

1 Peter Series

Lesson #094

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org

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GIVING AN ANSWER – PART 12

CAN WE TRUST THE BIBLE?

1 PETER 3:15



1ST PETER

LIVING IN LIGHT
OF ETERNITY

Developing a base set of answers to common questions:

- **CAN WE TRUST THE BIBLE?**
- **WHO WAS JESUS?**
- **DID JESUS REALLY RISE FROM THE DEAD?**

CAN WE TRUST THE BIBLE?

The Bible claims to be God's revelation of Himself to man.

False

True

If False, then it is no better than any other book.

If False, then it is a fraud and deceptive and should be rejected completely.

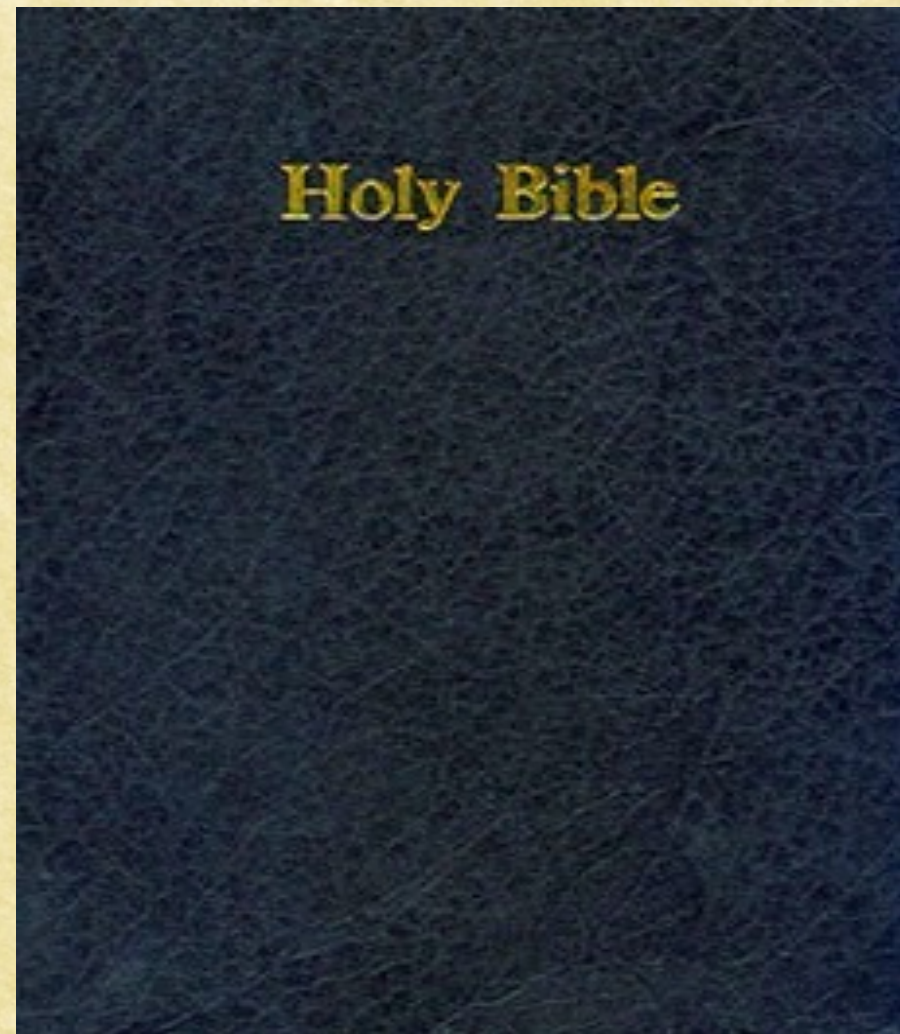
If True, then it is the unique book of the universe and should be valued above all things.

- 1. THE BIBLE IS A ONE-OF-A-KIND BOOK. No OTHER BOOK IS LIKE THE BIBLE.**
- 2. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE CLAIM ABOUT ITSELF?**
- 3. THE TESTIMONY OF ARCHAEOLOGY.**
- 4. THE TESTIMONY OF FULFILLED PROPHECY.**

Basic Presuppositions

- 1. The Christian God is the Creator of all things, including human beings, and their ability to communicate and to understand His communication to them.**
- 2. The Bible assumes His existence and claims that it preserves and expresses God's communication to humankind.**
- 3. The Bible is internally consistent with its claims to be the revelation from God and no evidence has ever surfaced which contradicts this claim.**

