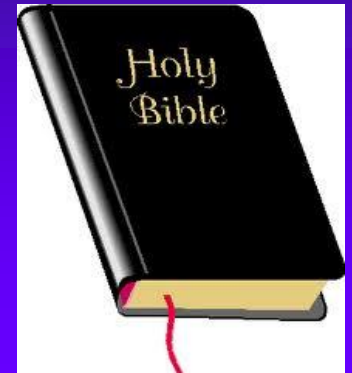


# 12 Reasons Why The Bible Is Not Just Another Book

- Bible – The Word of God
  - God-breathed
  - Profitable for teaching
  - Special revelation
- Not Just Another Book
  - Twelve reasons why
  - Based on sound evidence
- God's Word is Trustworthy
- Our Faith is Rational

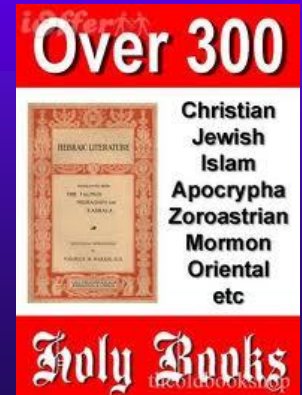


2 Tim. 3:16,17

2 Pet. 1:21

Is. 55:8,9

1 Cor. 2:16



# Twelve Reasons Why

1. Direct claims of the Bible
2. Perfect unity of the Bible
3. Reliable transmission of the Bible
4. Affirmation of the canonicity of the Bible
5. Unique teachings of the Bible
6. Historical accuracy of the Bible
7. Scientific accuracy of the Bible
8. Fulfilled prophecy of the Bible
9. Lord's testimony to the Bible
10. Amazing indestructibility of the Bible
11. Ethical superiority of the Bible
12. Supernatural power of the Bible



# 1. Direct Claims of the Bible

- ◆ It is the Word of God
- ◆ In the Old Testament (OT)
  - And God said
  - Thus says the Lord
  - The word of the Lord
- ◆ In the New Testament (NT)
  - By a word from the Lord
  - I received from the Lord
- ◆ NT refers to what God said in the OT as “the Scriptures said”

2 Pet. 1:21

Gen. 1:3

Mal. 4:3

1 Th. 4:15

1 Cor. 11:23

Mark 7:13f

Luke 5:1

2 Tim. 3:16,17

Ps. 12:6

Ps. 119:140

Prov. 30:5

John 10:35

## 2. Perfect Unity of the Bible

- ◆ 66 books written over 1500 years
- ◆ 40 different authors
- ◆ 3 different languages
- ◆ Diverse literary genre
- ◆ Written on 3 continents
  - 13 different countries
- ◆ Bible speaks with 1 voice on all matters that it addresses, never contradicts itself
- ◆ One unified story in midst of diversity

Heb. 1:1-2



# 3. Reliable Transmission of the Bible

- ◆ Reliability depends on:

- Number of copies of text
- Time gap, original to copy

- ◆ Dead Sea scrolls found 1947

- Earlier (by 1000 yrs) copies of OT books
- 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?





# Bibliographical Evidence

- ◆ Two important questions:
  - How many manuscript copies do we have?
  - How close are the copies to the original?
- ◆ The New Testament (NT):
  - Over 5600 Greek manuscripts extant
  - Over 10,000 manuscripts of the Latin Vulgate
  - Over 9200 other translations

