

APOLOGETICS SERIES-3: TRUSTING GOD'S WORD LIKE JESUS DID

JOHN 17:17

The Bible has probably never been under more attack than today. A generation is arising around us that doesn't know the Bible well enough to defend it, and the secularists have taken the high ground and are winning in their attack on the trustworthiness of God's Word

As a starting point for Apologetics, or giving a reasoned answer to those that question our faith in Christ, we need to affirm what God has said about His Word, the Bible.

Each of us would do well if we just decided to have the same view of Scripture as Jesus Christ had: Jesus had the highest view of Scripture.

We Need to Simply Hold to & Trust God's Word Like Jesus Did

Christ's high view of God's inspired word, led Him to instruct us that the truth of God's Word flowing through our lives would sanctify us (make us useful for God). Our usefulness to God is tied according to Jesus, to what our view of the authority and reliability of the Bible is.

What is your view of Scripture? Is it as high as Christ's?

Let's examine Jesus and the Scriptures, and embrace the same confident trust in the reliability of the Word, as He had.

The first reason why I believe the Bible is utterly true can be distilled down to one or two words.

Jesus (and the second word is) Christ.

Jesus Authenticated the Old Testament

Jesus Christ was utterly convinced that the book you hold in your hand was the Word of God.

There are 929 Old Testament chapters, and 260 in the New Testament. That means that 929 of the 1189 were in Christ's Hand as He called them Scripture. That amounts to 77% of the Bible that was: verified & authenticated by Jesus.

Lesson # 1: Jesus Christ held a copy of the Bible 80% similar to ours and said it was Scripture Truth from God

So, there is no question about whether Creation was literally in six solar 24 days, Jesus authenticated that.

Jesus affirms: Adam and Eve were the first humans, Cain killed Abel, Noah built the ark, and the world is only a very few thousand years old: about 6,000 years or so, is the age of the Earth as described in Genesis as being created by God.

Jesus Believed This Bible

Jesus believed this book, and over and over we find the Lord Jesus asking everyone who questioned Him, He'd say to them, "Haven't you read"? "The Scriptures say." That's how He answered those who came to Him.

1. Over and over we find Him asking those who questioned Him, "Have you never read?", "It is written" and "Search the Scriptures".

have you never read



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[Matt 21:16](#)

and they said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes; [have you never read](#), " 'Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies [you have](#) prepared praise'?"

and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants *You have perfected praise*'?"

[Matt 21:42](#)

Jesus said to them, "[Have you never read](#) in the Scriptures: " 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: '*The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes*' ?

[Mark 2:25](#)

And he said to them, "[Have you never read](#) what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him:

But He said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he was in need and hungry, he and those with him:

2. Jesus demonstrated the power of God's Word by defeating the direct, intense, personal attacks upon Him in His weakened state solely by quoting from the Old Testament of God's Word.

Matthew 4:1-10 (NKJV)

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He was hungry. 3 Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

⁴ But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"^[a]

⁵ Then the devil took Him up into the holy city, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down. For it is written:

'He shall give His angels charge over you,'

and,

'In *their* hands they shall bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'"^[b]

⁷ Jesus said to him, "It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'"^[c]

⁸ Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"^[d]

Footnotes:

- a. [Matthew 4:4 Deuteronomy 8:3](#)
- b. [Matthew 4:6 Psalm 91:11-12](#)
- c. [Matthew 4:7 Deuteronomy 6:16](#)
- d. [Matthew 4:10 Deuteronomy 6:13](#)

3. Jesus believed in the Verbal (every word) Inspiration of the Scriptures.

Matthew 5:17-19 (NKJV)

"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. 18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. 19 Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

4. In His Public Ministry in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7, Jesus uses the Old Testament to teach the multitudes.

Matthew 5:27 (NKJV)

²⁷ “You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’^[b]

^[b] [Matthew 5:27](#) [Exodus 20:14](#); [Deuteronomy 5:18](#)

5. Jesus affirms and uses Daniel to explain the future to His disciples.

Matthew 24:15 (NKJV)

“Therefore when you see the ‘abomination of desolation,’^[a] spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place” (whoever reads, let him understand),

a. [Matthew 24:15](#) [Daniel 11:31](#); [12:11](#)

6. Jesus believed in the Inerrancy of the Scriptures so much so that one out of every ten recorded words of Jesus are Old Testament quotes!¹

John 10:35 (NKJV)

If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken),

The Four Gospels total 3,779 verses. The words of Christ total 1,934 of them. Jesus quotes the Old Testament 180x so just under 10% of His recorded words are Old Testament quotes!

