

Most Frequently Asked Question: "Is the Bible God's Word?"

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. – **II Timothy 3:16-17**

"People who blithely go through life too busy or indifferent to ask hard questions about why they believe as they do will find themselves defenseless against either the experience of tragedy or the probing questions of a smart skeptic."

Timothy Keller
In his book, "The Reason for God"

What is the Bible?

- ⇒ The Bible literally means: Book.
- ⇒ What makes the Bible different from other books?
 - The Bible is God's revelation to man about Himself.

How has God revealed Himself?

- ⇒ Through nature and creation.

since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. – **Romans 1:19-20**

- ⇒ Through history.
- ⇒ Through the prophets.
- ⇒ Through His Son.

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. – **Hebrews 1:1-2**

- ⇒ Through His written word.

The Bible consists of two sections: The Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

- ◆ The old covenant is God's dealings with Israel. God, establishes His law and His relationship with them.
- ◆ The new covenant is the fulfillment of the old order.

"The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them, declares the LORD. ³³"This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. ³⁴No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." – **Jeremiah 31:31-34**

- ◆ Jesus Christ fulfilled all the demands of the old covenant.

How is the Bible arranged?

The Old Testament

- ➔ Pentateuch: First five books of the Bible.
- ➔ Historical Books: Kings, Chronicles, Nehemiah.
- ➔ Books of Poetry and Wisdom: Psalms, Proverbs.
- ➔ Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah

The New Testament

- ➔ Four Gospels
- ➔ Acts
- ➔ Letters, Epistles
- ➔ The Revelation

1. The Bible was written by 40 different authors over a 1500 year span.
2. The Bible can be proven historically.
3. The Bible can be proven trustworthy through archaeology.

"In addition to illuminating the Bible, archaeology has confirmed countless passages which have been rejected by critics as unhistorical or contradictory to known facts."

Joseph Free

4. The Bible can be proven unique through fulfilled prophecy.

Must have books:

"Case for Christ" by Lee Strobel

"Evidence That Demands a Verdict" by Josh McDowell

"Reason for God" by Timothy Keller

"I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist" by Geisler and Turek