

**Has God Spoken?
Being Certain of God's Revelation
and Existence**

Spoken

- Audibly (Gen 12:1, Ex. 3)

Certain (Certainty)

- Internal and External (1 Cor. 2:10-16)

- Resource: Herman Bavinck, *“The Certainty of the Faith”*

Revelation

- God has revealed — Both Himself and His Gospel message (John 1)

Existence

- The fact or state of living.
- “I AM what I AM...” (Ex. 3:14)

The First Issue: *Revelation, itself*

- What does Revelation mean?
- All religions have this in common: The concept of some god revealing himself
- What do we, as Christians, do or say regarding other religions?

Remember!

1. Islam and Mormonism depend on the truthfulness (or, to their claim, the non-truthfulness) of Christianity

2. Other religions have “revelation” but their concept is different than ours

The Second Issue: *Autonomy*

- What is *autonomy*?

Example — Genesis 3:1-6

Example — Judges 21:25

- Why is this an issue?

Autonomy Matters Because...

1. People cannot live solely by their own autonomy... That is
2. People can attempt to live as if God hasn't spoken, but if God hasn't spoken, how do they know anything to be true?
3. In essence, *all* depend on Christianity

Scripture's Claim of God Speaking:

1. Deuteronomy 29:29 (God has revealed)
2. Romans 1:18 (In the Human Conscience)
3. Psalm 19:1 (In Creation)
4. Hebrews 1:1-2 (In the prophets & Christ)
5. John 1:1-4 & 14:9-11 (Through Christ)



The Weight of God's Word:

1. Matthew 24:35

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my Words will not pass away.”

2. Isaiah 40:8

“...The Word of the Lord stands forever.”

The Reliability of the Bible

"It just doesn't matter how you look at this. The New Testament, far and away, is the best attested ancient document from the Greco-Roman world."

- Daniel Wallace



2,600,000+ Pages of Greek NT Manuscripts



"In no other case is the interval of time between the composition of the book and the date of the earliest manuscripts so short as in that of the New Testament."

- Sir Frederic Kenyon



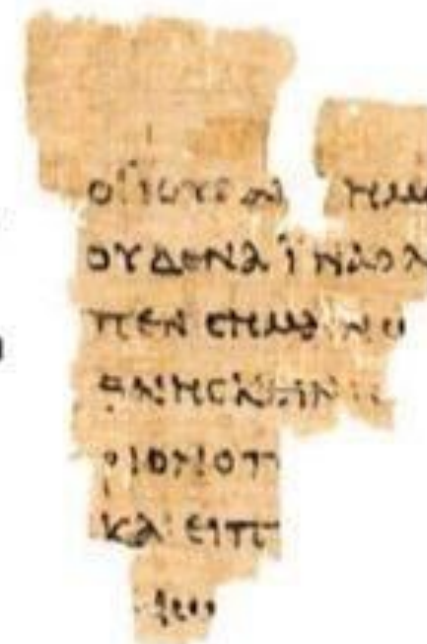
"Do we have an embarrassment of riches? Oh, we sure do. In fact, on the basis of manuscript evidence we can say that we have 1,000 times more evidence that Jesus Christ existed than we do that Alexander the Great existed."

- Daniel Wallace

5,800+ Greek NT Manuscripts

"There is no body of ancient literature in the world which enjoys such a wealth of good textual attestation as the New Testament."

- F. F. Bruce



36,000+ Patristic Quotations

"The New Testament is the best attested book in ancient history, both in terms of the number of manuscripts and the nearness of those manuscripts to the date of the original."

- William Lane Craig



"We have massive amounts of support for our convictions that the sixty-six books of the canonical Scriptures accepted by all branches of Christianity have been extraordinarily well preserved."

- Craig Blomberg



23,000+ Total NT Manuscripts

"The quantity of New Testament material is almost embarrassing in comparison with other works of antiquity."

- Bruce Metzger



Scripture has:

1. A clear author (more to come on this...)
2. Has a clear story (from OT to NT)
3. Accurate history
4. Accurate archeology
5. Early