

Good Morning! Welcome to the FOB....

Review:

1. Abide, endure in God's Word

John 8:31-32 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

John 15:5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

- Ok great but how do we know the Bible is trustworthy?

INTERNAL EVIDENCE:

We know the obvious verses (but it's good to review the obvious sometimes)

2 Timothy 3:14-16 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 1:15-22 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," ¹⁸ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰ knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. ²¹ For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Now, both of these are so important to our understanding of what the Bible proclaims to be (2 Timothy 3:16) and also how it came to be (2 Peter 1:15-21)

But these aren't the only verses that give us insight into the fact that the Bible is trustworthy and true

Luke 1:1-4 Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, ²just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, ³it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

INTRICATE EVIDENCE

Intricate details that prove the Bible is true....

A. John 21:1-14

What's the meaning of the number 153?

What is the spiritual nature of this number?

Does it represent anything important? --- YES!

- It represents exactly how many fish were caught because the writer of the gospel of John was an eyewitness to the event and so he wrote it down

B. **Mark 14:51-52** ⁵¹And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, ⁵²but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

EXTERNAL EVIDENCE:

2 Basic criteria for which Historians judge a manuscript:

1. Chronological distance between the manuscript in hand and the manuscript from which it was copied
2. The number of manuscript copies

Examples:

The writings of Julius Caesar were composed in the 1st Century BC and the earliest copies we have are from approx. 900 AD, a full millennium between them. We have 10 copies

Plato's writings were composed about 400BC and the copies we have date around 900AD. We only have 7 copies

NEW TESTAMENT:

5000 Greek manuscripts containing all or part of the NT exist

8000 manuscript copies of the Latin Vulgate (Latin translation done by Jerome 383-405AD)

350 copies of Syriac (Aramaic) versions of the NT (150-250AD)

32,000 citations of the NT in the writings of the early church fathers before the Council of Nicea (AD 325)

The coolest one--- The *John Ryland manuscript*

The discovery site was a dump site in Egypt where people had been tossing things for centuries

--Old sandals

--Egyptian diapers

--Georgia Jersey (trash)

--The Gospel of John 10 years after John was exiled to Patmos

This finding contains a few verses from the Gospel of John (the book we're studying)

This manuscript is dated only a few years after its author's death--The Apostle John

The fact that this manuscript could be dated within a decade of its author is mind boggling

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Luke 16:19-31 ¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. ²³ The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴ And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— ²⁸ for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ ³⁰ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”