

Culture Questions (Part 2) April 10, 2016 @StephenBlandino
#7CityChurch

Four Reasons the Bible Can Be Trusted:

1. The Bible is Reliable

Chuck Colson and Harold Fickett: "Before the end of the 1950s, no less than 25,000 biblical sites had been substantiated by archaeological discoveries; there has been no discovery proving the Bible false. No other religious document now or in history has ever been found that accurate."

2. The Bible is <u>Authoritative</u>

Although the Bible consists of 66 books written over 1,500 years by 40 people in 3 different languages on 3 different continents, the <u>story</u> of Scripture provides amazing <u>harmony</u>.

3. The Bible is Transformational

Hebrews 4:12 (NLT) – For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.

4. The Bible is Enduring

Matthew 24:35 (NLT) – Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will never disappear.

Matthew 7:24-25 (MSG) – "These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are foundational words, words to build a life on. If you work these words into your life, you are like a smart carpenter who built his house on solid rock. Rain poured down, the river flooded, a tornado hit—but nothing moved that house. It was fixed to the rock.

Matthew 7:26-27 (MSG) – "But if you just use my words in Bible studies and don't work them into your life, you are like a stupid carpenter who built his house on the sandy beach. When a storm rolled in and the waves came up, it collapsed like a house of cards."

Matthew 7:28-29 (MSG) – When Jesus concluded his address, the crowd burst into applause. They had never heard teaching like this. It was apparent that he was living everything he was saying—quite a contrast to their religion teachers! This was the best teaching they had ever heard.

The religious leaders <u>grasped</u> the truth, but they were not grasped <u>by</u> the truth.

Psalm 119:16 (NLT) – I will delight in your decrees and not forget your word.