

## ***Why Believe The Bible Is The Word Of God?***

*Sermon Series: In Case Of Emergency Break Glass! Pt. 5*

*August 10, 2014*

**2 Peter 1:16**, For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

<sup>17</sup>He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to Him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.” <sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with Him on the sacred mountain. <sup>19</sup>We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, ... <sup>20</sup>Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation of things. <sup>21</sup>For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

**1 John 1:1**, That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. <sup>2</sup>The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. <sup>3</sup>We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ.

**1 Corinthians 15:3**, For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that He appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup>After that, He appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles, <sup>8</sup>and last of all He appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

### **Questions About The Authority And Accuracy Of The Bible:**

#### **1) How Do We Know We Have What Was Actually Written?**

**Answer: External Evidence Affirms The Accuracy Of The Bible**

- The number of manuscript copies and the short length of time between the original manuscripts and our first copies of the New Testament
- Extreme care was taken when the Scriptures were copied
- Confirmation of places and dates by archaeology

#### **2) How Do We Know The Bible Isn’t Simply A Collection Of Fables and Stories?**

**Answer: Internal Evidence For The Reliability Of Scripture**

- The majority of the Bible is from eyewitness accounts
- Amazing agreement and consistency throughout the Bible

#### **3) Wasn’t The Bible Just Written By Men?**

**Answer: Yes, But They Were Men Inspired By God Through The Holy Spirit** (2 Peter 1:21).

- Inspiration means God wrote the Bible through people who were directed by the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:16; 2 Timothy 3:16).
- Jesus stated the Bible was the Word of God (Mark 7:13).

#### **4) How Do We Know We Have The Right Books?**

**Answer: The Testimony Of The Bible, History Of The Church And The Power Of God Assures Us We Have The Right Books.**

- **The testimony of the Bible** – Jesus recognized the Old Testament (Luke 24:44); Peter recognized part of the New Testament (2 Peter 3:16); Paul recognized the equal inspiration of the Old and New Testament (1 Timothy 5:18).
- **The history of the Church** – For a New Testament book to be considered Scripture it had to have the authority of an apostle; teach absolute truth; be confirmed by the early church to be part of the canon. The word canon refers to the list of books that are accepted as Scripture.

#### **5) Why Should I Believe The Bible Is Worth Reading?**

**Answer: Personal Evidence Says The Bible Is Powerful**

- Historically the Bible is the world’s best-selling book
- Countless lives have been changed through its message (2 Peter 1:19).