHE THEOPNEUSTOS, every Scripture given by the breath of God.**

### **2. 2 Peter 1:20-21**

- a. Peter says that holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit
- b. They did not write their own thinking, but what God told them to write.

### **3. 2 Samuel 23:2**

- a. “The Spirit of Jehovah spake by me, and his word was upon my tongue”

**4. John 17:17**

- a. "Sanctify them in the truth: thy word is truth" (cf. Psalm 119:160)

**B. The apostles were inspired by the Holy Spirit to write God's Word:**

**1. Jesus promised the coming of the Holy Spirit upon His apostles:**

- a. **John 14:26**, "But the Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name he shall teach you all thing, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you"
- b. **John 15:26**, "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall bear witness of me"
- c. **John 16:13**, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he shall guide you into all the truth: for he shall not speak from himself; but what things soever he shall hear, these shall he speak: and he shall declare unto you the things that are to come"
- d. **1 Corinthians 14:37**, **the apostles wrote the commandments of God.**

- 2. This is the internal evidence we can use to prove the inspiration of the Bible.

**C. Let us notice some extra proofs of inspiration:**

**1. The indestructibility of the Bible:**

- a. **The Bible has been persecuted for centuries**, yet it still abides until this day.
- b. King Jehoiakim (Jeremiah 36) tried to destroyed the Word of God, but to no avail. This man has been utterly forgotten, the Bible continues on!
- c. **Diocletian**, emperor of Rome (fourth century). This emperor took pleasure in the burning of every copy of the Scriptures he could get his hands on. This man claimed to have exterminated the Christian writings from the face of the earth. He even erected a monument over the ashes of burned Bibles with the inscription: Extincto Nomine Christianorum – "Extinct is the name of Christians." (Goodpasture, p. 13)
- d. **Another emperor named, Constantine**, dedicated himself to put the New Testament in all of the churches of his empire. He offered a sizable reward to anyone who would deliver a copy of the Scriptures to him. Within twenty-five hours, Constantine was offered fifty copies of the Word of God (Winkler, The Case for Christianity, p. 167).
- e. **The French infidel Voltaire (1694-1778), declared**, "One hundred years from my day there will not be a Bible in the earth except one that is looked upon by an antiquarian curiosity seeker" (Dunn, Frank J., The Holy Scriptures: The Second Annual "Fort Worth" Lectures, Ed. Wendell Winkler, p. 49)
- f. **Jesus said**, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matthew 24:35; Mark 13:31 and Luke 21:33)
- g. **Peter said**, "Having been begotten again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, through the word of God, which liveth and abideth.

For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory thereof as the flower of grass. The grass withered, and the flower falleth: but the word of the Lord abideth forever. And this is the word of good tidings which was preached unto you" (1 Peter 1:23-25).

2. **Time will not allow us to consider all of the external evidence that proves the Bible is the Word of God.**
  - a. We could consider, the Bible and Medicine, the Bible and Astronomy, the Bible and Archeology, etc.
  - b. Let me encourage each and every one of us to diligently study the subject of the inspiration of the Bible.
- D. The evidence we have considered thus far helps us to trust in the Bible.
- E. The question is do you trust the Bible?

We can trust the Bible because...

## **II. The Bible produces the best people in the world.**

- A. **Once upon a time, President Thomas Jefferson said, "I have always said and always will say that the studious perusal of the Sacred Volume will make better citizens, better fathers, better husbands... the Bible makes the best people in the world"**<sup>1</sup>
- B. Friends, this is so right, not because President Thomas Jefferson said it, but because the Bible teaches this to be the case. **Please read 2 Timothy 3:17, "that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work".**
  1. God's Word can help men to be a better husband (Ephesians 5:21-33)
  2. God's Word can help women to be better wives (Ephesians 5:21-33)
  3. God's Word can help children be better sons and daughters (Ephesians 6:1-3)
  4. God's Word can help men and women be better parents (Deuteronomy 6:4-6; Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:4)
  5. God's Word can help us in every area of our Christian living!
- C. **One of the reasons why society is the way it is, is because man is following his own thinking, and not what the Word of God teaches.**
  - a. This has been the case for centuries (cf. Judges 17:6; 21:25)
  - b. Man must acknowledge that the only way to be the best people in the world is by following God's Word and not his own thinking (cf. Jeremiah 10:23; Proverbs 14:12)
  - c. **George Washington once said, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible"**<sup>2</sup>
- D. **Examples of the best people in the world:**
  1. **Everyone who follows the Word of God will be a good example to others:**
    - a. Acts 2:47, the early century Christians had favor with all the people.
    - b. Proverbs 16:7, "When a man's ways please Jehovah, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him"

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.biblein90days.org/en/quotes/search.asp?category=Presidents+and+the+Bible>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.biblein90days.org/en/quotes/search.asp?category=Presidents+and+the+Bible>

- c. Acts 16:1-2, Timothy, the young evangelist was a great example to others.
- d. 2 Timothy 1:5, Lois and Eunice are great examples of godly mothers and grandmothers.
- 2. Christians have the best law ever, which is completely different from any other law (e.g. the Sermon on the Mount)
- E. As we can see, the Bible does produce the best people in the whole world.