7. Jesus confirms the Historical Reliability of Scripture: Adam and Eve were the first two humans as recorded in Genesis 1-2:

Matthew 19:4-6 (NKJV)

⁴ And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’⁵ and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?^[a] ⁶ So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”

Footnotes:

a. [Matthew 19:5](#) [Genesis 2:24](#)

8. Jesus confirms the Historical Reliability of Scripture by Declaring that Moses wrote the Pentateuch.

¹ Scroggie says that the Gospels total 3,779 verses. The words of Christ total 1,934 of them. Jesus quotes the Old Testament 180x so just under 10% of His recorded words are Old Testament quotes!

Matthew 19:7-9 (NKJV)

They said to Him, “Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?”⁸ He said to them, “Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.⁹ And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.”

9. Jesus confirms the Historical Reliability of Abel, as a real person, the son of Adam and Eve, killed by his brother Cain: just like it says in Genesis 3-4.

Mat 23.35-36 (NKJV) ³⁵ that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar. ³⁶ Assuredly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

10. Jesus confirms the Historical Reliability of Noah as a real, historic person born 892 years before Abraham, who built an enormous ark, that saved all air breathing animals and eight people from the global flood that ended about 2500 BC.

Matthew 24:36-39 (NKJV)

³⁶ “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. ³⁷ But as the days of Noah *were*, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

11. Jesus confirms the Historical Reliability of Abraham John 8:56 (NKJV)

⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw *it* and was glad.”

12. Jesus confirms the Historical Reliability of Moses and the Bush burning in the desert, which would also include all the miracles, plagues, Red Sea, manna, water from rock, etc. Mark 12:26 (NKJV)

But concerning the dead, that they rise, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the *burning bush passage*, how God spoke to him, saying, ‘I *am* the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’?

13. Jesus confirms the Historical Reliability of David, and even the minute details of his actions recorded in the Historical Books.

Matthew 12:3 (NKJV)

³ But He said to them, “Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him:

14. Jesus confirms the Historical Reliability of Elijah, and even the exact

numbers used in the Old Testament.

Luke 4:25 (NKJV)

But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land;

15. Jesus confirms the Historical Reliability of Jonah, and the account of being swallowed alive and transported inside a giant sea creature, to preach to Ninevah.

Matthew 12:40-41 (NKJV)

⁴⁰ For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. ⁴¹ The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah *is* here.

Jesus believed the Bible you hold.

He read the Bible that you read.

He prayed the words of the Bible that you and I have today.

God has made an amazing claim. Listen to what he tells us in I Peter.

1 Peter 1:22-2:3 (NKJV)

Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, ²³ having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, ²⁴ because

“All flesh *is* as grass,
And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass.
The grass withers,
And its flower falls away,
²⁵ But the word of the LORD endures forever.”

Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.

² Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, ² as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

God has stated that His Word endures forever. Of course we know that the Word as far as the copy “settled in Heaven” (Ps. 119:89), is enduring forever. But what about the copy we hold? How do we know this Book is the same one that God wrote by way of inspiration?



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[Matt 21:42](#) Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the [Scriptures](#): “ ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: *‘The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD’s doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes’* ?

[Matt 22:29](#) But Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the [Scriptures](#) nor the power of God.

Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God.

[Matt 26:54](#) But how then should the [Scriptures](#) be fulfilled, that it must be so?”

How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?”

[Matt 26:56](#) But all this has taken place that the [Scriptures](#) of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples left him and fled.

But all this was done that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.

[Mark 12:10](#) Have you not read this [Scripture](#): “ ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;

Have you not even read this Scripture: ‘The stone which the builders rejected *Has become the chief cornerstone.*

[Mark 12:24](#) Jesus said to them, “Is this not the reason you are wrong, because you know neither the [Scriptures](#) nor the power of God?”

Jesus answered and said to them, “Are you not therefore mistaken, because you do not know the Scriptures nor the power of God?”

[Mark 14:49](#) Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the [Scriptures](#) be fulfilled.”

I was daily with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize Me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled.”

[Luke 4:21](#) And he began to say to them, “Today this [Scripture](#) has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

[Luke 22:37](#) For I tell you that this [Scripture](#) must be fulfilled in me: ‘And he was numbered with the transgressors.’ For what is written about me has its fulfillment.”

For I say to you that this which is written must still be accomplished in Me: *‘And He was numbered with the transgressors.’* For the things concerning Me have an end.”

[John 5:39](#) You search the [Scriptures](#) because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me,

You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.

[John 7:38](#) Whoever believes in me, as the [Scripture](#) has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ ”

He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

[John 10:35](#)

If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and [Scripture](#) cannot be broken—

If He called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken),

[John 13:18](#)

I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the [Scripture](#) will be fulfilled, ‘He who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.’

“I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, *‘He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.’*

[John 17:12](#)

While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the [Scripture](#) might be fulfilled.

While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled.