

Why Do We Believe The Bible?

Have you ever been asked the question, "Why do you believe the Bible?"

Do you have an answer?

1 Peter 3:15 says, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:"

Your answer needs to be better than, "Because it's what my parents taught me" or "Because it works for me."

There is no depth in those answers. We live in a skeptical age that questions the motives of everything we do as believers. You need to know WHY.

If you are a follower of Christ, then the Bible is your source of wisdom, truth, guidance, direction, and where we find our morals. (For more on this statement, see our study topic entitled "Absolute Truth" and "Moral Relativism").

You need to know WHY.

We here at the League Of Logic have an answer.

"I choose to believe the Bible because it is a reliable collection of historical documents written by eyewitnesses during the lifetime of other eyewitnesses. They report supernatural events that took place in fulfillment of specific prophecies and claimed that their writings were divine rather than human in origin."

The above statement was put together by Voddie Baucham, but is actually found in the Bible in 2 Peter 1:16-21, which says, "For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto

a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 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."

Always start with Scripture to defend Scripture. The Bible is our starting point that defines our worldview (For more on this statement, see our study topic entitled "Presuppositions")

The Bible is an ACCURATE HISTORICAL DOCUMENT. Many have tried and failed to prove it wrong. If there were anything out there that would disprove the Bible, you can bet that it would be played on every news channel around, 24-7 until there were no more biblically based churches.

This book is NOT like any other book. Take a look for yourself.

Here is some of the supporting evidence and facts to consider:

- There are 66 books
 - Written in 3 different continents, Europe, Asia, Africa
 - 4 different Languages, Hebrew, Greek, Latin, and Aramaic Greek
 - 40 Different authors over a period of 1500 years
 - The authors, for the most part, did not know each other
 - **YET! The Books of the Bible are completely coherent**
- The Bible gives names, dates, events, and places - It is History and can be verified!
- Luke names 32 countries, 54 cities, and 9 islands without error
- 500 people witnessed Jesus after the resurrection
- When Corinthians was written, AD 50-60, there were still at least 300 people alive that had witnessed Jesus after the resurrection
- Many people have tried to prove the Bible wrong and failed
- There is no external evidence that would argue against what the Bible claims
- What we know of Julius Caesar and the "Gallic Wars" is found in less than 12 ancient documents
- 23,000 archaeological digs confirm the Bible
- 6,000 full or partial ancient documents support the New Testament
- Over 20,000 full or partial ancient documents support the whole Bible
- Aristotle's "poetics" come from less than 10 ancient documents
- Socrates - 0 documents, only known from Plato, his student

- "Gallis Wars" - closest document is 1,000 years
- Aristotle's "Poetics" - closest document is 1,400 years
- Socrates - 0 documents
- Homer's "Iliad and Odyssey" - closest document 2,100 years
- Gospel of John - closest document 20 years (may be the original)
- Psalm 22 described a crucifixion 1,000 years before Jesus was born and 550 years before crucifixion was invented
- The Bible was written by eyewitnesses during the lifetime of other eyewitnesses

So, here is the evidence, but don't just take our word for it. Look it up. Learn how to give an answer when someone asks you, "Why do YOU believe the Bible?".