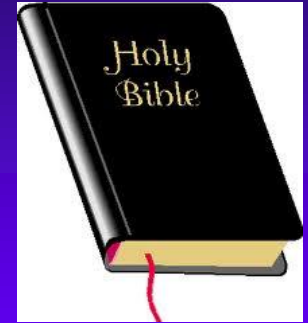


You Can Trust The Bible

- Christian Faith Based on Bible
- Skeptic Claims About The Bible
- Bible Claims to be God's Word
- Challenges to Our Faith
- Using Critical Thinking Skills
- Evidence for Truth
 - a. Transmission of manuscripts
 - b. Historical accuracy
 - c. Prophecies fulfilled
 - d. Science truths in the Bible
- There Are Answers for Skeptics

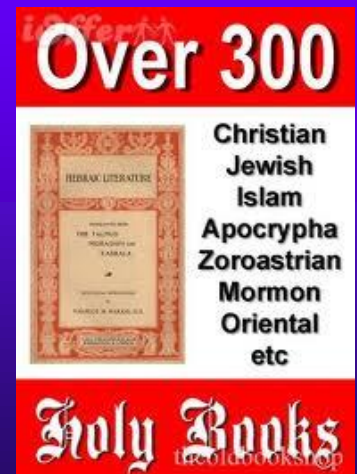


2 Tim. 3:16,17

2 Pet. 1:21

Is. 55:8,9

1 Cor. 2:16





Some Claims Made by Skeptics

1. The Bible is a book of myths
2. Gen. 1 and Gen. 2 are contradictory
3. Isaiah written after prophecies fulfilled
4. Sodom and Gomorrah never existed
5. Moses could not write the first five books of the Bible
6. Science in the Bible is just fallacy
7. No evidence in the Bible (just faith)

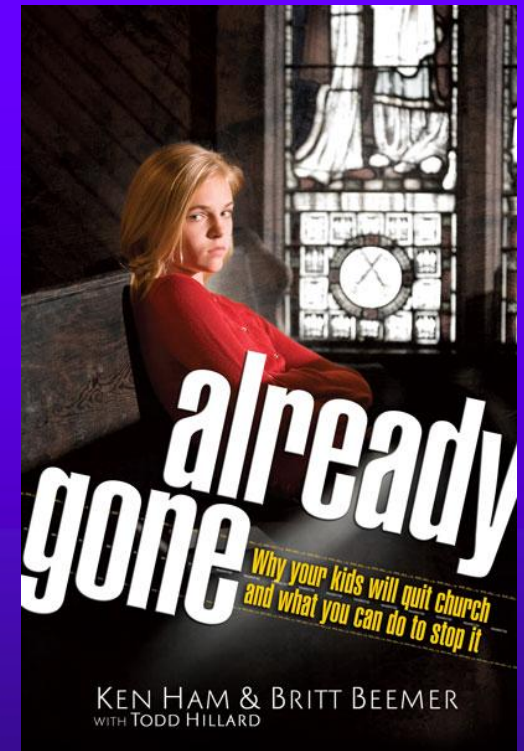


Challenges to Our Faith

- Challenges as a believer and scientist
 - Special and General Revelation
 - Does what I believe to be true match reality?
- Key challenges for our youth
 - Indoctrinated in secularism/evolution
 - No answers to the hard questions
- Recent poll: >60% of youth leave the church after leaving home
- Roadblocks to Faith
- Lack of critical thinking skills

More Than 60% of Youth Leaving the Church

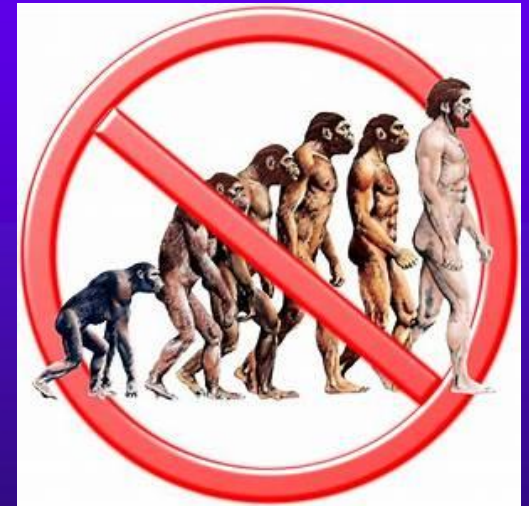
- ◆ Pew Research
- ◆ Nehemiah Institute
- ◆ Barna Group
- ◆ Lifeway Research
- ◆ Answers in Genesis and the American Research Group
- ◆ Public Religion Research Institute



Mike Riddle, Creation Training Initiative

Reasons Youth Leave The Faith

- ◆ Christianity is shallow and too exclusive
- ◆ Church appears to be anti-science
- ◆ Learning about evolution in college
- ◆ Lack of specific or scientific evidence for a creator
- ◆ The teaching of secularism and moral relativism
- ◆ College is a hostile environment towards Christianity



Mike Riddle, Creation Training Initiative

Roadblocks To Faith

1. Lack of knowledge
2. Perceived hypocrisy
3. Turning away from sin
4. Pain and suffering
5. Perceived conflict between Science & the Bible
6. No answers from the Church to the hard questions



Hos. 4:6
Rom. 1:20
Rom. 2:15
Matt. 7:5
James 1:26
Acts 3:19

Critical Thinking Skills

- Three critical thinking questions
 - How do you know it is true?
 - Has it ever been observed?
 - Are you making any assumptions?
- Recognize *fuzzy* and *magic* words
 - We believe, we think, could have
 - No observable evidence
 - Imagine, appeared, emerged, arose
- Recognize red flags
 - All, everybody, no real scientist, intolerant, sweeping generalities



Reliable Transmission of the Bible

◆ Reliability depends on:

- Number of copies of manuscripts
- Time gap, original to earliest copy

◆ Dead Sea scrolls found 1947

- Earlier (by 1000+ yrs) copies of OT manuscripts
- Dated to 100-200 BC

◆ Earliest NT manuscript

- Fragment of John's gospel
- Dated to 125 AD
- Referenced by church fathers

◆ 99.99% of originals reclaimed



Where Is The Dead Sea?



