

PathWay Fellowship



**Search the
Word – it is true!**

Our Reciprocity

Tune our ears:

We show a mutual interest

Receive His word and treasure His commandments:

We show a strong attraction

Cry Out:

We are being honest with God regarding our need

Search for insight and understanding

Show our loyalty to God and to His word

Concentrate on wisdom and incline our heart to understanding:

We show respect for His authority in our lives and we give Him the respect of listening to Him when He talks

Challenge

Is the Bible the word of God

OR

Is it just the product of mere men

Challenge

1. The Bible is just a product of legend and fanciful tales written to inspire and to provoke, but it is not to be taken literally as truth; it's just filled with general principles and a philosophy for living a good life.
2. History is written by the winners and like with most writings the Bible is written for political purposes: to push an individual's or groups agenda. It is written by mere men with a purpose.
3. There is not enough evidence or proof for me to believe that it is somehow supernatural in origin.

First Hand Knowledge

1. The Bible was primarily written by (i) those who participated in the events they were writing about, and (ii) those with first hand knowledge or access to those with first hand knowledge of events.

Luke 1:1-4

In as much as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; so that you may know **the exact truth** about the things you have been taught.

No Personal or Political Agenda

2. The Bible was not written to advance any personal or political agenda:
 - a) Contrary to political success
 - b) Honest and detailed about its heroes failings
 - c) Written without regard of political climate and culture requirements

Too Much Detail

3. The Bible is too detailed to be legend or fictitious fantasy:
 - a) Stands in contrast to Greek mythology in its detail and exacting description of everything
 - b) Realistic fiction a product of modern literature – but not found in ancient writings

God Provides the Proof

4. In every book, God provides self-authenticating data by way of predictions or prophecy.

Construct of the Bible

- 66 separate writings
- At least 40 authors
- Written over a period of 1,600 years
- Written on 3 continents
- Written in 13 different countries,
- Written in primarily 3 different languages, and
- Written by people from all kinds of professions: shepherds, kings, soldiers, princes, priests, fisherman, scholars, historians, businessmen, and common laborers.

The Messiah must...	Prophecy	Fulfillment by Jesus
Seed of a woman	Genesis 3:15	Galatians 4:4
Descendant of Abraham	Genesis 12:3	Matthew 1:1
Descendant of Isaac	Genesis 17:19	Luke 3:34
Descendant of Jacob	Numbers 24:17	Mathew 1:2
From tribe of Jesse	Genesis 49:10	Romans 15:12
Descendant of David	Jeremiah 23:5-6	Matthew 1:1
Be born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:1 ; Luke 2:4-7
To be born of a virgin	Isaiah 7:14	Luke 1:26-27, 30-31
Slaughter of children	Jeremiah 31:15	Matthew 2:16-18
Flight to Egypt	Isaiah 40:3-5	Matthew 2:14-15
Be adored by Kings and great persons	Psalms 72:10-11	Matthew 2:1-11
Be anointed with the Spirit of God	Isaiah 11:2, 61:1	Matthew 3:16 ; John 3:34 ; Acts 10:38
Be hated without cause	Isaiah 49:7 ; Psalms 69:4	John 15:24-25
Be undesired and rejected by His own people	Isaiah 53:2, 63:3 ; Psalms 69:8	Mark 6:3 ; Luke 9:58 ; John 1:11 ,
Be plotted against by Jews and Gentiles together	Psalms 2:1-2	Acts 4:27

Be betrayed by a friend	Psalms 41:9, 55:12-24	Matthew 26:21-25, 47-50; John 13:18-21; Acts 1:16-18
Be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver	Zechariah 11:12	Matthew 26:16
Have his price given for a potter's field	Zechariah 11:13	Matthew 27:7
Be forsaken by His disciples	Zechariah 13:7	Matthew 26:31, 56
Be struck on the cheek	Micah 5:1	Matthew 27:30
Be spat on	Isaiah 50:6	Matthew 26:67, 27:30
Be mocked	Psalms 22:7-8	Matthew 27:31, 39-44
Be beaten	Isaiah 50:6	Matthew 26:67, 27:26, 30
Be thirsty during His execution	Psalms 22:15	John 19:28
Be given vinegar to quench that thirst	Psalms 69:21	Matthew 27:34
Be considered a transgressor	Isaiah 53:12	Matthew 27:38
Have no bones broke, but his side pierced	Psalm 34:20, Zech 12:10	John 19:32-34, 36
Be buried with the rich when dead	Isaiah 53:9	Matthew 27:57-60
Be sought after by Gentiles as well as Jews	Isaiah 11:10, 42:1	Acts 10:45
Be accepted by the Gentiles	Isaiah 11:10, 42:1-4, 49:1-12	Matthew 12:21; Acts 10:45; Romans 15:9-12

***Probability of one man fulfilling
just eight prophecies***

1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000

1 out of 10^{17}

Probability of one man fulfilling forty-eight prophecies

1 in
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1 out of 10^{157}

Just 30 Prophecies

<u>Author</u>	<u>Year's BC.</u>
Moses	Approx 1,300
David	Approx 1,000
Solomon	Approx 1,000+
Isaiah	740-701 BC
Jeremiah	640-586 BC
Micah	750-686 BC

Dead Sea Scrolls vs. Masoretic

Of the 166 Hebrews words in Isaiah 53, 17 letters in the DSS differ from the Masoretic Text.

- **10 letters have spelling differences.**
- **4 letters have stylistic changes.**
- **3 letters added a word for “light”.**

Not one of these 17 letters impacted any traditional Biblical teaching

Historical Manuscripts

<i>Document</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Early Copies found so far</i>
Homer's Iliad	800 BC	643
Works of Herodotus	480 BC	8
Plato's Tetralogies	427 BC	7
Caesar's Gallic wars	44 BC	10
New Testament	50 – 95 AD	25,366

2 Timothy 3:14-17

But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you. You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. *All Scripture is inspired by God* and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right. It is God's way of preparing us in every way, fully equipped for every good thing God wants us to do.

2 Peter 1:16-21

For we were not making up clever stories when we told you about the power of our Lord Jesus Christ and his coming again. We have seen his majestic splendor with our own eyes. And he received honor and glory from God the Father when God's glorious, majestic voice called down from heaven, "This is my beloved Son; I am fully pleased with him." We ourselves heard the voice when we were there with him on the holy mountain.

Because of that, we have even greater confidence in the message proclaimed by the prophets. Pay close attention to what they wrote, for their words are like a light shining in a dark place — until the day Christ appears and his brilliant light shines in your hearts. *Above all, you must understand that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophets themselves or because they wanted to prophesy. It was the Holy Spirit who moved the prophets to speak from God.*