

Proof #10 - The Bible as literature.

From a pure literary perspective, the Bible is an amazing writing, which clearly establishes that it is one of the most unique books in the entire world. In fact, this very point proves it is the Word of God.

Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer really captures the heart of this evidence:

“No unaided human writer has ever been able to imitate the simplicity of the Bible language. The greatest truths God has spoken to man are couched in the language of children. To illustrate: Seven monosyllables, not one of which exceeds three letters, serve to state the two most vital relationships which the saved sustain to the resurrected Christ. These are: ‘you in me, and I in you’ (John 14:20). Similarly, no human skill in condensation could ever compare with declarations found in the Scriptures. No ‘short story’ writer ever produced a thrilling narrative comparable to that found in Luke 15:11-32. The four Gospels, like all other books of the New Testament, are inexhaustible in the ever unfolding truth they convey; yet the text itself is restricted to the point of inimitable brevity. On the other hand, the Bible message is never hurried, cramped, or unreadable. In fact, the narrative at times seems unnecessarily explicit (Matt. 25:34-45)” (*Systematic Theology*, Vol. 1, p. 33).

There has never been any literary work comparable to the Bible. **No other book has been able to put into writing words that can fascinate a child and yet, at the same time, intimidate a scholar.**

For example, a math book written for a first grade level is not studied and pored over by scholars of mathematics. Scholars will pore over studies such as Physics, Algebra and Geometry and Calculus. But the Bible is read and taught to children and pored over by scholars.

No other book has been able to cross racial and national barriers as the Bible. No other piece of literature has been translated into so many languages and dialects as the Bible. No other writing in existence is so diverse, featuring love stories, war stories, good stories, evil stories, stories of success and stories of failures, stories about God and about Satan, and data about heaven and hell. There has never been any other writing which has been so scrutinized and studied.

Objective observation must conclude that, as literature, the Bible is in a distinct class all its own. It is totally set apart from any other writing in the world.

Now of course the question to ask is what is the explanation for this literary phenomenon? How can one book, the Bible, be such a literary masterpiece, far above and beyond any other book?

The only logical explanation is that the Bible is God’s Word, precisely what it claims to be.

Naturally we would expect literature that is actually inspired by God would far surpass any other literature written by any other person. This is precisely what the Bible does do. Unquestionably, the Bible, analyzed as pure literature, is in a class all by itself, giving more evidence that the Bible is God’s Word.

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Proof #11 - The unique freshness of the Bible.

Here is another one of the strong evidences that the Bible is in fact the Word of God. No other book in the world comes to life like the Bible.

Again Dr. Chafer accurately observed:

“As no other literature in the world, the Bible invites and sustains a ceaseless rereading. ...Of no other book than the Bible could it be said truthfully that its message is perennially fresh and effective, and this, in turn, demonstrates the divine character and origin of the Bible”
(*Systematic Theology*, Vol. 1, p. 35).

How is it possible to read and reread the same portions of Scripture and never grow weary? In times of sorrow or bereavement, why do people reach for and desire and expect that the Bible will be read? How is it possible that in life's loneliest and darkest hours, the Bible becomes such a meaningful friend? How can one passage of the Bible, which has been read many, many times, speak to one's heart in a new, fresh, exciting way? How is it possible for a book written thousands of years ago to be so fresh and relevant to our lives and culture? There is only one answer - **the Bible is and must be exactly what it claims to be - God's Inspired Word!**

Proof #12 - The transforming power of the Bible.

This proof is one of the most amazing, visible, undeniable, external evidences that the Bible is truly the Word of God. The words written in the Bible claim to have and do have the power to totally and completely transform a person's life (II Timothy 3:14-16; Rom. 12:2).

What no one can deny is that the Bible has transformed and continues to transform men and women who have come from the worst to the best backgrounds. The Bible continually causes people from all walks of life, from all cultural settings, from all types of sins to make dramatic, life-changing, radical decisions.

How is it possible for words written in one book to so dramatically change lives? How do we explain the Bible's transforming impact it has made on so many different kinds of people?

The Bible has transformed political officials (Chuck Colson), medical doctors (M. R. DeHaan), successful business men (D. L. Moody), successful attorneys (C. I. Scofield), sports figures (Billy Sunday), rich, wealthy entrepreneurs (R. G. Letourneau), poor people (Lewis Sperry Chafer), educated people (Martin Luther, John Calvin, John Wycliffe), uneducated people (H. A. Ironside), drunks (Mel Trotter), prostitutes (entire house of prostitution). The Bible transforms people from all occupations and all situations.

How is it that one book has such power? There is only one answer - the Bible is the inspired Word of God. It has changed lives in the past, continues in the present and will in the future. The Bible is exactly what it claims to be, the inspired Word of God.