We can trust the Bible because...

### III. **The Bible has the power to change people's lives out of sin.**

- A. Another reason why men must trust in the Bible is because she has power to change people's lives.
- B. We have several examples of people who had a change of life out of sin:
  - 1. **Saul of Tarsus** used to persecute Christians in the past, but then, he received a change of life for the better (Acts 9, 22, 26)
  - 2. **The Corinthians** were given to sinful practices, but then, their lives change for the better (1 Corinthians 6:9-11).
  - 3. Those who used to practice magic received a change of life (Acts 19:18-20)
- C. **How does the Bible help people come out of sin?**
  - 1. **Obedience to the gospel of Christ brings about a change in people's lives:**
    - a. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16)
    - b. The truth of God can help people be free from sin (John 8:32)
    - c. Man **MUST** obey the Word of God in order to experience a change of life.
    - d. Many men in the past used to be in bondage to sin; maybe they would get drunk or do drugs and beat up on their wives and kids. I knew a family where the father would get drunk every weekend. He would come home and beat up his wife and children, and would kick them out of the house. When this man obeyed the gospel, his life changed for the better.
    - e. Maybe you experienced the same thing in the past.
    - f. 2 Corinthians 5:17 We are now a new creature in Christ!
  - 2. During the preaching at Pentecost, the apostle Peter exhorted them saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation" (Acts 2:40). That is exactly what the about three thousand people did!
- D. Friends, this is another reason why you and I can trust in the Bible.

Finally, we can trust the Bible because...

#### **IV. The Bible teaches people exactly what they must do to be in heaven someday.**

##### **A. There is so much religious confusion in the world concerning what a person must do to be saved.**

1. Some say that all you have to do to be saved is repeat a sinner's prayer.
2. Others say there is nothing you can do to be saved.
3. Others say, just touch the radio and you will be saved.
4. Others say, just flip your high beams and low beams to be saved.
5. Others say, salvation is just like coming to this building, you may come through the east, or the west or the north or the south. Either way will take you to heaven.
6. Concerning baptism, Billy Graham said on National Television, "Concerning baptism, even my wife and I disagree about it. Just ask your priest or preacher on this" (paraphrasing)
7. These are some of the things men say concerning salvation.

##### **B. I am glad God has given us His Word, and through His Word, we can learn exactly what to do to be saved and spend eternity in heaven.**

##### **C. Notice what the Bible teaches concerning salvation:**

1. Salvation is found only in Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12; John 14:6; 1 Timothy 2:5; 2 Timothy 2:10)
2. Eternal life is found in Christ (1 John 5:11; John 11:25)
3. There is only one door to salvation (John 10:9)
4. Forgiveness of sins is found in Christ (Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14)
5. Reconciliation with God is found only in Christ (Ephesians 2:13-16)
6. All spiritual blessings are found in Christ (Ephesians 1:3)

##### **D. If all of these great blessings are in Christ, the question arises, where must man be to enjoy all of these blessings? How can man be in Christ?**

1. The Bible teaches that obedience to the gospel can get man into Christ.
2. Baptism is the act by which man enters into Christ (Galatians 3:27; Romans 6:4; 1 Corinthians 12:13)
3. Therefore, in order for man to be in Christ, he must be baptized according to what God teaches in His Word!
4. We learn these things in the Word of God!

##### **E. Man must acknowledge that there are many people in this world who have perverted the plan of salvation.**

- a. You must obey the plan of salvation you read about in the pages of the New Testament!
- b. If every man taught only that which God teaches in His Word, then all of us would follow only the plan of salvation we find in the Bible.

##### **F. Again, this is another reason why we can trust in the Bible: This is the only Book that can teach us correctly about salvation.**

## Conclusion:

1. We have discussed several points that can help us to have confidence in the Word of God.
2. May God help us to cherish His Word all of the time!
3. Let us:
  - a. Study God's Word (2 Timothy 2:15)
  - b. Read it all the time (1 Timothy 4:13)
  - c. Memorize it (Psalm 119:11)
  - d. Desire the Word (1 Peter 2:2)
  - e. Share it with others (Mark 16:15)
4. God's Word is the Book of books. May we always have a deep love and appreciation for the message we find therein (cf. Psalm 119:97).
5. If you have not obeyed the gospel of Christ, please do so today. God wants you in heaven:
6. Plan of Salvation:
  - a. Hear the gospel (Romans 10:17; Acts 8:12)
  - b. Believe (John 3:16; Acts 18:8)
  - c. Repent of your sins (Acts 2:38; 17:30)
  - d. Confess Christ as the Son of God (Acts 8:37; Romans 10:9-10)
  - e. Be immerse in water for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)
  - f. Live a faithful life in Christ (Philippians 2:12; Revelation 2:10)

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