# 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



## 4. Affirmation of Canon of the Bible

### ◆ OT canonized in 300 BC

- 39 books in 3 divisions
- Septuagint in 250-150 BC

### ◆ NT canonized in 375 AD

- Used by early church fathers
- Same 27 books as today

### ◆ Books recognized as canon

### ◆ Hebrew Apocrypha not accepted

- Not quoted by Jesus or NT writers
- Not quoted as Scripture by Josephus/Philo

Heb. 6:18

Matt. 5:17-18

Luke 24:44

Matt. 23:35

Deut. 4:2

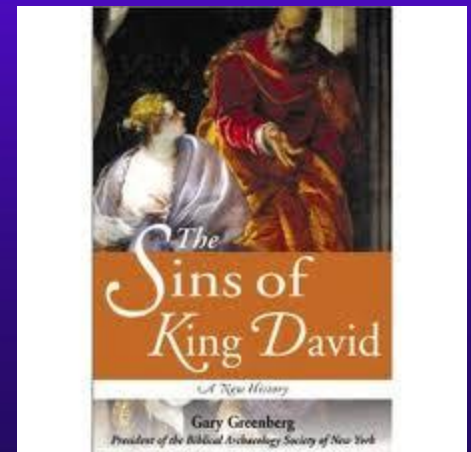
Prov. 30:6

Rev. 22:18-19

# 5. Unique Teachings of the Bible

- ◆ 1000+ prophecies
- ◆ 5 centuries of Israel history
  - God's chosen people
- ◆ Accurate scientific facts
- ◆ Records sins of leaders
  - Abraham's lies
  - Rebellious Israelites
  - King David's adultery
  - Jesus' Disciples rebuked
  - Disorder in the early church

Gen. 12:11-13  
Deut. 9:24  
2 Sam. 11:26, 27  
Matt. 8:10-26  
1 Cor. 1:11



## 6. Historical Accuracy of the Bible

- ◆ Gospel of Luke & Acts
  - Written by Dr. Luke
  - Eyewitness 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



# Where is Ebla?



Ebla



Damas



Ruins of Ebla's Royal Palace

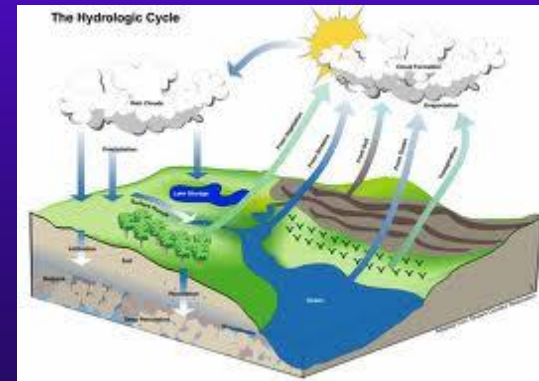


Clay Tablet at Ebla

# 7. 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
- ◆ Science disciplines established by Bible-believing scientists

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



# 8. Fulfilled Prophecy of the Bible

- ◆ 27% of Bible prophetic (when written)
  - 500+ of 1000+ fulfilled
- ◆ 300 prophecies about Messiah
  - 109 fulfilled in His 1<sup>st</sup> Coming
  - Birthplace, sold for 30 pieces
- ◆ Prophecies on people, places
  - Fall of Babylon
  - Destruction of Tyre
  - Cyrus as ruler
- ◆ Prophecies on Jews
  - Dispersion and regathering
- ◆ Is. 61:1-2, Luke 4:18-19
  - Dead Sea Scrolls

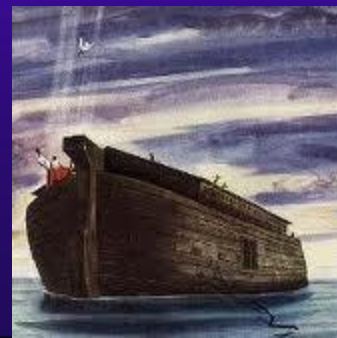
Mic. 5:2  
Zech. 11:12  
Ezek. 26  
Is. 44:28  
Deut. 28:64  
Is. 11:11-12  
Is. 61:1-2  
Luke 4:18-19



# 9. Lord's Testimony to the Bible

- ◆ Quotes OT books
- ◆ Claims inerrancy and inspiration of Scripture
- ◆ Affirms the OT record:
  - Literal Adam and Eve
  - Noah & The Flood
  - Sodom & Gomorrah
  - Jonah & the great fish
- ◆ Fulfills OT prophecy
- ◆ Affirms all 39 books of OT

