

Why I Believe the Bible:

Proof that the Creator God Wrote the Bible and Established Bible Christianity as the Only True Religion

“Produce your cause, saith the LORD; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob.”
Isaiah 41:21

“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.”
I Thessalonians 5:21

Introduction:

1. We are Bible Christians, which means we follow the Bible’s record of Jesus Christ and His teachings. Our religion is simple – it is nothing more and nothing less than following Jesus Christ according to the Bible. We believe God wrote the Bible to reveal Himself, His Son Jesus Christ, the truth about the universe and His religion, and everything we need to know to live successful lives in this world and the world to come.
2. We do not base our Christianity on tradition, history, creeds, commentaries, popular opinion, a national religion, denominational dictates, personal preferences, almanac distinctions, our culture, or anything else. We cannot call ourselves Christians without establishing the authority of the Bible, for it is in the Bible we learn about the man Jesus Christ and the form of religion that we observe in a New Testament church. Apart from the Bible we have no true knowledge of Jesus Christ or understanding of the proper worship of God, for we are truly bound by this written revelation from God for all we know and do in a religious way.
3. We can and should put our faith to the test, for the vast majority of the human race have spent their lives believing numerous lies on many subjects. Putting our religion to the test is not only wise, but the Bible commands it (I Thessalonians 5:21; Acts 17:11; Isaiah 41:21; I John 4:1; Revelation 2:2; Matthew 7:15-20).
4. God’s existence is obvious by the natural creation and our ability to recognize it, and to deny this is to place one’s self outside the realm of reasonable discussion (Psalm 14:1-4; 19:1-3; Prov 9:10; Eccl 12:13; Romans 1:19-21; Acts 17:24; II Thess 3:2). No one in the Bible ever worried about those who rejected the existence of God, and neither will we. Such fools will meet Him soon enough, and they will be without excuse, for the natural creation is more than sufficient. While this presumption is not the objective of our study, we will nevertheless prove it absolutely true, if we are able to prove that the Bible is His Word to man.
5. It is not enough to know the existence of God, either by the natural creation or by internal witness, for we can only acquire the knowledge of Jesus Christ and His teachings from the Bible; they are not revealed in the natural creation, but by reading and teaching the Bible (John 5:39; I Tim 6:3-5; Rom 16:17-18,25-27).
6. It is only reasonable God would communicate with His creatures, so we also presume this matter to initiate our examination of the Bible. When we wish to communicate as strongly as possible, we do so in writing i.e. contracts, documents, letters, etc. The Bible admits this fact (II Peter 1:16-19; Esther 1:19; 3:9; 8:5,8). If we prove that God wrote the Bible, then we will have also proven this assumption. If we cannot prove God wrote the Bible or any other book, we must then determine if God did communicate to man.
7. But our two safe presumptions still leave us in this situation – one of the holy books in the earth is God’s Word or none of them are – for they are all contradictory and violently opposed to one another. Is it reasonable and right to trust the Bible, when there are so many other religious books in the world, like the Koran, the Vita, Veda, the Talmud, Science and Health, and the Book of Mormon among many others? (If you need to give these “holy books” a cursory examination, then please see the conclusion to this study.)
8. It is impossible to separate divine evidence from the need for faith, and we have no reason to do so. If a person will not believe proof that God is the Author, he is unreasonable and without faith. The man not born again cannot see the kingdom of God, for the natural man cannot receive the spiritual things of God: they are foolish to him, for he cannot discern them. Natural arguments to prove spiritual truth to natural men is the most futile objective in the universe, for God must first give life and light (Luke 16:31; John 3:3; I Cor 2:14; Matt 7:6; Prov 14:7; II Thess 3:2; II Tim 2:24-26; II Cor 4:1-7; I Cor 1:18-24; I John 5:20).

9. Where did Jesus, Philip, and Paul preach? Why did none of them try to prove the divine inspiration of the Jewish Scriptures? Why did they assume it without question? They did not have to prove such, for God gave them miraculous signs and wonders to prove their own verbal assumptions and testimony as coming with divine authority, just as He had done with Moses and Aaron in Pharaoh's devilish court (Acts 17:1-2,10-11,16-17; Exodus 8:19; Micah 7:15; II Tim 3:8-9). The Bible assumes throughout that a person worshipping a stump is as dumb and ignorant as the stump (Psalm 115:8; 135:18; Is 44:9-20; Hab 2:18-20).
10. We are not dealing here with the King James Version as God's divinely preserved translation in the English language, for before dealing with that subject we must establish the Bible itself as God's Word.
11. We are not dealing with the absolute authority of Scripture and the Bible's internal claims for word-perfect accuracy as the only source of light, for before that we must establish the Bible itself as God's Word.
12. If we establish the Bible as God's Word, then we have identified the rule of our religious and personal lives; and we ought to read it with the greatest care, devotion, consistency, passion, obedience, and appreciation.

I. BECAUSE OF ITS PROPHECIES

- A. Fulfilled prophecy is the greatest test and proof of the existence and inspiration of God.
 1. Only an omniscient God can know the future with absolute detail and certainty.
 2. Only an omnipotent God can bring to pass the future, which He has purposed.
 3. Man does not and cannot know the future, even for a day; so it is a proof of divine inspiration for him to know it.
 4. It is a profane shame that Bible prophecies are generally emphasized for future speculation, rather than for present confirmation of divine authority. This is one of the faith-destroying consequences of futurism and its childish relegation of most prophecies to the end of the world in a spectacular Star Wars finale.
 5. The proof of a true prophet of God is fulfilled prophecy (Deut 18:20-22).
- B. Bible prophecies were sometimes given to reveal the future for man's benefit.
 1. God warned Pharaoh of a famine in order to make preparations (Gen 41:1-36).
 2. Daniel warned Nebuchadnezzar of judgment, if he did not repent (Dan 4:1-33).
 3. Jesus warned His disciples of the false christs who would arise (Mt 24:23-27).
 4. Jesus warned disciples to flee Judea when Roman armies came (Luke 21:20-24).
 5. Peter warned the Jews at Pentecost of the same event and its danger (Acts 2:40).
- C. The true and living God, being infinite in every way, desires us to compare Him with all other gods by predictive ability, for He knows the conclusion to such comparisons.
 1. Mohammed is esteemed the Great Prophet of Islam and esteemed by 1.3 billion Muslims; but He could not and did not prophesy anything, even though that is the definition and proof of a prophet, and this deficiency is so glaringly obvious.
 2. The leaders of the Mormons are called apostles, but they don't dare prophesy, for they cannot even tell for sure if it is going to rain tomorrow or not.
 3. Satan can foretell limited future events i.e. Jeane Dixon; but he is neither accurate nor consistent, for he is limited to that portion of the future God allows him to see. Most of Jeane Dixon's predictions did not occur, and she is dead.
 4. William Miller and the Adventists exposed themselves as frauds by their ridiculous prophecy of Christ's coming on October 22, 1844. The "Great Disappointment" followed similar false predictions of April 3, 1843; July 7, 1843; and March 21, 1844.
 5. Charles Taze Russell and the Witnesses have exposed themselves as frauds by many ridiculous and unfulfilled prophecies. Beginning in 1874 and continuing to the present day, some of their predictions were based on measurements of the Great Pyramid of Giza. Their manmade religion, based on proven lies, is growing rapidly around the world, showing the proclivity of natural man to lies.

6. Jack Van Impe exposed himself as a fraud by his ridiculous unfulfilled prophecy of America's end on July 4, 1976 and doctrinal changes too numerous to list.
 7. Numerous Bible Fundamentalists, blinded by Jewish fables and a false interpretation of Matthew 24:34, predicted Christ's coming within 40 years of Israel's establishment as a sovereign state in 1948. But 1988 came and went, and the Lord Jesus Christ did not return.
 8. And, of course, the "day is a thousand years" prediction rule, taken foolishly from II Peter 3:8, forecast the Lord's return simultaneous with a projected implosion of all computers on New Year's Day, 2000. Known as Y2K, more was spent on nothing than ever before. But nothing happened at all – nothing!
 9. For further entertainment of false predictions, see the following links:
<http://www.sonic.net/~anomaly/articles/ga00009.shtml>
<http://www.users.bigpond.com/pmurray/Rants/doc/endoftheworld.html>
- D. Since foretelling future events is proof of divine power, the God of the Bible appealed to people to consider Him as the only true God on the basis of fulfilled prophecy.
1. God dared pagans and their gods to match His prophecy of Cyrus (Is 41:21-24).
 2. God identifies His exclusive glory of easily declaring future things (Is 42:8-9).
 3. God challenged any to identify another god who can fulfil prophecy (Is 44:6-8).
 4. God boldly declared the end from the beginning regarding Cyrus (Is 46:9-11).
 5. God rebuked Judah for not believing because of fulfilled prophecy (Is 48:3-8).
- E. He also gave us precise statements as to the purpose of prophecy in general and several prophecies in particular, which indicate their value as proofs of divine authority.
1. Jesus foretold the time He would be in the grave as a sign to prove His identity, and the Jews used it at His crucifixion, as they did not understand it (Matt 12:38-40).
 2. Jesus foretold that His gospel, including warnings of Jerusalem's total destruction, would be preached to all the world as a testimony of His authority from God, before the armies he predicted would come and destroy Jerusalem as predicted (Mt 24:14).
 3. Jesus foretold His betrayal by Judas Iscariot, so that upon its fulfillment they would be further convinced He was the Messiah of God (John 13:19).
 4. Jesus foretold the coming of the Holy Ghost, so that upon its fulfillment they would be further convinced He was the Messiah of God (John 14:29).
 5. Jesus foretold the persecution of the disciples, so that upon its fulfillment they would be further convinced He was the Messiah of God (John 16:4).
- F. Consider the examples of prophecy fulfilled outside the Bible to prove its divine origin.
1. The Arabian character, history, and location was foretold 2000 BC (Gen 16:12). This single verse of prophecy, viewed objectively in light of history, should be sufficient by itself to establish the divine authority and integrity of the Bible. These people today are still fulfilling this prediction made 4000 years ago.
 2. Daniel prophesied of Alexander the Great in several specific details over 100 years before he was born (Daniel 2:30; 7:6; 8:5-9,21-23; 11:1-4). Skeptics will argue that Daniel had to have been much later – after the events – for these prophecies are too clear and accurate for their perverted hearts to accept.
 3. How did Daniel know about the Iron Roman Empire, even if we give the lying skeptics the late date for Daniel? He predicted the fourth empire, which followed Greece, would use iron, though Rome did not rule until 31 B.C., when it defeated Greece in the naval battle of Actium, in Daniel 2:40-45 and 7:7,19.

4. Daniel clearly foretold several of the main characters and of the wars between the Seleucid and Ptolemaic successors to Alexander the Great, including Antiochus Epiphanes, Mark Antony, Cleopatra, and Herod the Great (Daniel 11). For wonderful reading, see Philip Mauro's Seventy Weeks of Daniel:
 - a. Chapter VIII: <http://www.preteristarchive.com/MauroArchive/ms-08.html>
 - b. Chapter IX: <http://www.preteristarchive.com/MauroArchive/ms-09.html>
5. Daniel's prophecy of 70 weeks of years (490 years) dating from Cyrus' command to rebuild Jerusalem to Messiah the Prince is exquisite in detail.
 - a. Daniel's prophecies are so incredible that pagan skeptics have long scratched for every reason they could find to date Daniel after the events.
 - b. But there is plenty of manuscript, linguistic, historical, and corroborating evidence to date Daniel in the fifth century B.C., just as he recorded.
 - c. This prophecy is so specific – timetable, starting event, ending event, and other details – as to deny any rejection.
 - d. This prophecy was understood by saints in the New Testament, for the message of John the Baptist and Jesus was “the time is fulfilled,” and Simeon waited for the kingdom of God.
 - e. It is said that Christ-hating scribes wondered why the Messiah had not appeared in the early part of the first century as they had expected.
 - f. The Dead Sea Scrolls by radiocarbon showed Daniel older than 165 B.C.
 - g. The Septuagint shows Daniel existing before its writing prior to 250 B.C.
 - h. Josephus believed Daniel was shown to Alexander the Great in 331 B.C.
 - i. Jewish tradition, the scribes of God's Word, admits it existed in 450 B.C.
 - j. Ezekiel is accepted as ancient, and it mentions Daniel (Ezek 14:14,20).
 - k. Recent archaeological discoveries regarding the use of Imperial Arabic and Persian musical instruments during the Babylonian period have destroyed two very popular criticisms of Daniel's early date for writing.
 - l. For more on this remarkable prophecy and its wonderful fulfillment, see Philip Mauro's Seventy Weeks of Daniel, written in 1921, part one, chapters I-VII: <http://www.preteristarchive.com/MauroArchive/ms-wks.html>.
6. The detailed prophecy of Jerusalem's destruction in 70 A.D. was foretold in 450 B.C. (Dan 9:24-27) and explained in considerable detail by Jesus in 3 A.D. (Matt 24:1-51; Mark 13:1-37; and Luke 17:20-37; 19:41-44; 21:5-36; 23:28-31).
 - a. Jesus declared that this prophecy of His would be told throughout the world prior to 70 A.D., as a witness to His true identity (Matthew 24:14).
 - b. The apostles treated this predicted event as one of the greatest facts of their ministries (Acts 2:40; I Thess 2:14-16; Heb 10:25; James 5:1-9).
 - c. Compared to the unbeliever Josephus's eyewitness account, a most reputable Jewish historian employed by the Romans, the fulfilling events and character of Jerusalem's judgment are sufficient evidence by themselves of the divine inspiration of the Bible.
 - d. For more on this remarkable prophecy and its wonderful fulfillment, see Philip Mauro's Seventy Weeks of Daniel, part two, chapters XII-XVI: <http://www.preteristarchive.com/MauroArchive/ms-09.html>.
7. The origin of the Popes of Rome following the demise of the Caesars was foretold first in 500 B.C. (Daniel 7), confirmed more specifically in 55 A.D. (II Thess 2), and detailed more carefully in approximately 70 A.D. (Rev 13,17).
8. What about Babylon (Isaiah 13; 47), Nineveh (Nahum), Egypt (Ezek 29-32), Tyre (Ezek 26-28), and Edom (Ezek 28:20-24).

9. The heretical and damnable Catholic doctrines of celibacy and prohibition of meat (fish on Friday, etc.) were foretold about 55 A.D. (I Timothy 4:1-3).
 10. The character of modern Christianity is perfectly described in the perilous times of the last days foretold by Paul around 60 A.D., with the information explosion and radio and television charlatan ministers included (II Timothy 3:1-7; 4:1-4).
 11. Paul warned Timothy against “science falsely so called” (I Timothy 6:20), yet the rise of higher criticism and evolution – so-called sciences based entirely on naturalistic rationalism against God – would not occur for many years.
 12. These examples could be further multiplied and have been by other authors.
- G. Consider the examples of prophecy fulfilled within the Bible to prove its divine origin.
1. The Bible has two sections – the Old and New Testaments. The O.T. was written over a 1000-year period from 1500 to 400 B.C. The N.T. was written over a 60-year period from 30 to 90 A.D.
 - a. The Jews were the most methodical recordkeepers in the world, ever. And they were the most virulent enemies of Jesus of Nazareth, ever. So they would not have allowed any corruption in the Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah to facilitate their fulfillment in Jesus Christ.
 - b. The age of the Old Testament is authenticated by manuscript evidence, historical references, meticulous chronological data, and Jewish testimony that it was written from 1500 to 500 B.C.
 - c. The age of the New Testament is authenticated by much manuscript evidence and external witnesses by commentators, hymn writers, historians, enemies, Roman officials, and other writers.
 - d. The 500-year gap between the two testaments validates and magnifies the value of O.T. prophecies fulfilled in the N.T.
 - e. The historical evidence confirming the Old Testament existed well before the events of the New Testament is sufficient, even to skeptics.
 - f. It is a given fact the Old Testament as we know it existed well before the birth of Jesus Christ, for there are extant manuscripts and other confirming proof. For this reason, we appreciate the Dead Sea Scrolls.
 2. Abraham knew 400 years early of Israel’s exodus from Egypt (Gen 15:13-16).
 3. Jacob prophesied on his deathbed Jesus would come from Judah (Gen 49:10).
 4. Isaiah foretold 200 years before the event how Cyrus would take the impregnable city of Babylon (Is 45:1). This is one of the great prophecies of the Bible, and used by the God of the Bible several times to promote His identity.
 5. David identified the piercing of Jesus hands and feet in 1000 B.C. (Ps 22:16).
 6. Micah named Jesus’ birthplace over 600 years before His birth (Micah 5:2).
 7. Isaiah foretold Jesus’ virgin birth over 600 years before His birth (Isaiah 7:14), and this was given as a sign to Israel – proof of God’s identify and divine power.
 8. Isaiah foretold Jesus being killed with common criminals (Isaiah 53:12).
 9. Zechariah gave the betrayal amount over 500 years before Judas (Zec 11:12-13).
 10. Prophecies similar to these, especially pertaining to the life, death, and character of Jesus of Nazareth, number in the hundreds at least, and are indisputable.

II. BECAUSE OF ITS WISDOM

- A. Does the Bible explain things so much better and earlier than man has explained them and in such a way as to indicate divine authorship? Yes, it does to any sincere reader.
- B. The Law of Moses is the most glorious set of laws ever known by man for his profit.
1. Remember that Moses' law was written in a morally depraved world, so the wisdom in it was not derived by analysis or assimilation of other legal systems.
 2. A complete study of Moses' law would be a large undertaking, so we simply list a few examples of that law indicating divine wisdom, equity, and justice.
 3. Self-defense with deadly force was allowed for nighttime intruders, yet revenge for such actions was condemned (Exodus 22:2-3). And this is clearly stated.
 4. Cities of refuge saved the innocent from revenge or false charges (Nu 35:9-29).
 5. Laws of consanguinity kept the Israelites from incest (Lev 18:6-18; 20:11-21).
 6. There must be two or three witnesses for any capital offense (Deut 17:6; 19:15).
 7. Life begins at conception, and both mother and child were protected from any physical harm prior to birth, even if only a premature birth (Exodus 21:22-25).
 8. Dowries were paid to the brides' father to (a) protect women, (b) encourage virginity, (c) prove financial ability, and (d) compensate for losing a daughter (Ex 22:16-17; Deut 22:29). Compare this to the absurd tradition of Hindu brides paying dowries to the groom's family, with resulting infanticide, suicide, abuse, and bride burnings: <http://www.pacificnews.org/jinn/stories/6.12/000616-dowries.html>.
 9. Why does a woman have a hymen? Regardless of poppycock to the contrary, first sexual intercourse draws blood. The hymen proves virginity, and its evidence was to be protected by fathers for the protection of their daughters (Deut 22:13-21). Marvelous! And N.O.W. thinks they can protect women.
 10. How do you end date rape, protect girls, promote virginity, and make chaperoned dating popular? Practice Deuteronomy 22:22-29. Wow! Amen!
- C. The wisdom of Proverbs cannot be matched by any original writings of any nation.
1. True love of a child will result in reproof and discipline (Prov 13:24; 29:15).
 2. Strange women have destroyed many men (Prov 23:26-28), and many proverbs are to protect young men (Prov 2:16-19; 5:1-23; 6:20-35; 7:1-27; 22:14; 23:33).
 3. True wisdom receives correction (Pr 1:5; 9:6-12; 13:18; 25:12; 26:12; 28:23).
 4. Offences are more easily solved by gentleness than strife (Prov 15:1,18; 25:15).
 5. It defines the perfect wife, identifies her character, and honors her (Pr 31:10-31).
 6. Ruling your spirit is better than taking a city (Proverbs 16:32; 14:29; 15:18).
 7. The priorities taught here are glorious (Pr 8:11; 15:17; 16:8; 17:1; 21:19; etc.).
- D. The philosophy of Ecclesiastes regarding life, man's soul, purpose, wealth, wisdom, works, government, marriage, labor, women, inheritance, entertainment, folly, spending, wine, circumstances, relationships, money, oppression, greed, covetousness, speech, contentment, chance, charity, sobriety, death, and old age among other subjects is superior to any of man's writings. You must consider its profound wisdom, extreme brevity, and powerful clarity; and then consider its incomparable, powerful conclusion.
- E. The Bible teaches men to love their wives as their own bodies, for they will receive the greater reward from kindness and love rather than force and cruelty (Eph 5:25-33). Here is further evidence that the Bible liberates and exalts women more than any book.
- F. The simplicity of the New Testament church with its potential for evangelism, personal assistance, flexibility, orderly assemblies, and truth are without peer in any religion.

- G. Child training, economics, marriage and divorce, vanity of life, ministerial qualifications, brevity of life, support of widows, autocratic government bound by written constitution, care of poor, civil obedience to foreign powers, employment relationships, sexual matters, and other subjects are taught better than man's writings.
- H. "A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education" (Theodore Roosevelt; 1848-1919; 26th President of the United States).

III. BECAUSE OF ITS SUBLIMITY

- A. **Sublime.** Belonging to the highest regions of thought, reality, or human activity. Standing high above others by reason of nobility or grandeur of nature or character; of high intellectual, moral, or spiritual level. Affecting the mind with a sense of overwhelming grandeur or irresistible power; calculated to inspire awe, deep reverence, or lofty emotion, by reason of its beauty, vastness, or grandeur.
- B. There is no loftier definition of love than that found in I Corinthians 13:4-7, yet consider how concisely this single sentence summarizes fifteen aspects of perfect love. Each of its phrases is pregnant with meaning and valuable instruction for relationships.
- C. The "golden rule," taught by Jesus Christ in the Bible, is unmatched among men as a simple, comprehensive, and exalted rule of interpersonal conduct (Luke 6:31). It is a marvel in conciseness, simplicity, profound beauty, force, and obvious consequences.
- D. The good Samaritan condemns bigotry, revenge, and hatred in a simple and clear way and instead promotes tender regard for personal enemies in need (Luke 10:25-37).
- E. What works of literature, philosophy, or religion can be compared to the Psalms? The Proverbs? Ecclesiastes? Song of Solomon?
- F. The description of the virtuous woman has only been approached by those who have read Proverbs 31. What man (or woman) could write so much in so few words?
- G. What apocalyptic writings can compare to Daniel's prophecies and the Revelation?
- H. What drama can compare to the simple but moving books of Ruth and Esther?
- I. Who can read the story of Jacob learning of Joseph in Egypt without weeping? Mary washing the feet of Jesus? Jesus reading in the synagogue at Nazareth?
- J. Who can read about creation in Genesis 1 without amazement at its brevity and power?
- K. Who can read the contrast of Jesus Christ and Moses' law in Hebrews without realizing it contains the most positive, polemic, persuasive, and political exhortation possible?
- L. There has never been a plan of salvation like the one of the Bible. Where else does God die for man in order to save him from certain death? And it is all of grace without works. And yet it provokes the greatest motivation for good works of any system.

IV. BECAUSE OF ITS HISTORY

- A. Simple observation of the universe's design, order, and power shows God's existence; but the origin of man is only explained with any reasonableness from Genesis 1-2.
 1. The popularity of a "big bang" turning chaotic matter into our beautiful world is nothing more than self-protecting hallucination i.e. The Emperor's New Clothes.
 2. The mutational theory of salamanders choosing to become bald eagles is insane, and it requires no more in the way of refutation than pointing out its nakedness. Since there is no evidence of its truthfulness, and it is so ridiculously defended, there is no reason to waste time refuting the mere hallucinations of God-haters.

3. Charles Darwin confused variations in finches with monkeys becoming ladies; not because he wisely proved evolution, but because he was a pagan dreamer; and he died accordingly, doubting most everything and without hope.
 - a. <http://www.answersingenesis.org/docs/1314.asp?vPrint=1>.
 - b. <http://www.crosscurrents.org/darwin.htm>.
 4. Muslims think God created Adam from a dried blood clot (Koran 96:1-2).
 5. The only history of our origin making sense is the Biblical account in Genesis, and it is consistent with all scientific **evidence**. For proof, check these sources:
 - a. http://www.pathlights.com/ce_encyclopedia/Index.htm.
 - b. <http://www.christianhomeschoolers.com/creation/main.shtml>.
- B. An infinite Creator capable and willing to create immortal souls is easy enough, and man's present condition of slow death due to sin from Genesis 3 is most reasonable. Therefore, the existence of death is only explained adequately by the Bible.
1. Modern pagans must do two things to convince us they are sane – explain the origin of life **and** the origin of death with scientific proof, reasonable evidence, duplication, or believable authority. Until then, we shall consider them fools.
 2. Forget dealing with death, around death, or about death; tell us its origin, purpose, accomplishment, and its remedy; then we might listen for two minutes.
- C. How did man learn to plant, harvest, and process the various grains for the production of food? Obviously, the African and the American Indian, among other cultures, never learned such things. God taught this knowledge to man by inspiration (Is 28:23-29). Do you have a better explanation? What happened to the first twenty generations in your scheme, while they were learning by trial and error how to produce food?
- D. The Bible describes a worldwide flood, which is proven by numerous methods, both scientific and historical. Whether the Grand Canyon or oral traditions and legends in many nations, the evidence for the Bible's flood is significant. If you need help with the evidence for Noah's flood, see: <http://www.answersingenesis.org/home/area/faq/flood.asp>.
- E. Where did so many languages – and their great diversity - come from? If not from the Tower of Babel, then where? Did monkey speech evolve into English and Chinese in some evolutionary process? Did Darwin have a theory of natural selection for Chinese characters over our alphabet? See http://www.answersingenesis.org/docs/4190cen_d1999.asp.
- F. The Bible, recording the history of Israel, touches upon many nations and rulers, which have been found to agree perfectly with the best archeological and historical studies, though some have not been confirmed until recent archeological finds. If you love to see God and His Word vindicated, then see the following links.
- a. http://www.grmi.org/renewal/Richard_Riss/evidences/4archaeology.html.
 - b. <http://www.probe.org/docs/arch-ot.html>.
 - c. http://www.rationalchristianity.net/historical_evid.html.
 - d. http://www.gospelcom.net/faithfacts/maps_a.html.
 - e. <http://www.christiananswers.net/archaeology/home.html>.
- G. We have a seven-day week, because God gave it to Adam and wrote it in the Bible.
- a. The hours in a day, the days in a month, and the days in a year are all based on astronomical movements of the sun (from our perspective), earth, and moon.
 - b. But the only explanation for all nations and languages perpetually observing a seven-day week is based on the creation account and week determination given in the Bible (Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 20:8-11; 31:17).
 - c. Noah, being a man who walked with God (Genesis 6:9), brought the seven-day week through the flood.

- d. Moses, being God's messenger for the establishment of national and public worship in Israel, established the ceremonial requirements of the seventh day.
- e. This point alone could be enough to convince a reasonable man of the Bible.
- f. What do others say about the origin of the seventh day? Consider these pages:
 - (1) <http://www.tagnet.org/llt/science.htm>.
 - (2) <http://cjavlang.com/Dow/dowlinks.html>.
- H. Tacitus, Roman historian of great integrity, wrote that Pontius Pilate crucified Jesus in the reign of Tiberias Caesar. See <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/hist/cornel.html>.
- I. Pilate testified of Jesus' miracles. See <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/hist/pilate.html>.
- J. Josephus testified of His miracles. See <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/hist/joseph.html>.
- K. Thallus admits three dark hours. See <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/hist/thallus.html>.
- L. Many witnessed of Jesus Christ. See <http://www.neverthirsty.org/pp/hist/main.html>.
- M. "There are more sure marks of authenticity in the Bible than in any other profane history" (Sir Isaac Newton; 1642-1727; Scientist and Inventor).

V. BECAUSE OF ITS SPIRITUALITY

- A. By considering the content and intent of the Scriptures, we find an internal witness to its divine authorship, for there is no evidence of man's bias or natural view in its message.
- B. It stoops neither to personal greed, national pride, or fleshly appetites, but is rather constant in its instruction for man to lift his affection and ambition toward God and heaven (Deut 6:4-5; Eccl 12:13-14; Jer 9:23-24; Matt 6:19-21; Col 3:2; I John 2:15-17).
- C. Prosperity and poverty are both viewed as distractions to spiritual and eternal values, which is a unique position between extremes (Prov 30:7-9; I Tim 6:6-10,17-19).
- D. Marriage is viewed as a distraction from serving God (I Cor 7:32-35; I Tim 5:5), yet commended for its moral value and beneficial companionship (Gen 2:18; I Cor 7:1-5; Eccl 4:9-12; Prov 18:22). And therefore religious prohibitions against marriage are strongly condemned (I Tim 4:1-3).
- E. Righteousness is more important than riches (Proverbs 16:8; 28:6), and true success is godliness and contentment, rather than financial gain (I Timothy 6:6-10).
- F. It describes God in the most sublime language possible, possessing transcendent holiness without any human characteristics of weakness, superstition, or natural tendencies (Numbers 23:19; Deut 32:1-4; Isaiah 6:1-7; 57:15; I Timothy 6:13-16).
- G. Salvation of the soul is more valuable than acquiring the whole world (Matthew 16:26).
- H. It emphasizes faith over sight, for God and spiritual things are not seen with natural vision, nor anything of permanent existence or value (II Cor 4:18; 5:7; Heb 11:1-27).
- I. It presumes faith as the gift of God, and any thinking apart from faith is unreasonable (John 10:26; Eph 1:15-20; II Tim 2:24-26; Heb 11:1,6; II Thess 3:1-2).
- J. Natural revelation is not enough, for the details of God's words are needed (Ps 19:1-11).
- K. It addresses faith rather than reason (Acts 13:26; II Cor 4:3-6; I Pet 2:6-8; I John 5:13), yet presumes faith as reasonable (Psalm 14:1; Rom 4:16-22; Rev 21:8; John 3:18-19).

VI. BECAUSE OF ITS PLAINNESS

- A. The speech of the Bible is direct, plain, powerful, confident, moving, concise, masculine, intelligent, and conclusive. The Bible says more, says it better, and says it in fewer words than any writings of any man. Even pagan literary experts consider the Bible the greatest piece of English literature for most of these same reasons.

- B. Make a comparison of the Bible with the vague generalities of some, the mere opinions of others, the transcendental meditations of others, and the lack of any conclusion of the rest. The writings of man – any writings of any man – are severely inferior to the powerful communication and conclusions of Scripture.
- C. Because of this plain speech, it is directly presented to every man's conscience by distinct reading and simple explanation (II Cor 2:17; 4:1-2; Neh 8:8; Acts 17:2-3).
- D. There are no hidden messages beyond the Bible's words (II Cor 1:13), for the communication is by words and not by karma, dharma, samsara, or other hallucination.
- E. The Bible's boldness without equivocation, surmising, or explaining, states the truth in the boldest of manners with the strongest of words and the greatest brevity of speech.
- F. Paul credits the great plainness of speech as a function of the Holy Ghost (II Cor 3:12).
- G. Only God, with omniscience – infinite wisdom, could write so authoritatively on all subjects with absolute conclusions, all complementary and corroborating to each other.

VII. BECAUSE OF ITS REASONABLENESS

- A. The Bible is not afraid of examination at all, and it has never hidden in monasteries or mosques or temples away from the inspection of friend and foe alike. It begs for scrutiny and describes critical readers as noble (Acts 17:11; I Thes 5:21; Is 1:18; 41:21).
- B. Would an infinite God create two orders of beings – angels and men – to show election and reprobation, mercy and wrath, forgiveness and judgment, love and hatred? Absolutely. Such a plan creates the ultimate drama to display His perfections to the universe in a reasonable way that no other religion even approaches, and this is explained clearly and sensibly in the Bible (Prov 16:4; Rom 9:6-23; Rev 4:11).
- C. Are the duties required of man in the Bible reasonable? Most certainly. If men were to live by the Bible, they would realize Utopia on earth, as much as it can be realized by sinful creatures under a curse of death waiting for judgment.
- D. Is the Book of Mormon reasonable? It was fabricated by a stone-peeper, sounds like childish plagiarism of the Bible by a semi-literate, contains the basic content of popular novels of the time, is silent about most Mormon doctrines, contradicts science and history, and is ridiculous with battles killing every single person on both sides.
- E. Is the Koran reasonable? Consider. If Allah is the All-Powerful, then why did He dictate such a shallow book? You don't study the Koran, for there is little to study – it is inconsistent and lacks spiritual depth. Instead Muslims memorize and recite or intone it, because its primary value is the sound of words chanted over and over, rather than the sense of words carefully studied in the light of the whole by spiritual wisdom.
- F. The testimony of the Bible about God, man, and life in this world is too consistent with what we observe in the natural creation and our experiences to be merely a human novel. It addresses our needs, hopes, fears, perplexities, and circumstances supernaturally! It addresses the human soul by every literary method with answers.
- G. We know we were created by a higher Power, and we can witness this higher Power in the creation (Ps 19:1-3; Rom 1:18-21). How has this Creator communicated to His creatures? He would not have created intelligent beings, unless He wanted them to learn about Him. He would communicate in writing, for writing is the surest and most lasting way to give an authoritative message to others.
- H. Its explanation for all the difficult questions of life are very reasonable – origin, life, death, after-life, marriage, worship, pain, suffering, sin, flood, etc. Even from a purely naturalistic evaluation, it contains a more complete and reasonable explanation for all things than any other human writing.