Proof #13 - The agreement of the Bible and Science.

The Bible is not a science book, however, all may know with certainty that when the Bible speaks on any scientific matter, it does so with complete accuracy and with the complete authority of God.

Today's scientists must discover things by means of theorizations, speculations, assumptions and hypotheses. However, **when true scientific facts are discovered, they never contradict the Bible. True science based on true facts (not theories or speculations) has never and will never contradict the Bible.**

In fact, 21 scientists, in one book, clearly testify that they have never found anything that was contradictory between science and the Bible. For many of them, it was this very fact that caused many of them to believe in Jesus Christ.

Certainly we would logically conclude if we cannot trust the Bible in scientific areas that may be proved, then we cannot trust the Bible in areas that could not be proved. On the other hand, if we can trust the Bible in scientific areas that may be proved, then it is logical we may also trust the Bible in things which cannot be proved.

The scientist who believes the Bible will discover that the Bible will never contradict true scientific fact. True scientific facts (not speculative theories) will always agree with the Bible (Eric C. Barrett & David Fisher, *Scientists Who Believe: 21 Tell Their Own Stories*, Moody Press).

Many scientists have drawn many scientific conclusions specifically found in the Bible:

- 1) There is scientific evidence of a universal flood exactly the kind described in Gen. 7:10-24.
- 2) There is scientific evidence that human bodies are made from earth ingredients. Eccl. 12:7; Gen. 2:7.
- 3) Medical Science has determined that life is in the blood. Lose blood, lose life. Lev. 17:11
- 4) There is scientific evidence that there are paths and boundaries to the Seas. Ps. 8:8; Prov. 8:29.
- 5) Science has concluded there is a species "after its kind" reproduction system. Gen. 1:24-25.

These are not theoretical conclusions. These are fact-based, scientific conclusions of scientists and their conclusions are, in fact, found in the Bible.

There are many areas of scientific examples that are factual and Biblical:

Scientific Example #1 - The example of Archaeology.

This is one of the most powerful scientific evidences for the accuracy of the Bible that may be objectively studied. In fact, this is a very fluid evidence because new archeological discoveries are continually occurring that prove the reliability of the Bible.

Nelson Glueck, a highly respected Jewish archeologist, said, "It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a Biblical reference." Millar Burrows of Yale University said, "On the whole, however, archeological work has unquestionably strengthened confidence in the reliability of the Scriptural record. More than one archeologist has found his respect for the Bible increased by the experience of excavation in Palestine."

The connection between archeology and science is accurately explained by Howard Vos: "Basically, his (archeologist) method of procedure is scientific. His knowledge is acquired by systematic observation of study, and facts discovered are evaluated and classified into an organized body of information. On the basis of facts assembled, hypotheses are formulated and tested; but normally the tests are conducted at such places as the mounds of the Near East instead of with test tubes in Laboratories" (*An Introduction to Biblical Archeology*, p. 13).

One of the more famous archeologists who actually set out to prove the Bible was wrong was Sir William Ramsey (A.D. 1851-1939). He was an atheist and the son of an atheist and he set out to prove that the Bible was not accurate. He specifically retraced the travel routes of Paul in Acts to show those places did not really exist and he ended up proving they all did exist and he ended up believing in Jesus Christ and defending the Bible and Christianity.

Archeology continues to confirm the accuracy of the Bible. In June of 2017, archeological discovery confirmed the existence of three more people who were either Israelite kings or Mesopotamian monarchs that are specifically named in the Hebrew Bible. This now brings the archeological confirmation number of Israelite kings and others to 53.

Dr. Lawrence Mykytiuk, of Purdue University, has catalogued and confirmed, **via archeological inscriptions**, 53 specific individuals named in the Hebrew Bible (*53 People in the Bible Confirmed Archaeologically*, p. 1).

Now what is fascinating about his discovery is that many of these people are not well-known Biblical names. For example, five Egyptian pharaohs have been confirmed: 1) Shishak (I Kings 11:40); 2) So (II Kings 17:4); 3) Tirhakah (II Kings 19:9); 4) Necho II (II Chron. 35:20); 5) Hophra (Jer. 44:30). The Moabite King Mesha has been confirmed (II Kings 3:4-27). There have been five kings confirmed from Aram and Damascus (*Ibid.* pp. 2-3). There have been nine kings confirmed from northern Israel and 14 kings confirmed from southern Judah (*Ibid.*, pp. 3-4). There have been six kings confirmed from Assyria, seven kings confirmed from Babylonia, and six kings confirmed from Persia (*Ibid.*, pp. 4-5)