

THE RELIABILITY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

II Tim. 3:16-17; II Pet. 1:20-21

I. INTRODUCTION:

A. The problem of a multitude of Bible translations:

1. Word for word (most accurate but the least readable):
2. Balance:
3. Thought for thought:
4. Paraphrase:

B. The importance of trusting the Bible:

1. Was it copied accurately?
2. Who chose the books of the Bible?
3. How reliable is the Bible that we have today?

- The Bible is absolute truth for every situation, for every person, and for all of time. (I Pet. 1:25)

II. THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIND THAT DOCUMENTS THE OLD TESTAMENT:

A. What, where, when, who, and how the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered:

1. What they are:
2. Where they were found: (See map on back)
3. When they were discovered them:
4. Who and how they were discovered?

B. Lessons to learn from the Dead Sea Scrolls:

1. Old Testament
2. Jewish history:
3. Early Christianity:
4. New Testament:

III. APPLICATIONS: (Together becoming "people of the Word" in principle AND in practice)

A. Due diligence must be given to "rightly divide" the Old Testament since most of the content of the Bible is found there (39 vs. 27 books) with its reliability carefully documented. (II Tim. 2:15)

B. The Dead Sea Scrolls have been carefully preserved for over 2,000 years by the Lord Himself, to address any skeptic who refuses to believe the Bible to be true. (there is an abundance of physical facts to silence any critic of the Bible.)