VIII. BECAUSE OF ITS FRUIT

- A. The Word of God teaches that prophets, and indirectly any holy books purporting to be prophecy from God, are to be judged by their fruits (Matthew 7:15-20).
1. Results are a reasonable and accurate measure of a religion's inherent merit.
 2. Good words and fair speeches cannot be the measure (Rom 16:17-18; Col 2:8).
 3. Passion and dedication cannot be the measure (I Kings 18:21-29; II Chron 28:3).
 4. Numbers and growth cannot be the measure (Ex 23:2; Luke 16:15; I Tim 6:3-5).
 5. Popularity and acceptability cannot prove it (Luke 6:26; John 15:19; James 4:4).
 6. We must evaluate the effects or results of a prophet or religion apart from these measures, for even a form of godliness (carnal Christianity of the present) will eventually result in lasciviousness and heresy contrary to the doctrine of Christ.
 7. The measure is not mere material prosperity, but rather light and righteousness and holiness, based on morality and knowledge from the doctrine of God.
 8. For gain by itself is no sure evidence of godliness (I Tim 6:3-6), for God may judge men with prosperity of fools (Ps 73:3; Pr 1:32; Luke 12:16-20; 16:19-25).
 9. Truth turns men from idols (I Thess 1:9-10), superstition (Acts 17:22), foolishness, lust, hate (Titus 3:3), and filthiness and fornication (Eph 5:3-8). See also Romans 1:18-32; I Cor 6:9-11; 12:2; Eph 4:17-20; Col 3:5-7; I Pet 4:1-5.
 10. The Word of God – a holy book written by God – will bring light into this dark world of superstition and ignorance (Is 55:9; Deut 4:5-8). Is there a difference between the cannibal and the Christian? Is it visible and obvious to view?
 11. Still, prosperity flowing from righteousness and light is God's blessing, and it was to be observed as the divine stamp of approval upon Israel (Mal 1:1-5; Deut 28:1-14). This principle leads us to examine the borders of nations to witness God's mercy or judgment, yet within the limitations of godly morality and truth.
 12. With an innocent and sincere appearance like peaceful sheep, false religious teachers have vicious ambitions and results of devouring hearers as wolves (Matthew 7:15-20; Mark 12:38-40; II Cor 11:1-15). How do we detect and avoid them? We measure them with cold objectivity by their results.
- B. Where the Word of God has gone, there has been abundant fruit in many ways, just as Scripture declares. The words of wisdom bring blessings, as in Proverbs 8:12-21. Where are prudence, witty inventions, humility, counsel, understanding, strength, justice, authority, judgment, riches, honour, righteousness, substance, and treasures? Have they not been predominantly in the English-speaking nations where the Bible has been taught, believed, exalted, and obeyed? Wisdom, by definition, is a superior way of living; and it should be visible to observers (Prov 24:3-6,13-14,30-34).
- C. Consider Hinduism. Should we examine the Hindu Vedas and Bhagavad Vita, because Indian widows burn themselves to death on their husbands' funeral pyres? Venerate snakes? Bathe in the filthiest river on earth? Exalt abject poverty? Superstitiously worship demons? Pervert dowries to provoke infanticide, suicide, and bride burnings? Choose vegetarianism and starvation rather than eat a relative reincarnated as a cow? Develop a caste system to perfection to eliminate any social progress? And observe a religion combining confusion, ambiguity, variance, and intolerance like no other?
- D. Consider Islam. Should we examine the Koran, because Muslims justify evangelism at the point of a sword? Kiss a meteorite in a shrine in Mecca? Treat women like cattle? Worship the crescent moon? Promise a harem in the sky to terrorists willing to kill Christians? Practice polygamy and pilgrimages? Chant a surah rather than explain it? Exalt superstition to an art form?

- E. Consider Africa. Should we explore the oral traditions of its tribes, because they could not invent the wheel in 6000 years? Formed a matriarchal society where the men squat all day waiting for nighttime? Practiced polyandry? Used witch doctors as priests? Used drums to drive away lions and elephants? Advanced to mud huts without a written language or a number system? Or do we look elsewhere to find true religion?
- F. Consider American Indians. Should we seek the Great Spirit? Should we gather buffalo chips together and smoke ourselves in a tent all winter? Should we desire the Happy Hunting Ground? Should we be impressed by a travois behind a dog to move one's possessions? Should we put feathers in our hair and call ourselves Big Bird?
- G. God ignored most nations in His blessings. And those nations are visible in the earth. To deny this is to deny the nose on your face. Should we look to them for His truth?
- H. Instead, look at the incredible prosperity, peace, liberty, justice, freedom, knowledge, inventions, morality, social advances, and intelligent worship of a Creator God among those nations that exalt the Word of God – the Bible – especially America.
- I. "That Book accounts for the supremacy of England" (Queen Victoria; 1819-1901; British monarch for 64 years, the longest reign in British history).

IX. BECAUSE OF ITS SCIENCE

- A. The more we learn about ourselves and our environment through scientific discovery, the more we find the Bible to be a book with astounding advanced knowledge. So true is this the case, we know God wrote it.
- B. The Bible knew the earth was round in 700 B.C., when God inspired Isaiah 40:22 to refer to the circle of the earth.
- C. The Bible knew the earth hung in space in 2000 B.C., when God inspired Job 26:7 to refer to this very definite feature of the earth.
- D. The Bible required the quarantine of those with contagious diseases 3500 years ago (Leviticus 13:45), yet these rules were not followed for the next 3200 years and cost an unknown number of millions of lives. Though now we follow such rules strictly in dealing with contagious diseases.
- E. Remember, the greatest scientific and medical wisdom on earth at the time of Moses was the Egyptians (I Kings 4:30; Acts 7:22), who manifested their gross darkness, superstition, and perversion in using excrement, semen, goat urine, and menstrual blood mixed with hyena ear, donkey tail, and ox hooves as cures. And accordingly, Israel was saved from their numerous diseases and afflictions by following the dietary, sexual, sanitation, and medical laws of the Bible (Exodus 15:26; Deuteronomy 7:15; 28:27).
- F. The Bible clearly stated man's life expectancy to be 73 in approximately 1500 B.C., and it remains perfectly accurate, even today (Psalm 90:10).
 - 1. Consider . . . the man writing this statistic lived to be 120, his father lived to be 137, his grandfather lived to be 133, and his successor lived to be 110.
 - 2. Consider . . . the average life expectancy for other nations at the time of the writing was significantly less than 73, for the word of God presumes the application of His laws affecting diet, sanitation, infection, mental health, etc.
 - 3. Consider . . . the rule applies as well to Americans with vitamins, vaccinations, hospitals, health food stores, and health clubs, for our "advances" have not improved on God's rules for life laid down in the books of Moses.
 - 4. What man in what nation could have predicted the modern scientific finding that man's life expectancy under ideal conditions is 73? And what man could have given this statistic in 1500 B.C.? God wrote the Bible, and this point proves it.

- G. God set the eighth day for circumcision, when blood-clotting compounds are at their highest levels (Genesis 17:11-12; 12:4; Leviticus 12:3; Luke 1:59; 2:21; Acts 7:8).
1. A newborn's liver and intestines do not begin producing prothrombin and vitamin K until about the fifth day after birth, when nursing has commenced and consequently bacteria has formed in the intestines.
 2. These two compounds reach the highest level on the eighth day after birth, estimated at 110% of normal levels of these two important clotting factors.
 3. We did not discover / isolate these two compounds and their effect until 1935.
 4. How did Abraham in 2000 B.C., or Moses in 1500 B.C., know that the eighth day was the optimum day for cutting a newborn without risk of hemorrhage?
 5. While chance could cause Moses to pick the eighth day, in fact there are many other days, like the 472nd day or the 1384th day. Given all we read medically, we know God told Him. See <http://www.apologeticspress.org/rr/faq/r&r9307b.htm>
- H. Sanitation rules for human waste are wonderful, and we observe them today with toilets. But the Bible taught it clearly in 1500 B.C. (Deut 23:12-13). Even mother England emptied chamber pots in the street a few years ago. Bible-rejecting countries like India still live and bathe in excrement and often have it in their drinking water.
- I. Nutritional health in several aspects was dictated in a few words in Psalm 104:14-15.
1. The service of man comes from the field, where we find the basis for nutrition.
 2. Bread makes the heart of man strong, which we now know by its fiber, complex carbohydrates, B vitamins, iron, vitamin E, protein, and other nutrients.
 3. Oil makes his face to shine, for we now know that there are essential fatty acids, which are necessary components of a healthy diet.
 4. Wine makes his heart glad, which is the relaxation created by moderate alcohol consumption.
 5. Some of these health aspects were not discovered / isolated until the last century.
- J. Gluttony is strongly condemned, which is one of the great curses of our modern society (Prov 23:1-3,20-21). It is a well-known fact that the single most important dietary change you can make to live longer is to eat less than you desire; yet we live in a nation where the majority of the citizens are obese from our abundance of rich food and gluttonous attitude toward it.
- K. The water cycle is clearly taught in Ecclesiastes 1:7 and Amos 5:8.
- L. God stated in the Bible that bodily exercise is profitable, which modern medicine has confirmed; it is just not nearly as profitable as spiritual exercise (I Tim 4:8).
- M. The Bible limited saturated fat consumption more than 3500 years ago (Lev 3:16-17; 7:23), well before it was known to have deleterious affects on human health.
- N. The prohibition of certain kinds of animal food was very wise, especially without proper cold storage and more difficult cooking options (Leviticus 11; Deuteronomy 14).
- O. Circumcision almost completely eliminates penis and cervical cancer. Penis cancer is extremely rare among circumcised men, and their wives have cervical cancer at a rate more than 10 times less than uncircumcised men. Remember, God promised to deliver Israel from the diseases of Egypt, if they would keep His laws (Ex 15:26).
- P. What is the true origin of species? Why does the whole world reproduce "after its kind" (Gen 1:11-12,21,24-25; 6:20; 7:14)? Dogs can mingle breeds, but dogs and cats cannot produce cogs. Horses can mingle breeds, but horses and cows cannot make corses. If protoplasmic jelly can become a hummingbird (in evolutionary daydreaming), why can't cats and rabbits mate for rats or cabbits? Where did these natural laws come from? And how did the Bible know about them in 1500 B.C.?