Manuscript Reliability

Work/Author	Date Written	Earliest Copy	Years Elapsed	Number of Copies
Caesar	100-44 BC	900 AD	1000	10
Plato	427-347 BC	900 AD	1300	7
Aristotle	384-322 BC	1100 AD	1500	49
Iliad (Homer)	900 BC	400 BC	500	643
Heridotus	480-425 BC	900 AD	1300	8
New Testament	40-95 AD	125 AD	30	25,000

Historical Accuracy of the Bible

◆ Gospel of Luke & Acts

- Written by Dr. Luke
- Eyewitness and Apostles reports
- 32 countries, 54 cities, 9 islands
- Exact titles of historical figures
- Accurate history & geography

◆ Ebla tablets found in 1974

- Confirm biblical places
- Confirm writing ability of Moses

◆ Confirmed by archaeology

- Pool of Bethesda discovered
- Archaeologists use Bible as guide

Luke 1:1-4

Acts 1:1-2

John 5:2

Gen. 14:2



Ebla Tablet
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Where is Ebla?



Ebla



Damas



Ruins of Ebla's Royal Palace



Clay Tablet at Ebla

Fulfilled Prophecy of the Bible

- ◆ 27% of Bible prophetic (when written)
 - 500+ of 1000+ prophecies fulfilled
- ◆ 300 prophecies about Messiah
 - 109 fulfilled in His 1st Coming
 - Birthplace, sold for 30 pieces
- ◆ Prophecies about people, places
 - Fall of Babylon, **Jer. 50-51**
 - Destruction of Tyre, **Ezek. 26**
 - Cyrus as ruler, **Is. 44:28**
- ◆ Prophecies about Jews
 - Dispersion and re-gathering
- ◆ **Is. 61:1-2, Luke 4:18-19a**
 - Dead Sea Scrolls

Mic. 5:2
Zech. 11:12
Jer. 50-51
Ezek. 26
Is. 44:28
Deut. 28:64
Is. 11:11-12
Is. 61:1-2
Luke 4:18-19



Biblical Truth in Science?

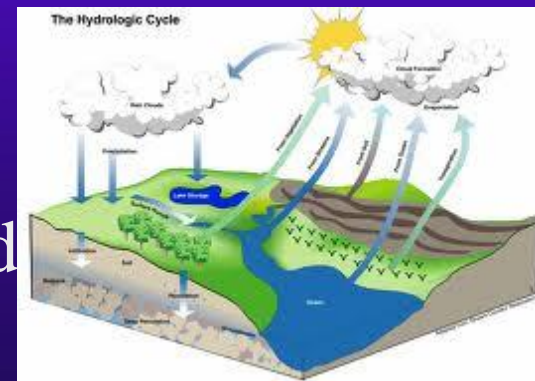
- ◆ We trust the Bible for spiritual truth
- ◆ Archaeology, history, geography, and prophecy confirm the truth of the Bible
- ◆ Do we trust the Bible for truth in science?
 - Astronomy, geophysics, geology, hydrology, meteorology, oceanography, physics, biology
- ◆ There are many biblical references to nature and natural processes
 - Authors use everyday language
 - Amazingly accurate statements
 - Anticipatory scientific insights in the Bible



Scientific Accuracy of the Bible

- ◆ Five categories: matter, space, time, force, action
- ◆ Biblical references to science:
 - Number of stars – 10^{22}
 - Earth as a sphere
 - Earth suspended in space
 - Earth spinning on its axis
 - Hydrologic cycle
 - Life is in the blood
 - Circumcision on day 8
- ◆ Science disciplines established by Bible-believing scientists

Gen. 1:1
Acts 7:22
Jer. 33:22
Is 40:22
Job 26:7
Job 38:14
Eccl. 1:7
Lev. 17:11
Lev. 12:3



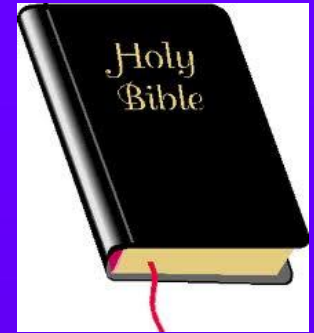


Skeptics' Claims Refuted

1. The Bible is **NOT** a book of myths
2. Gen. 1 and Gen. 2 are **complementary**
3. Isaiah written **before** prophecies were fulfilled – confirmed by **Dead Sea Scrolls**
4. Sodom and Gomorrah **Existed** - confirmed by the **Ebla tablets**
5. Moses **could** write first five books of the Bible – confirmed by **Ebla tablets**
6. Science statements in the Bible are **TRUE**
7. Evidence **confirms** the Bible (not just faith)

The Bible IS Trustworthy

- ◆ Bible is a Book of Spiritual Truth
- ◆ Accurately Copied Over Time
- ◆ Confirmed by Archaeology, History, Geography, Prophecy
- ◆ Statements On Science Are True
- ◆ The Bible IS God's Word
- ◆ There are answers to skeptics
- ◆ Know What, Why, and How To Defend What You Believe!
- ◆ Know It! Live It! Share It! Defend It!



1 Pet. 3:15

Jude 3

2 Cor. 10:4-5

Col. 4:6



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**Thank you
for your
attention!**

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Messages: Lectures & Sermons

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Defense of The Faith**