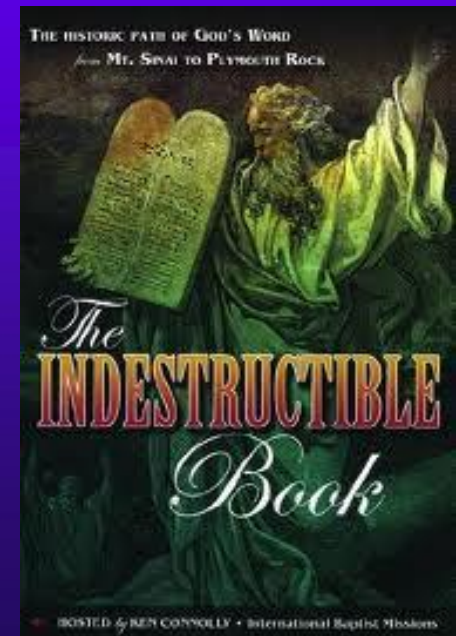
Matt. 4:4  
Deut. 8:3  
Matt. 5:18  
Luke 16:17  
John 17:17  
Matt. 12:40  
John 10:35  
Luke 18:31  
Matt. 26:24  
Luke 11:51  
John 16



# 10. Indestructibility of the Bible

- ◆ Satan attacked God's Word
- ◆ King Jehoiakim burned it
- ◆ Satan distorted Scripture
- ◆ Diocletian burned it
- ◆ Voltaire predicted its demise
- ◆ God's Word still stands:
  - First printed in 1456 AD
  - 2500+ translations
  - 200M+ copies printed per year
- ◆ No other book compares!

Gen. 3:1-7  
Jer. 36:23  
Matt. 4:6,7  
Ps. 119:89  
Mark 13:31





# 11. Ethical Superiority of the Bible

- ◆ Transcendent moral code
- ◆ Ten commandments:
  - Love God (1-4)
  - Love neighbor (5-10)
- ◆ Teaches what is right
  - Sanctity of human life
  - Racial equality
  - Selfless service
  - Personal integrity
  - Love your enemy
- ◆ Law written on our hearts

Ex. 20:1-17



## 12. Supernatural Power of the Bible

- ◆ This book saves, sanctifies, prunes, convicts, comforts, guides
- ◆ This book is a mirror:
  - No other book can tell me who I am, how to live
  - It speaks to me
  - The Word of God transforms
- ◆ It contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, ...
  - One God, one mediator
- ◆ This is NOT just another book!

Ps. 19:7-8  
John 14:6  
1 Th. 2:13

# The Bible vs. Other “Holy” Books



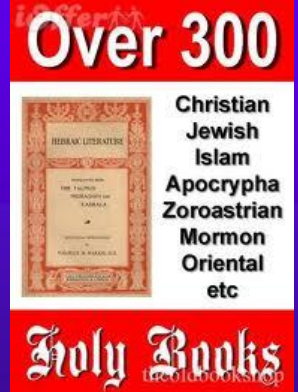
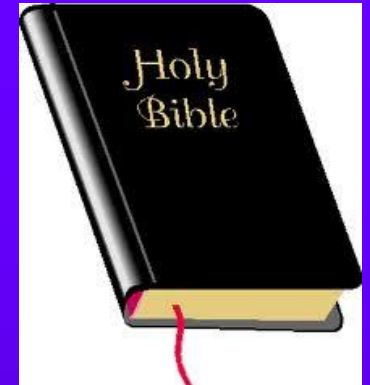
Dr. Jason Lisle

# Comparing the Books

<u>Facts</u>	<u>Bible</u>	<u>Mormon</u>	<u>Koran</u>
<b>Author</b>	<b>Inspired by God</b>	<b>Joseph Smith</b>	<b>Mohammad's companions</b>
Number	40 inspired authors	1 man	1 man
No. of years	1500	1	1
When	1400 BC to 95 AD	1827 AD	630 AD
Archaeology	Yes	No	No
Prophecy	Half+ of 1000+	None	None
Scientific	Yes	No	No
Claim divinity	Jesus	No	No
Eyewitnesses	Yes	No	No
Revelation	Consistent	Inconsistent	Inconsistent
Monotheistic	Yes, Trinity	Many gods	Only Allah

# The Bible IS Unique

- ◆ Coherent unified history
- ◆ Presents people with their warts
- ◆ Book of spiritual truth
- ◆ Accurately copied over time
- ◆ Confirmed by history, geography, archaeology, prophecy
- ◆ Its statements on science are true
- ◆ The Bible IS God's Word
- ◆ No other book like the Bible



HeinzLycklama.com

@ Dr. Heinz Lycklama



**Thank you  
for your  
attention!**

**Dr. Heinz Lycklama**

**heinz@osta.com**

**HeinzLycklama.com**

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