- Q. The Bible claims man's body was formed of the dust of the ground (Gen 2:7), and scientific and chemical analysis have shown that the human body is made up of the same sixteen elements found in dirt. Should we be surprised? Nah. Cambridge University Press published a book in 1986 in which Hyman Hartman proposed that our origin occurred with the combination of clay and carbon dioxide. The dust of the earth and God's exhaled breath? ☺
- R. What about the seven stars of Pleiades mentioned in Amos 5:8? Are there seven stars in this constellation, or was the seventh star only recently discovered with the power of telescopes? It is claimed by several sources that only six stars are visible to the naked eye in the constellation Pleiades, yet the Bible admits seven, if we presume that Amos is speaking of Pleiades. So compare Amos 5:8 with Job 9:9 and 38:31. Has this constellation been called the Seven Sisters due to God's revelation of seven stars?
- S. Where is the life of the body? It is circulating in the blood, as Leviticus 17:11,14 declared 3500 years ago. It's too bad our first president's doctors didn't know this, for maybe they would not have ignorantly bled him to death for a sore throat. Read the history yourself: <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Meadows/3122/washington.html>.
- T. And all races of men have the same blood, as taught by Paul in Acts 17:26, which today we understand enough to encourage blood transfusions without regard to race, even though we rejected this possibility as late as World War II. How did Paul know this in 55 A.D.? Read a biographical sketch of the black doctor who discovered the long-term storage of blood plasma: <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Prairie/7824/drew.html>.
- U. Consider the stringent laws of cleanliness relative to dead bodies in Numbers 19:11-20 written about 1500 B.C. or 3500 years ago. And what does it require for those who do not want to follow these rules of sanitation and cleanliness? Read Numbers 19:20.
- V. Monogamous and faithful marriages and capital punishment for sexual sins would eliminate all the STDs, AIDS, and other diseases ravaging our immoral world. Where did this profound wisdom come from? Is having sex with an animal a capital offence? No one else is hurt, are they? Isn't it a "victimless crime"? Didn't we all evolve from the same protoplasmic gelatin? Won't it help us get close to nature? Why not legislate favors for perverts preferring a goat? God condemned all these sexual perversions and their consequences and established monogamous marriage as the norm (Gen 2:24-25), and He demanded the death penalty for variations (Lev 20:10,13,15-16; Deut 22:5).
- W. How much mental illness could Biblical peace (Phil 4:6-7; Is 26:3-4) and love (I John 4:18) cure? Why are some people tormented? They have not learned how to love the Bible way (I John 4:18; I Cor 13:4-7; Prov 15:17). And the Bible said this in 60 A.D.
- X. How much psychosomatic illness could the Bible cure? The Bible taught 1000 years ago the value of a cheerful spirit (Prov 14:30; 17:1,22; 18:14; 27:4; Eccl 9:7-9). Yet modern psychologists and other practitioners think they discovered something new.
- Y. Balagvignus was a Jewish doctor of Strassburg, who implemented sanitation in the midst of the Bubonic plague and almost eliminated it from the Jewish sector of the city. Consider that human waste and garbage were thrown in the street and rats ran wild in most cities. Sanitation was generally unknown but for God's law (Deut 23:12-14). Such horrible sanitation conditions still exist in countries like India, where the Bible is rejected for the enlightened wisdom of Ganges worship and praying to idols.
- Z. What medical wisdom was known in 1500 B.C. to preclude the eating of animals that had died from natural causes or attacks from carnivores? Disease, bacteria, and parasites were not known yet. See Exodus 22:31; Deut 14:21; Lev 7:24; 17:15-16; 22:8.

- AA. Ignaz Semmelweis was a Hungarian doctor who required strict washing hands of hands to eliminate frequent blood poisoning deaths in Budapest hospitals in the late 19th century. The great impact of running water and his discovery can hardly be overstated, yet Moses wrote about it 3500 years ago (Lev 15:13)? Why was there such wisdom in the Bible, when the world did not identify germs, bacteria, and contagion until nearly the 20th century? See http://ublib.buffalo.edu/libraries/projects/cases/childbed_fever.html.
- BB. Where did stainless steel instruments and vessels come from in modern medical practices? Did they come from porous brassen vessels, which did not have to be destroyed, but could be scoured and rinsed? Bacteria and germs were unknown until the latter 19th century. Get a load of Leviticus 6:28 and 11:33! God wrote the Bible.
- CC. What about social science? Is there any wisdom in the Bible that man cannot figure out for the profit of our species, which would indicate the author of the Bible is truly God?
1. The family was declared by God from the beginning, and man is still too foolish to recognize its preeminence as the necessary and fundamental social bond.
 2. Parents are to be supported by their children in old age to make welfare foolish.
 3. Restitution (two to seven times the theft), beatings (maximum of forty stripes), mutilation (for bodily injury to others), or death is far superior to prison, which has not and will not ever work for the rehabilitation or deterrence of criminals.
 4. Marriage is superior to casual sex, temporary cohabitation, same-sex unions, etc.
 5. Child discipline is carefully defined and encouraged in the Bible, whereas modern psychologists are lost, losing, and losers when it comes to child training.
 6. Tithing to support the poor is superior to the legalized plunder of welfare states.
 7. Gleaning for the poor requires them to work to support themselves. How wise!
- DD. We are expected to believe Carl Sagan and other pagan infidels and their unfounded hallucinations and unreasonable hypotheses, but we are deemed foolish to believe the scientifically accurate, historically verified, and reasonable book, the Bible!
1. What arrogance and idiocy on the part of modern educators! They ridicule the notion of the dark ages that the earth was flat, but they exceed that ignorance by a factor of a million to one by believing salamanders chose to become pink pelicans. There is no scientific debate here – they are idiots. We need more children who will cry out that the emperor is naked. Read the story here: <http://www.mostweb.cc/Classics/Andersen/newclothes/>.
 2. Car Sagan has no more ability to know the universe is 14,760,500,000 years old than he does to fly to Pluto and back by waving his arms! He can't even establish a single fact about activity in the universe just 7,000 years ago. That is why he and others change their estimates of the universe's age by billions of years at a time. They don't have even a clue as to what they are talking about.
 3. A "big bang" of chaotic matter could no more fashion this earth and life on it with its order, design, beauty, and laws than an explosion at a newspaper factory would result in the Oxford English Dictionary bound and wrapped, or a tornado going through a junkyard would result in a Boeing 747 with pilots!
 4. It takes much more "faith" to believe we came from monkeys than to believe in an infinitely wise Creator god – it takes faith in the idiotic suppositions of dying men who cannot even change their life expectancy in 4000 years. Charles Darwin was an egotistical loser who did not understand variations in finches, so he fantasized that elephants might become hummingbirds to enjoy flight.

5. One of the very strongest proofs of the Bible is its explanation for men like Carl Sagan and Charles Darwin. It declared thousands of years ago that God judged such men by removing their understanding of simple matters (Romans 1:20-32; I Corinthians 1:18-20; 3:18-20; Isaiah 8:20; 19:11-14; 44:20,25; Job 5:12-14).
6. It calls hallucinatory theories like evolution “science falsely so called” (I Tim 6:20-21). God knew foolish ideas were coming and condemned them years ago. The Bible knows science; but it also knows science falsely so called, so don’t believe everything you hear that our modern speculators call science.
7. Consider the so-called scientific method. Since we cannot observe the origin of the world, cannot reproduce it in a laboratory, and cannot confirm any human hypotheses of origination, it is far beyond the scientific method of evaluation. Instead of hypotheses from men who barely learn to read before they die, we have evidence and proof about origins in the Bible. We believe the Book that is proven to be God’s Word, and so we understand with evidence exactly how all things came to be (Genesis 1:1; John 1:1-3; Hebrews 11:1-3). And without this faith men are unreasonable and to be avoided at all costs (II Thess 3:1-2).

X. BECAUSE OF ITS WITNESS

- A. The Holy Spirit, the Author of the Bible, witnesses internally to the truth of the Bible.
 1. He dwells in every elect and regenerate child of God, providing internal evidence to the veracity, integrity, evidence, doctrine, and value of the Bible as God’s Word (John 8:47; I Cor 2:6-16; I John 2:20-27; 4:1-6; Gal 4:6; Matthew 16:17; II Thess 2:13-14; Eph 1:17; Rom 10:6-8).
 2. Understanding the Bible requires God’s blessing, for no amount of natural study or reasoning will reveal its spiritual truths communicated by God, Who is a Spirit (John 4:24; Acts 16:14; I Cor 2:9-14; Pr 8:6-9; II Tim 2:24-26).
 3. Further understanding of the Bible requires obedience to what you already understand of the Bible (John 7:17; Luke 8:18).
 4. Of course, only His elect can know this evidence of the Bible. Any effort at wisdom apart from God’s free and sovereign mercy will result in blindness and darkness (Matt 11:25-27). Try it with a regenerated heart, and you will know.
- B. There is also a spirit that moves men internally – the devil – to believe false holy books.
 1. Satan was the first liar and is the father of lies and deception (Genesis 3:1-5; John 8:44; Acts 5:3; Ephesians 2:1-3; Revelation 12:9).
 2. Paul warned of the lies of this deceitful spirit, who will appear as a minister of light and righteousness and truth (II Corinthians 4:3-4; 11:4,13-15; I Tim 4:1-3).
 3. If a man does not believe the Bible, he is under the control of the devil, for God has given him over to delusionary lies of hell (Acts 13:10; II Thess 2:9-12; II Tim 2:24-26; I Cor 10:20).
 4. Don’t think for a minute the advances of the 20th century brought greater light and deliverance from devils, for it is truly worse (II Tim 3:1-13; Rev 20:7-8).
 5. If you don’t think Hindus, Mozlems, and other pagans are moved by demonic spirits, then preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to them. The results will prove the point, for you will have never seen such ferocious irrationality in all your life.

XI. BECAUSE OF ITS WITNESSES

- A. Great men and nations, as measured by virtue, righteousness, truth, liberty, and other marks of spiritual nobility, have been without exception believers in the Bible, the God of the Bible, and His Son Jesus Christ. History has shown this to be an infallible rule.
1. What Muslim nation can be compared to the United States of America?
 2. What accomplishment of spiritual virtue and value can be traced to the Koran?
 3. We need not even consider any nation allowing Hindu or Buddhist holy books.
 4. Even in "Christian" nations where the Bible is not emphasized, there is a marked decrease in all measures of human accomplishment and moral integrity.
 5. For numerous quotes of famous men as to the value of the Bible, see these links:
 - a. <http://www.shalomjerusalem.com/heritage/heritage15.htm>
 - b. <http://userpages.aug.com/bbarnes/Lessons/5Lies.htm>
 - c. <http://www.outofseason.com/foundingfathers.htm>
 - d. <http://www.execulink.com/~wblank/biblquot.htm>
 - e. <http://www.jesus-is-lord.com/scoffer.htm>
- B. Consider the martyrs. We dare not ignore the witness of so many, who died so spectacularly, for the religion revealed in a mere book. This is considerable evidence.
1. Martyrdom generally proves very strong conviction of the truthfulness of some proposition. Life is precious; death is painful and frightening. Why would men cheerfully die for merely possessing, preaching, printing, or distributing the Bible? What in the Bible is so precious as to justify losing one's life for it?
 2. History indicates the Bible has more martyrs than all books combined; and they died uniquely in their devotion to God, His Son Jesus Christ, and the Bible.
 3. They did not die for eternal life, as Japan's kamikaze and Islam's suicide pilots.
 4. They did not die to defend a state religion, as Catholics, Hindus, and Muslims.
 5. They did not die to promote the culture of seventh century Arabia, as Muslims.
 6. They did not die seeking any earthly gain, as they lost all for heaven's promise.
 7. They did not die threatening, but rather passively without resistance or cursing.
 8. They did not die fighting, but rather praying for and forgiving their executioners.
 9. The world is not worthy of these witnesses (Heb 11:32-40; Rev 12:17; 19:10).

XII. BECAUSE OF ITS WRITERS

- A. The Bible claims to be inspired and authored by God, so even though it was written by many men over a 1600-year period, there is but one consistent message (II Pet 1:19-21).
- B. Consider the facts of its writers that make its origin and incredible success evidence of divine approval and authorship.
1. Forty different authors – Moses, David, Solomon, Amos, Habakkuk, Malachi, Matthew, Paul, Jude, etc.
 2. Many walks of life – Egyptian prince, king, shepherd, tax collector, fishermen, doctor, ex-Pharisee.
 3. Many levels of education – High Egyptian, High Babylonian, illiterate fishermen, illiterate farmers.
 4. Many conditions at writing – imprisonment, tending sheep, etc.
 5. Many locations at writing – prison, court of Pharaoh, pit, palace.
 6. Many different initial readers – Israel, Babylonian provinces, converted Hebrews, Romans.
 7. Sixty-six different books – Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, III John, Jude, Revelation.

