

CAN I TRUST THE BIBLE?

40 DAYS in the WORD – Part 1

Pastor Brian

*“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.”
(2 Timothy 3:16, NLT)*

WHAT MAKES THE BIBLE DIFFERENT THAN OTHER BOOKS?

1. It's the most _____ book in the history of the world.

“The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever.” (Isaiah 40:8, NLT)

2. It's the most _____ book in the history of the world.

“Does not my word burn like fire?” says the LORD. “Is it not like a mighty hammer that smashes a rock to pieces?” (Jeremiah 23:29, NLT)

3. It's the most _____ book in the history of the world.

“For no prophecy recorded in Scripture was ever thought up by the prophet himself. It was the Holy Spirit within these godly men who gave them true messages from God.” (2 Peter 1:20–21, The Living Bible)

HOW DO WE KNOW THE BIBLE CAN BE TRUSTED?

“All of your teachings are true and trustworthy.” (Psalm 119:138, CEV)

1. The _____ test.

“God stretches the northern sky over empty space and hangs the earth on nothing.” (Job 26:7, NLT)

“For the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream... he is about to conquer the highest peak [of scientific truth]; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries.” – Robert Jastrow, The Intellectuals Speak Out About God

2. The _____ test.

“Remember your history, your long and rich history. I am GOD...From the very beginning telling you what the ending will be, All along letting you in on what is going to happen, Assuring you, ‘I’m in this for the long haul, I’ll do exactly what I set out to do,’” (Isaiah 46:9–10, The Message)

“It may be categorically stated that no archeological discovery has ever controverted a biblical reference.” – Dr. Nelson Glueck, Archaeologist

3. The _____ test.

“Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him. Do not add to his words, or he will rebuke you and prove you a liar.” (Proverbs 30:5–6, NIV)

Author	No. Of Copies of MSS	When Written	Earliest Copy	Time Span
Aristotle	49	384-322 BC	1100 AD	1,400 yrs
Herodotus	8	480-425 BC	900 AD	1,350 yrs
Plato	7	400 BC	900 AD	1,300 yrs.
Caesar	10	100-44 BC	900 AD	1,000 yrs.
Tacitus	20	100 AD	1100 AD	1,000 yrs.
Pliny Secundus	7	100 AD	850 AD	750 yrs
Homer’s Iliad	643	800 BC	400 BC	400 yrs
The New Testament	24,600	40-100 AD	125 AD	25 yrs.

4. The _____ test.

“For I am the LORD! If I say it, it will happen.” (Ezekiel 12:25a, NLT)

- A. At least _____ prophecies were fulfilled in Jesus’ first coming.
- B. The probability that even _____ of these would be fulfilled in one person is 1 in 10^{17} .
- C. The probability that _____ of these would be fulfilled is 1 in 10^{157} . (NOTE: *There are 10^{66} atoms in the universe.*)

5. The _____ test.

“The Law of the LORD is perfect; it gives us new life. His teachings last forever, and they give wisdom to ordinary people.” (Psalm 19:7, CEV)

“These are written down so you will believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and in the act of believing, have real and eternal life in the way he personally revealed it.” (John 20:31, The Message)

NEXT STEPS:

1. SUPER CLASS SUNDAY - **TODAY!!!**
2. 40 DITW DEVOTIONAL
3. SMALL GROUP