

In our world the Bible is often laughed at, mocked and ridiculed. In our schools children are taught that evolution is correct and Genesis 1:1 is only a myth. Even among many preachers, the validity and authenticity of the Bible is in doubt. However, the Bible claims that it is fully inspired. Paul said, *“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God”* (2 Tim. 3:16). Peter also said, *“no prophecy is of any private interpretation...but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit”* (2 Pet. 1:20-21). If man says the Bible is not inspired, and God says it is, whom shall we believe? Can we trust the Bible? Can we prove that it is inspired? We must be able to prove the Bible is inspired to please God and to answer the critics (1 Thes. 5:21). In the following series of articles we are going to prove from several evidences that the Bible is inspired of God.

The first proof that the Bible is inspired of God is **prophecy**. Prophecy is properly defined as the ability to predict a future event with such exacting accuracy and minute detail so as to necessarily require divine guidance. The Bible is full of this kind of prophecy. Notice a few of these. (1). Jeremiah predicted that God’s people would go into a 70 year period of captivity by the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar (Jer. 25:9-12, 29:10-11). This was fulfilled completely and is recorded in history

and the Bible (2 Chron. 36:20-21). How did Jeremiah know who would do this and for how long it would be? The only answer is God told him. (2). Isaiah predicted that a virgin would give birth to a son and His name would be called Immanuel (Isa. 7:14). This prophecy was spoken 750 years before Mary gave birth to Jesus, the Immanuel (Matt. 1:21-23). But how was Isaiah able to look 750 years into the future and predict not only an event, but an event that had never happened before? Because God told him this would happen. (3). The Psalmist predicted the Lord’s death with exacting detail. In Psalm 22, he predicted that He would be mocked (Ps. 22:6-8), his hands and feet would be pierced (Ps. 22:16), his clothes would be divided (Ps. 22:18), and he would become very thirsty (Ps. 22:15). As you read the gospel accounts of Jesus’ crucifixion, all of these events in Psalm 22 are recorded as happening. Again, how could the Psalmist have known 1000 years before the cross that Jesus would die this way? How could he tell such minute things as Jesus hands and feet being pierced and His clothes being divided? The only logical answer is that God inspired him to say those things. Likewise, God inspired the New Testament writers to say exactly what He wanted said. Truly, the Bible is God’s word. The Psalmist expressed it so beautifully when he said, *“the*

entirety of Your word is truth” (Ps. 119:160). Let’s believe that the Bible is God’s word and that its message applies to us today.

The second proof that the Bible is inspired of God is its unique harmony. No other book can compare to the Bible in its harmonious nature. The Bible contains 66 books, written by 40 writers over a 1500-year period. These writers did not know one another, lived in different countries, and were of different languages and trades, yet each writer agreed completely with the others. If today men were to compile a book by 40 different authors, what do you think the chances are of all of them agreeing on every point? Notice some of these areas of unique harmony.

Concerning the subject of sin, all Bible writers are in harmony. For example, Moses recorded in Genesis 3 that sin brought physical and spiritual death upon mankind. Ezekiel, years later, said the same exact thing. *“The soul that sins shall surely die”* (Ezek. 18:4). Years after Ezekiel, Paul also said the same thing. *“The wages of sin are death...”* (Rom 3:23). If a man were writing about the subject of sin, he would probably try to sugarcoat it and make it look nice. How then were these writers able to say the exact same thing? Because God verbally inspired them to write His word and not theirs.

Concerning the subject of Satan, all biblical writers are in unison. In Genesis 3:1, Moses recorded that Satan was a deceiver and liar. In the book of Job, Satan is again presented as a tempter and destroyer of the righteous (Job. 1:6). Years later Jesus said that Satan was the father of lies (Jn. 8:44). The Apostle John said that Satan was a serpent and deceiver (Rev. 12:9, 20:10). Again, how could all these writers say the same things? In fact, if the Bible isn’t from God but is a work of Satan, don’t you think Satan would have presented himself in a better light? Truly the unique harmony of the Bible does show that it is from God. Friend, if we are going to please Jehovah we must accept the Bible as inspired, believe it, obey it and teach it to others.

The Bible was never intended to be a scientific handbook. Its main purpose is to be a handbook for the soul (John 20:31-32). However, within God’s revelation of salvation there are certain scientific facts that are indisputable claims to the Bible’s infallibility and inspiration. Let us take a moment to look at three scientific facts found in the Bible that prove it to be of divine nature.

The first scientific fact found in the Bible is the famous *“Five Manifestations of the Unknowable.”* Philosopher, Herbert Spencer is credited with making this great scientific find. He observed that

everything that exists could be categorized in one of the following five categories: time, force, action, space and matter. While this may seem rather elementary to us today, this was hailed as a great find in the Nineteenth Century. Interestingly enough, Herbert Spencer was not the author of the five manifestations of the unknowable. God was. In fact, in the very first verse of Scripture God revealed these categories to us. Notice Genesis 1:1, "In the beginning"—time, "God"—force, "created"—action, "the heavens"—space, "and the earth"—matter. How amazing that thousands of years before Herbert Spencer announced this scientific find God had already included it in the very first verse of the Bible. This evidence should tell us that the Bible is inspired and accurate in every way.

A second amazing scientific fact that the Bible records in passing is the suspension of the earth. The suffering servant Job said, "He stretches out the north over empty space and hangs the earth on nothing" (Job. 26:7). Notice how Job casually tells us that the earth is suspended in space by nothing at all. For years scientists and philosophers have debated about how the earth was upheld in space. Over history many far-fetched ideas were established about the earth's suspension. For example, some throughout Greek history believed the Greek god Atlas carried the earth upon

his shoulders. Others believed four elephants standing on a turtle's back upheld the earth. Some even believed that the earth floated on water and should one go too far he would sink and drown. How awe inspiring it is that thousands of years before the invention of the telescope God tells us that the earth is suspended by gravity alone. How could Job have known this fact without space shuttles and Hubble telescopes? The only answer there can be is that God told him.

A third great scientific find in the Bible is the paths of the sea (Ps. 8:8). A man by the name of Matthew Fontaine Murray discovered this find as he was listening to the Bible read to him. The story is told that Mr. Murray was ill at home one day and his son was reading to him from the eighth Psalm. His son read to him that God put under man "the fowls of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passes through the paths of the sea." Upon hearing these words Mr. Murray said 'If the word of God says there are paths in the sea, they must be there. I will find them.' Mr. Murray made it his life's goal to find and chart these paths. Throughout his lifetime he found the paths of the sea that God talked about and they are still used by oceanographers today. What great evidence this is for the inspiration of God's words. Thousands of years before deep sea diving vehicles, sonography and other technology the

Psalmist confidently recorded that there were certain traveling paths in the sea. How could the Psalmist have known this great fact without God's help? Truly, science reveals to us that the Bible is the inspired, unerring word of God. There are many evidences that collaborate to tell us that the Bible is God's word and that we must study; live and let others know its message. May God help us to have the courage to do this!

The Bible: From God or Man?



A Defense of the Inspiration of God's Holy Word.

By Ben Bailey