8. Different literary styles – history, poetry, philosophy, love songs, psalms, prophecy, instruction, personal correspondence, etc.
 9. Several languages used – Hebrews, Chaldean, Aramaic, Greek, etc.
 10. Without collaboration – Paul missed Moses by 1500 years,
 11. Constant progression – patriarchs knew little, prophets more, but apostles much more. Revelation from creation in the beginning to consummation yet to come.
 12. Unified result with a single message – the Bible is consistent in doctrine from beginning to end.
- C. The Book of Mormon was written by a vagabond who had a reputation for slothfulness, dishonesty, and the use of peeping stones to find lost tools, hidden treasures, etc.
- D. The Koran was collected after the death of a philandering cutthroat from his supposed revelations, yet there is not a single extant manuscript for over 150 years after his death.
- E. There is no explanation for how the Bible was collected from such diverse writers over such an extended period of time and collated and collected into one book that would be the best seller for all time past, present, and future.

XIII. BECAUSE OF ITS MORALITY

- A. By morality as evidence, we mean the level of holiness and righteousness the Bible teaches, as compared to all the works of man, shows it to be authored by God Himself.
- B. For example, the Koran (2:230) requires a divorced woman to marry another man before she can return to her first husband; but the Bible condemns women going back and forth between men in such a lascivious manner (Deuteronomy 24:1-4; Jer 3:1). Is this only personal preference, or does not the Bible clearly excel the Koran in morality?
- C. The Koran and Hadith reduce women to slaves or less in comparison to the Bible; and there is not another religion that protects and exalts women, as does Bible Christianity. In spite of the Bible's teaching regarding submission, women are to be protected, honored, exalted, and tenderly loved unlike in any other religion or culture.
- D. The Old Testament was written among the most perverse nations on earth with the basest of laws, religions, and governments. They had a morality and philosophy totally different and violently opposed to the Bible. Where did the pure laws of the Bible originate? Did Israel invent them? Did God inspire them? They didn't borrow them.
1. God killed the Canaanites without mercy for their perversity (Lev 18:24-30).
 2. They practiced whoredom, incest, sodomy, bestiality, child sacrifice by fire, insect worship, necrophilia, etc.
 3. Only God could author such morally superior laws in the midst of darkness.
- E. The New Testament was written in the middle of the gross ignorance and carnal excesses of the Greek and Roman empires.
1. Corinth was known for such immorality that it gave rise and meaning to a verb "to corinthianize" (Davis Dictionary of the Bible). And Paul makes mention that some of his converts had been whoremongers and sodomites (I Cor 6:9-11).
 2. The Greco-Roman culture approved of abortion, infanticide, and child desertion.
 3. And in spite of being written by uneducated fishermen in several cases, their pure religion has revolutionized the western world with a standard of morality far above human learning and experience.
- F. Simply compare the morality of nations where the Bible is freely taught and practiced with those where it is rejected and ridiculed. The difference is significant and obvious.
- G. The Bible makes men strong but gentle leaders, women are protected and honored, the old provided for, and the young loved and instructed. What social harmony!

- H. It would take a complete study of Biblical law to fully appreciate the morality contained in the statutes and precepts given under both testaments. See the Wisdom proof above.
- I. We live in the most “advanced” society in the history of the world, but the morality of the Bible stands in stark contrast to our morally bankrupt culture and its obvious failure. Where our society and culture are failing, the Bible has answers that would save us.
- J. Consider a few examples of the superior morality taught in the Bible to works of man.
1. The golden rule (Luke 6:31) succinctly lifts interpersonal relationships to their highest possible levels based on man’s intrinsic self-love and self-preservation.
 2. The good Samaritan (Luke 10:29) defines a man’s neighbor and condemns limiting the second commandment to friends in such a way as to severely correct man’s natural proclivity for selfishness, hate, revenge, bigotry, etc.
 3. Performance is much more important than sentiment (I John 3:18; Jas 2:15-16).
 4. Even persecuting governments were to be obeyed (Rom 13:1-7; I Pet 2:13-17).
 5. Froward masters are to be obeyed with all fear and conscience (I Peter 2:18-24).
 6. True religion and purity before God is caring for widows and orphans (Jas 1:27).
 7. New brides were to be cared for at home for one year (Deuteronomy 24:5).
 8. The “duty of marriage” was to be given even to concubines (Exodus 21:10).
 9. Full sexual satisfaction of the woman is ordered (I Cor 7:1-5). Contrast this with the practice of polygamy and clitoridectomy among some Muslim sects.
 10. Though children should obey fathers, tyranny is strongly condemned (Eph 6:4).
 11. Negotiations in purchasing should be done with a careful conscience (Pr 20:14).
 12. Parental honor extends even to the rolling of eyes by a child (Proverbs 30:17).
 13. Both riches and poverty are viewed as undesirable and dangerous (Prov 30:7-9).
 14. The rich are not to receive greater respect than the poor (James 2:1-4).
 15. Widows above 60 and known for good works deserve support (I Tim 5:3-16).
 16. The heart of man is the seat of actions, so keep it ruled (Proverbs 4:23; 16:32).
 17. Evil is not taken in through the mouth, but comes from the heart (Mat 15:10-20).
 18. Suffering wrongfully to preserve authority is religiously good (I Pet 2:18-20).
 19. Wives should not fear husbands unto blind obedience (I Peter 3:6; I Samuel 25).
 20. Husbands, though admitting female inferiority, are to honor wives (I Pet 3:7).
 21. Love is defined with the loftiest description to solve many ills (I Cor 13:4-7).
 22. Service is exalted as superior conduct and the way to honor (Matt 20:27; 23:11).
 23. Peace and peacemaking is exalted as a superior life (Jas 3:17-18; Rom 12:18).
 24. The strong are to bear the burdens of the weak (Romans 15:1-2; Gal 6:1-2).
 25. Even acts of kindness to little people will be rewarded (Matt 25:31-46; 10:42).
- K. The Sermon on the Mount is a lesson in religious integrity unmatched by any other. Denying the importance of external compliance, ceremonial hypocrisy, and incompatible heart attitude, it teaches a level of morality that changes lives and nations.
1. The true nature of spiritual religion and morality is taught clearly (Matt 5:1-19).
 2. The hypocritical morality of the Pharisees – the most conservative sect of the Jews’ religion – was rejected for true morality (Matthew 5:20; 23:27).
 3. The sixth command against murder includes unjustified anger (Matt 5:21-26).
 4. The seventh commandment against adultery includes condemnation of lustful thoughts and abuse of divorce laws (Matthew 5:27-32).
 5. True love rejects personal revenge and prays for enemies (Matthew 5:38-48).
 6. Alms, prayers, and fasting are only recognized if done secretly (Matt 6:1-18).
 7. This sermon and its exalted morality deserves a complete study itself, for it shows a breadth of God’s commandment unseen in man’s constrained views.

XIV. BECAUSE OF ITS PRACTICALITY

- A. Practicality, as evidence, is those facts written in the Bible long ago that are confirmed internally by a natural and instinctive consciousness of value, right, or wrong.
1. Since human learning tends to dilute this instinctive wisdom rather than increase it, God must have written both the internal knowledge (conscience) and the external knowledge (the Bible). Otherwise, how do we acquire it?
 2. If learning dilutes it, how do we know it is from God? Because the consequences of ignoring it have always resulted in a morally bankrupt society.
- B. Man has an internal consciousness of right and wrong in many areas, which the Bible acknowledges and defends, though popular thought today may be warring against it.
1. The Bible condemns sodomy as contrary to nature (Rom 1:18-32), which all men know and believe, regardless of a media bombardment promoting it.
 2. The Bible condemns long hair on men as contrary to nature (I Cor 11:14-15), which all men know and believe, regardless of the Beatles and other perverts.
 3. The Bible condemns revolutionaries as brute beasts (II Pet 2:12; Jude 1:10), which former laws regarding traitors and deserters admitted and confirmed.
 4. The Bible acknowledges capital punishment for murder (Gen 4:13-15), which all men realize as just and necessary, until they are corrupted by effeminate sentimentality, vacuous reasoning, and politically correct crusades.
 5. Consider carefully that modern educational institutions promote positions on these four subjects that are contrary to nature and the Bible, as they indicate and reveal their perverted sense of values. The perfect university professor today is a longhaired homosexual revolutionary bent on eradicating capital punishment.
- C. The completeness of the Bible could have its own section, but we will summarize it here. The Bible has the answers for every question of every man in every condition.
1. Whether dealing with life and death, God and man, past-present-future, history-poetry-prophecy, and natural and spiritual considerations, the Bible has it all.
 2. The Bible declares itself complete for our perfection (II Tim 3:16-17), and it is.
 3. Consider economics, sanitation, marriage, wine, child training, employment, manslaughter, taxes, widows, abortion, jealousy, origins, death, after-life, diet, hypocrisy, Satan, angels, character, priorities, and thousands more topics.
- D. Why does a woman have a hymen? Regardless of poppycock to the contrary, first sexual intercourse draws blood. The hymen proves virginity, and its evidence was to be protected by fathers for the protection of their daughters (Deut 22:13-21). Marvelous!
- E. Why does the Bible recommend dowries? Stop and consider them for a moment. Are there any redeeming virtues to the concept of a dowry? Think about it.
1. It compensates the bride's family for losing a dear member to another family.
 2. It promotes optimum protection, development, and training of girls and women.
 3. It provokes interest in protecting and promoting girls' virginity by all concerned.
 4. It protects infant girls from abortion and infanticide by giving them basic value.
 5. It proves bridegroom by measuring income production and financial discipline.
 6. Compare this to the western idiocy of a bride's family paying for her wedding.
 7. Compare this to the Indian idiocy of a dowry to the groom's family, which has resulted in abortions, infanticide of girl babies, and bride burning.
 8. All we have done here is take the Bible precept and chosen to see its practicality.
- F. "The Bible is a book in comparison with which all others are of minor importance, and which in all my perplexities and distresses has never failed to give me light and strength" (Robert E. Lee).

XV. BECAUSE OF ITS SURVIVAL

- A. We measure the merit, worth, or value of a book by its success over time against other books. We maintain bestseller charts for this reason. Let us consider the success of the Bible over the last two thousand years, as measured by its ability to survive opposition.
- B. Most books, even bestsellers, survive only a few months or years. The very best books survive only a generation or two. The Bible continues on without abatement of interest and fascination. It has survived incredible changes in the world without losing interest.
- C. It was written at a time when printing, binding, and distributing books was a very difficult and expensive proposition, yet it was collated and became the most popular book of all time.
- D. In spite of numerous, powerful, and hateful enemies against few, weak, and gentle saints, the Bible yet exists and outsells all competitors (Rev 12:14-17).
- E. It was ferociously attacked even during its writing, and it had many corrupt counterfeits; but it survived all attempts to destroy it (II Cor 2:17; II Thess 2:2).
- F. The New Testament would have been proven wrong from the beginning, if it were but the fanciful ideas of men; but there were too many eyewitnesses of the Person and events and of apostolic signs and wonders to do it.
- G. The integrity of the New Testament fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies is that the words of the New Testament were confirmed by thousands of miracles before many eyewitnesses by the authors of the New Testament.
- H. Consider the Bible's enemies – the Jews, Greek philosophers, pagan Rome, papal Rome, Mozlems, the Age of Reason, heretics, cults, ACLU, NEA, evolution, American government, etc.
- I. The number of Bibles burned and Christians killed is enormous. No other religion or holy book has received such ferocious and perpetual hatred as Bible Christianity. In our society today, you will be esteemed for having knowledge of the Koran or Vedas; but you will be despised as a religious fanatic, if you have a good knowledge of the Bible.
- J. Men still today are trying to destroy it. It is prohibited in educational institutions; it is mocked by entertainment stars; it is ridiculed by scientists and other educated nuts, etc.

XVI. BECAUSE OF ITS SALVATION

- A. There is no basic need for religion, if this life is good and death is mere extinction; but because this life is filled with trouble and men fear death, they have sought religious comfort with various hallucinations about man, god, salvation, duty, and heaven. Is there an answer for the troubles and suffering of life and the apparent horror of death? Which holy book and which religion can answer these questions in a supernatural way?
- B. While there may be more interesting proofs of the inspiration of the Bible to the carnal man, there are few more precious than reviewing the doctrine of salvation (II Tim 3:15).
- C. What is the object of salvation? What is the end or purpose of salvation among men?
 - 1. To the Muslim, salvation is living in a harem in the sky with seventy-two virgins and spending his time swilling wine on a sofa in the shade. The author of this idea cannot think above the sexual lusts of an unsaved, marauding Bedouin. Since Allah is basically unknowable in Islam, heaven has little emphasis on him.
 - 2. To the Mormon, salvation is being the god of your own planet and populating it by the offspring of your many wives. The author of this idea could not think of an infinite God worthy of his perpetual praise and a life without legal polygamy.
 - 3. To the Hindu, it is hoping to break the cycle of reincarnation and become one with the universe, which is to become god, for oneness with all things is god.

4. To the Buddhist, it is hoping to break the cycle of reincarnation and lose your self-consciousness and desire in Nirvana, the state where self and desire are finally extinguished, though you did not truly exist to begin with.
 5. To the Sioux Indian, it is finding the Happy Hunting Ground, where there is an infinite buffalo herd, an endless supply of arrows, and a squaw with teeth.
 6. To the Christian, nothing on earth can be compared to it. Heaven is the place of perfect righteousness, where God dwells; and all saints spend eternity inheriting God Himself and enjoying Him as their everlasting Portion, Father, and Groom.
 7. For a thumbnail sketch of religions, see: <http://www.probe.org/docs/world.html>.
 8. Which of these notions were written by men? Which was written by God?
- D. The Bible teaches an intelligent plan of salvation only God could imagine and execute.
1. Man's existence is by the choice of the living and true God in his creation.
 2. Man's suffering is by his foolish choice to rebel and sin against that God.
 3. Man is condemned to trouble in this life and eternal damnation in the next life.
 4. God chose to save some for His own honor and glory in the judgment of sinners.
 5. God paid the price His nature required and made the change our nature required.
 6. God prepared a place called heaven, where the elect shall enjoy Him eternally.
- E. Consider other aspects of Bible salvation that prove the Author to be the only wise God.
1. Salvation by grace alone is too divine to be imagined and esteemed by men, for all of man's systems are based on works, where they can distinguish themselves.
 2. Salvation with works as the evidence of salvation by grace results in great responsibility, yet preserves the integrity of a gracious salvation for God's glory.
 3. The God of the Bible adopts His enemies and makes them His sons in the fullest and most complete sense of that concept. There is no religion even close to this.
 4. The concept of an eternal drama, displaying God's wrath and power on the wicked and riches of glory on the elect, is sublimely wonderful (Rom 9:22-24).
 5. The five phases of salvation, taught plainly in the Bible, explain it all perfectly, and give a complete view of salvation from start to end (Ro 8:29-30; I Pet 1:2).
 6. Only Christianity has a vital phase, where the corrupt nature of man, visible as the distinguishing trait of salvation, is changed by the power of God (Jn 3:3-8).
 7. God is completely sovereign; man is completely dependent; yet no fatalism results: for man is called to prove his salvation by a continual bearing of abundant good works in life, and God has chosen the means as well as the end.
 8. If God did not write the Bible, then a bunch of liars, who changed the world, invented a plan of salvation that gives God the ultimate glory (I Cor 1:31).
- F. The Bible presents God as the Offended Party, the Judge, and the Executioner; and He provided salvation for His elect through the Intercession of His Own Son, and all for His Own glory. And it all makes sanctified and glorified good sense! Hallelujah!

XVII. BECAUSE OF ITS UNIQUENESS

- A. As the earth has only one sun, so man has only one divine book. The Bible does not have any competitors. It is the more sure word of prophecy. And all other thoughts or writings of men are mere chaff in comparison (Jeremiah 23:28-32).
- B. The Bible is not one holy book of many. It is the only holy book, with all others being the hallucinations of ignorant or wicked men. The Bible does not allow any alternatives for the revelation of wisdom and truth (Isaiah 8:20; II Tim 3:16-17; II Peter 1:16-21).
- C. It is so different from all other books. The combination of the reasons already given should establish this point rather clearly, but yet us continue even further in studying it.

- D. It has no prejudice, bigotry, tradition, or superstition, as do all writings of mere men.
 1. Written by Jews, yet it condemns Jews and Israel more than any other group.
 2. Written by Jews, yet it finishes by rejecting Israel's national culture as inferior.
 3. Written by Jews, yet it finishes by rejecting Israel's traditional religion as weak.
 4. Written by Jews, yet it promises great blessings on Gentiles for this entire age.
 5. It is void of the human preferences, traditions, superstitions, habits, or other personal motivations evident in all the writings of men.
- E. The Bible has rigid integrity without coloring by writers, in spite of being written by 40 different writers, who were all inspired by God to write the words they did. It was not their personal opinions or understanding they were writing, as with all other books.
- F. The writers are bound by stricter rules than their readers. For a simple example, bishops in the kingdom of heaven were not to be given to wine (I Tim 3:3), deacons not given to much wine (I Tim 3:8), while members were allowed more (Proverbs 31:4-5).
- K. What book has had so many martyrs willing to give their lives for its possession or distribution, even though only a small portion of it, without any other motivation such as a national religion, cultural fantasy, or ambition to conquer.
- L. It is inexhaustible, in that a reader can never feel confident with its depth of knowledge and meaning. There is always more to obtain from yet a further reading. The writer of Psalm 119:96 had witnessed perfection as much as possible, but the Bible was better. Men who have studied the Bible for many decades still find it fresh, exciting, and instructive reading it again, and will always find something new to satisfy the soul.
- M. It has perennial appeal to all ages in all generations. It is the #1 best seller in the year 2001, just as it was in the year 201. It is enjoyed by young and old, educated and ignorant, successful and poor, Jew and Gentile, ancient and modern, wise and foolish.
- G. How can it address all generations with the same force? Unless it was written by a God communicating the Divine wisdom of the universe for all men regardless of nationality, economic condition, or age? The Bible has moved men to great sacrifice and commitment in all generations and among all nations, without any other motivation.
- H. It contains history, but why do history-lovers find such solace in its poetic sections? It contains poetry, but why do poetry-lovers find such blessings in its history sections? It has philosophy, but why do philosophy-lovers find such wonder in its prophecies? It has many prophecies, but why do prophecy-lovers find such fascination in four different versions of the life of a carpenter, who died barely after reaching maturity? It has four gospels, but why do gospel-lovers find such pleasure in the intricacies of Moses' law?
- I. Why is a Jewish book so loved by Gentiles? How can fishermen appeal to kings and wise men? Why is a history of Israel so precious to those outside Israel? Why are the Semites so important to Japhethites? Why is a bloody religious book so appealing and life-changing to sanitized Americans in the 21st century? Why do liberated and freedom-loving Americans search the strict moral code of both testaments for duties?

XVIII. BECAUSE OF ITS POWER

- A. The Bible changes peoples' lives. Show me the change in a person's life because of the Koran, the Hindu Vedas, Science and Health, or the Book of Mormon. There are more testimonies of changed lives from reading the Bible than any and all other holy books.
- B. Islam is a fast-growing religion, but it grows by high birth rates and persecution, not by reading of the Koran. It is not even right to translate the Koran, as its true value is only contained in the Arabic version. Koran translations are at best only interpretations.

- C. The very concept of revival is a Christian term describing the life-changing effects of preaching and obeying the Bible (I Thess 1:9-10; Acts 13:48), where the changes are not merely cultural or ceremonial, but rather spiritual and moral.
- D. The Bible speaks of its life changing power (I Thess 2:13), and it is the experience of Bible believers to see such changes in the lives of those who hear and read it.
- E. Men have read the Bible, and it has changed their lives; so organizations like the Gideons have flourished around the world, publishing the Bible in thousands of languages and dialects and making it publicly available to all.
- F. You can read the Bible today with the right prayerful attitude, and it will change your life. This is a proof of its divine authorship you must experience personally to fully appreciate. It was this appeal that the lawyer Philip Mauro used with Thomas Edison.
- G. Muslims know the Koran lacks power, for they find most of their comfort from reciting, chanting, and intoning it out loud, rather than reading and studying it silently for understanding and meditation. These are huge differences, for they are the difference between superstition (stone-kissing and surah-chanting) and faith (believing God's written promises and obeying God's written commandments).

XIX. BECAUSE OF ITS OPPOSITION

- A. Since the Bible describes a personal and violent devil as the god of this world and enemy of God and truth, we should not be surprised to see enormous opposition against the Bible of God, the God of the Bible, and Bible Christianity. If the Bible is truly God's Word, then the devil of the Bible will be evident in violent opposition to the Bible and true Bible believers.
- B. An example of this opposition was identified by Paul in Acts 13:10.
- C. There is a force for evil in the universe. This is recognized by all. The Bible explains it, and this evil being is opposed to one book – the Bible. If you doubt this allegation, then simply take a public position based solely on the Word of God, even in America.
- D. America in recent years has enacted hate crime legislation to stamp out public hatred for all perversions and pagan religions, but hate crimes are perpetrated every day with impunity against Bible-believing Christians. There is no easier object of scorn than a Bible-believing, holy-living, sin-hating Christian.
- E. Acceptability of any religion with popular protection or esteem is generally evidence of a false religion, for there is an obvious conflict between good and evil in the world.
- F. Widespread acceptability of a religion indicates the approval of the devil, for he is the god of this world and is committed to opposing God, Jesus Christ, and the Bible.

XX. BECAUSE OF ITS INTEGRITY

- A. No internal contradictions, nor external contradictions, exist in the Bible. Of course, there are some "apparent contradictions," but those are left by God to confuse skeptics destitute of faith and confirm the faith of those willing to study with a believing heart.
 1. The Bible has been attacked for 2000 years, yet it stands without internal error.
 2. God promised to destroy the "wisdom" of skeptics (I Cor 1:18-20; 3:18-20), and one of His means of doing so are the apparent "contradictions" in the Bible.
- B. Of course, false translations of the Bible like the NIV and NASV have many internal contradictions, but we are not dealing with counterfeit versions of the Bible here.
- C. As science and archaeology make more and more discoveries, the Bible is confirmed over and over again as being true, without any contradictions.

- D. Bible writers did not presume looser moral standards than their readers, as with the Koran. Consider the unlimited number of wives allowed to Mohammed (Surah 33:50-51), while all other Muslims are limited to four (Surah 4:3). The Bible limits God's ministers to one (I Tim 3:2,12), which was always God's plan and ideal (Gen 2:18,21-25; Mal 2:14-16); and Paul, the greatest apostle, had none (I Cor 7:7-9; 9:5).
- E. In the Bible, the horrible sins of even the heroes are listed i.e. Noah's drunkenness, Samson's lust, David's adultery and murder, Hezekiah's pride, our Lord's genealogy corrupted with illicit relationships, and Peter's denial and hypocrisy.
- F. The horrible sins of the writers' nation are listed in severe criticism and graphic detail with warnings of great judgment i.e. Israel under both testaments.
- G. How could Jews write so critically of Jews and Israel, yet ascribe blessings to the Gentiles, unless they were being directed by an Author with eternal integrity?
- H. It does not exalt man, but rather describes him with painful accuracy and condemnation. Not a single writer excuses himself from the universal guilty and condition of the human race in the slightest degree.

XXI. BECAUSE OF ITS MIRACLES

- A. The Bible was written at the time it could be defeated and proven wrong. Jews and pagans, possessing the power of life and death, hated it alike with severe persecution.
- B. Josephus testified of Jesus performing miracles in his Antiquities (XVIII; 3:3).
- C. Pilate told Tiberias of Jesus performing miracles in his Acts, as Justin Martyr writes.
- D. How did the message of fishermen about the bodily resurrection of an obscure Jew spread so fast, create such devotion, endure such persecution, promote such godliness, unless their miracles were true and weighty?
- E. Mohammed and Muslims admit he could not produce a miracle, so they call the Koran a miracle. But how can a novel either written or collated long after his death be called a miracle? What is the miracle about the Koran? There is no obvious supernatural proof.
- F. Joseph Smith could not do miracles any more than modern faith healers, as he was tried and found guilty of fraud in New York. See <http://www.utlm.org/onlinebooks/changech4.htm>
- G. Even though Satan is capable of duplicating miracles and causing phenomena, he cannot produce such effects consistently before witnesses, but only pitifully, and then by leave.
- H. God gave Moses miracles in Egypt and the wilderness to prove his divine mission (Ex 4:1-9; Micah 7:15), and God gave similar gifts to the apostles to confirm their divine mission regarding Jesus Christ (Mark 16:15-20; Heb 2:1-4).

XXII. BECAUSE OF ITS PERSON

- A. The object of the Holy Bible and the preaching of it is to declare the truth about Jesus Christ of Nazareth (John 5:39; Acts 26:22-23; Rom 1:1-5; Rev 12:17; 19:10), Whom all men can easily recognize as being the most unusual Person in the history of the world.
 - 1. Dating of human history into B.C. (Before Christ) and A.D. (*anno domini*; in the year of our Lord) reflects recognition of Jesus Christ's existence worldwide. Jehovah's Witnesses and Muslims, though definitely acknowledging His existence, have invented other dating terminology to suit their own doctrinal preferences. B.C.E. and C.E. are Christ-denying inventions.

2. Prior to Jesus Christ, the world was dark with ignorant superstition and worship of idols and other natural objects and a depraved morality; but after Jesus Christ, the world has light and influences of His monotheistic and moral teachings in every nation, though only some are predominantly Christian. Wherever the preaching of Jesus Christ is prevalent, there will be great light and morality.
- B. The Person of the Bible becomes a proof, when we recognize His unique identity as God in the flesh, which was confirmed to thousands by His miracles and those of His apostles; for only the Bible reveals the Person of Jesus Christ, and that far in advance.
1. The life and identity of Jesus Christ were confirmed by many eyewitnesses and miraculous signs and wonders; and it was recorded during a time when it could be refuted; yet it was not, as He and His apostles turned the world upside down.
 2. If Jesus Christ was God, and He is only revealed in the Bible, then God wrote it.
- C. There is no question about the existence of Jesus Christ, for His historical existence can be established by different proofs even outside the Bible as much as any historical man.
1. The sheer audacity and ignorance leading to the denial of His existence came from Higher Criticism in Germany in the last 250 years. Prior to that time, no one had dared deny His existence, for it has such overwhelming historical evidence. Even Jewish scholars admit His existence, just not His office. For a little introduction to these German blasphemers, check out a few sources:
 - a. <http://www.leaderu.com/theology/jesusjew.html>
 - b. <http://www.leaderu.com/aip/docs/plantlec3.html>
 - c. <http://www.acts1711.com/jesus2.htm>
 - d. <http://www.acts1711.com/jesus2.htm>
 - e. <http://www.biblesabbath.org/bacchiocchi/europecrisisoffaith.html>
 2. Cornelius Tacitus (55-120 A.D.), a great historian of Rome who authored the Annals in about 115 A.D., wrote, "Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus."
 3. Gaius Suetonius Tranquillas, chief secretary of Emperor Hadrian (117-138 AD), wrote, "Because the Jews of Rome caused continuous disturbances at the instigation of Chrestus, [Claudius] expelled them from the city." See Acts 18:2.
 4. Flavius Josephus (37-97 AD), court historian for Emperor Vespasian, wrote, "Now there was about this time, Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works - a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews, and many of the Gentiles. He was 'Christ'; and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him; and the tribe of 'Christians' so named after him, are not extinct at this day." The following paragraphs of his Antiquities of the Jews record:
 - a. Jesus, called Christ, did miracles and had many followers (XVIII; 3:3).
 - b. John the Baptist immersed and was killed by Herod (XVIII; 5:2).
 - c. James, a brother of Jesus, who was called Christ, was stoned (XX; 9:1).
 - d. Read these for yourself: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/josephus.html>.

5. Justyn Martyr (150 A.D.) referring to the Acts of Pontius Pilate, sent from Pilate to Tiberius, wrote, "And the expression, 'They pierced my hands and my feet,' was used in reference to the nails of the cross which were fixed in His hands and feet. And after he was crucified, they cast lots upon His vesture, and they that crucified Him parted it among them. And that these things did happen you can ascertain in the 'Acts of Pontius Pilate.'" Later Justin lists several healing miracles and asserts, "And that He did those things, you can learn from the Acts of Pontius Pilate."
6. The Babylonian Talmud, surely one of the most antichristian documents that could be referenced, in Sanhedrin 43a, reads, "It is taught: On Passover Eve they hanged Yeshu ... because he has practised magic and led Israel astray."
7. For further study, consider Julius Africanus, Thallus, Pliny, and Lucian among others, who may be read at websites showing the historical evidence for Jesus.
 - a. <http://www.btinternet.com/~nbch/sources.html>
 - b. http://www.marshall.org/Apologetics%20Pages/historicity_of_Jesus.htm
 - c. <http://www.carlislecofc.org/extrabiblical.htm>
- D. The character and teachings of the Person are so superior to any other "holy man" or "religious founder" that we are forced by observation to recognize His divine identity.
 1. Jesus and Mohammed (to pick the revered prophet of the next largest religion) are as different as night and day, with Jesus superior beyond all comparison.
 2. Mohammed invented Islam himself, received much attention himself, received honor in his own country, could not perform any miracles, and lived a natural life with less moral restraint than most, proving he was not a prophet of God.
 3. Jesus submitted to Moses before Him, directed worship toward God, did not receive honor in His own country, proved His divine mission by mighty miracles, and lived a spiritual life of great holiness, proving He came from God.
 4. Siddhartha Gautama (563-483 B.C.) was a Hindu nut waiting for Nirvana, when he could finally and totally lose self-awareness and be absorbed into the infinite. Consider one of his more enlightened sayings, "I look upon the judgments of right and wrong as the serpentine dance of a dragon, and the rise and fall of belief as traces left by the four seasons."
- E. Jesus was not and cannot be merely a holy man among others, for He declared Himself the Only Way to the Father (John 14:6), and His apostles taught that salvation was totally dependent upon His name (Acts 4:12).

Conclusion:

1. If the Bible is not God's Word, then it is a fraud of incredible, even supernatural, ingenuity; and Christians are actually deceived idiots, who have changed their lives, advanced morality in the earth, promoted equity and righteousness, and greatly improved the civilized world with their lies and false religion. And Jesus Christ becomes the greatest liar in the history of the world for prefabricating the most preposterous tales.
2. If the Bible was written by God, then we should confidently believe all its absolute, internal claims about itself, and we must soberly believe and heed all its warnings and commandments for our lives. Once the premise is established, then we go to the Bible without hesitation as God's inspired and priceless revelation.
3. Since the Bible is truly divine in its origin and words by the force of its fulfilled prophecies and other evidence, we should receive the testimony of the God Who wrote it, whether we have seen Him or not.
4. Since the Bible has been proved to be divine in origin, we should reject and repudiate all competitors, because the Bible does not allow other sources of divine revelation (Is 8:20; II Tim 3:16-17; II Pet 1:16-21).
5. The weight of responsibility and obligation we have for Bible duties rests on our conviction of the Bible being the very Word of God. The more this subject is studied, the more we should be convicted to obey.

6. Consider Psalm 19:7-9 and its glorious statements about God's written Word and allocate them accordingly.
 - a. The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul – its sublimity, uniqueness, power, and Person.
 - b. The testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple – its prophecies, history, science, miracles.
 - c. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart – its wisdom, reasonableness, witnesses, integrity.
 - d. The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes – its spirituality, witness, and salvation.
 - e. The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever – its plainness, practicality, survival, and opposition.
 - f. The judgments of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether – its fruit, writers, and morality.
7. Consider Psalm 19:10-11 and its glorious descriptions of the value, pleasure, and profit of the Bible.
 - a. The words of the Bible and their teachings are to be valued above gold, even above much fine gold.
 - b. The words of the Bible and their teachings give more pleasure than honey, even sweet honeycomb.
 - c. The words of the Bible warn us of trouble and judgment for sin and tell of good reward for obedience.
8. Consider Psalm 119 and all its glorious statements about God's written Word, and meditate long upon them.
9. Please remember that this study was not prepared or presented to convince any natural man of spiritual truth, for such an objective is impossible. Jesus established the necessity of being born again to even have the ability to see the kingdom of God. This study was primarily to provoke the faith of God's elect who know the truth and secondarily to convert those who of God's elect who are coming to the truth.
10. If you are still not convinced, you likely have a severe spiritual problem. But if you curiously need to read and compare the holy books of other religions, here are a few for your entertainment:

Islam	The Koran	http://www.unn.ac.uk/societies/islamic/quran/naeindex.htm
Islam	The Hadith	http://db.islam.org:81/hadith/ssearch.htm
Hindu	The Bhagavad-Gita	http://www.bhagavad-gita.org/
Mormon	The Book of Mormon	http://etext.virginia.edu/mormon.html
Mormon	Doctrine and Covenants	http://scriptures.lds.org/dc/contents
Zoroastrian	The Avesta	http://www.avesta.org/avesta.html
Confucius	The Analects	http://uweb.superlink.net/user/fsu/analect1.html
Christian Science	"Science and Health"	http://www.christianscience.org/SAH.html
Buddhism	Various Texts	http://www.sacred-texts.com/bud/index.htm
Bahai	Various Texts	http://bahai.com/writings/
Religions	Many Holy Books	http://davidwiley.com/religion.html
Adventists	The Great Controversy	http://www.whiteestate.org/books/gc/gc.asp
Witnesses	Charles Taze Russell's Works	http://www.heraldmag.org/olb/Russell.htm