**1. The Bible is a “one-of-a-kind” Book,
unlike any other book ever written.**



1. The Bible was written over a period of 1,600 years. (Perhaps longer if Job was written before Moses lived.)

2. The Bible was written by over 40 authors from a wide variety of backgrounds and education.

- ★ **Moses was trained from youth to be Pharaoh of Egypt, yet turned his back on that to follow God.**
- ★ **David was a shepherd, who became a warrior, who became a king. He was also a musician and poet.**
- ★ **Amos was a herdsman and figpicker.**
- ★ **Peter and John were commercial fishermen.**
- ★ **Paul was a Rabbi.**

3. The Bible is not one book, but 66 books; 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament.



4. Yet the Bible presents one unified theme with no contradictions, though written on three continents, in three different languages (Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic (Dan. 2–7; Ezra 4–7) by over 40 men from widely different backgrounds, stations in life, training, education, and culture. Moses wrote in the desert of Sinai; Daniel and Ezekiel in Babylon (now Iraq); Paul in Greece and Italy.

5. The Bible is written in a wide variety of styles and literary genre: poetry, historical narrative, song, law, didactic instruction, personal correspondence, prophecy, parables.

6. In its unity its focus is always upon God's gracious plan of salvation through a Savior. Salvation is always by grace through faith.

7. The Bible is unique in its preservation.

Over 5,600 Greek manuscripts have been preserved.

The oldest fragment is dated ca. AD 120.

Over 19,000 ancient translations into Syriac, Latin, Coptic, and Aramaic.

Over 86,000 quotations in sermons, letters, lectionaries.

8. The Bible is unique in the way it presents its heroes; they are described with all of their sins and flaws.



***“The Bible is not
such a book as man
would write if he
could,
or could write if he
would.”***

~L. S. Chafer

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WHAT DOES THE BIBLE CLAIM ABOUT ITSELF?

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE CLAIM ABOUT ITSELF?

- 1. The Bible claims to be the objective communication of God to man: over 900 times it claims to communicate God's specific words.**

“God said” is used 46× in the Bible,

“God spoke” 12×,

“the Lord said” 233×,

“the Lord spoke” 133×,

“says the Lord” 502×.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE CLAIM ABOUT ITSELF?

Ex. 34:10, “Then God said, ‘Behold, I am going to make a covenant. ...’”

Isa. 1:18, “ ‘Come now, and let us reason together,’ says the LORD, ...”

Heb. 1:1, “God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,

Heb. 1:2, “in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.”

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE CLAIM ABOUT ITSELF?

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2 Tim. 3:16, “All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be equipped, thoroughly furnished for every good work.”

2 Peter 1:20–21, “But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.”

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE CLAIM ABOUT ITSELF?

2. The Bible claims to be a unique, inspired revelation from God.

Zech. 7:12, “And they made their hearts like flint so that they could not hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets; therefore great wrath came from the LORD of hosts.”

3. This inspiration includes the minute details of Scripture. Inspiration extends to the grammar and the details of the words.

Matt. 5:18, “For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished.”

Matt. 22:31, “But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read that which was spoken to you by God, saying,”

3. This inspiration includes the minute details of Scripture. Inspiration extends to the grammar and the details of the words.

Matt. 22:32, “ ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”

Gal. 3:16, “Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, ‘And to seeds,’ as referring to many, but rather to one, ‘And to your seed,’ that is, Christ.”

4. Thus the Bible makes a claim to be absolute Truth. Not merely truth that is the result of human observation, but a universal truth that goes beyond all other truth. A truth by which all other standards may be evaluated.

Num. 23:19, “God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”

4. Thus the Bible makes a claim to be absolute Truth. Not merely truth that is the result of human observation, but a universal truth that goes beyond all other truth. A truth by which all other standards may be evaluated.

John 17:17, “Sanctify them in the truth; Thy word is truth.”

5. As absolute Truth the Bible has everlasting value.

Isa. 40:8, “The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.”

Matt. 24:35, “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall not pass away.”

Matt. 5:17, “Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill.”

6. As Absolute Truth it is the source of guidance and direction.

Psa. 119:105, “Thy word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path.”

Matt. 4:4, “But He answered and said, ‘It is written, “Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.” ’ ”

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“All that I have ever said is that in all of my archaeological investigation I have never found one artifact of antiquity that contradicts any statement of the Word of God.”

~Nelson Glueck, American Rabbi and archaeologist. Not conservative. Believed faith was separate from fact or history or science.



Black Stele

**Code of
Hammurabi
1700 BC**



David


“House of David” inscription, Tel Dan, 1993



Megiddo: Solomon's fortified cities and chariot forces.

Yigael Yadin discovered the gates at Hazor based on what he had discovered at Megiddo.





CAPHARNAUM
THE TOWN OF
JESUS





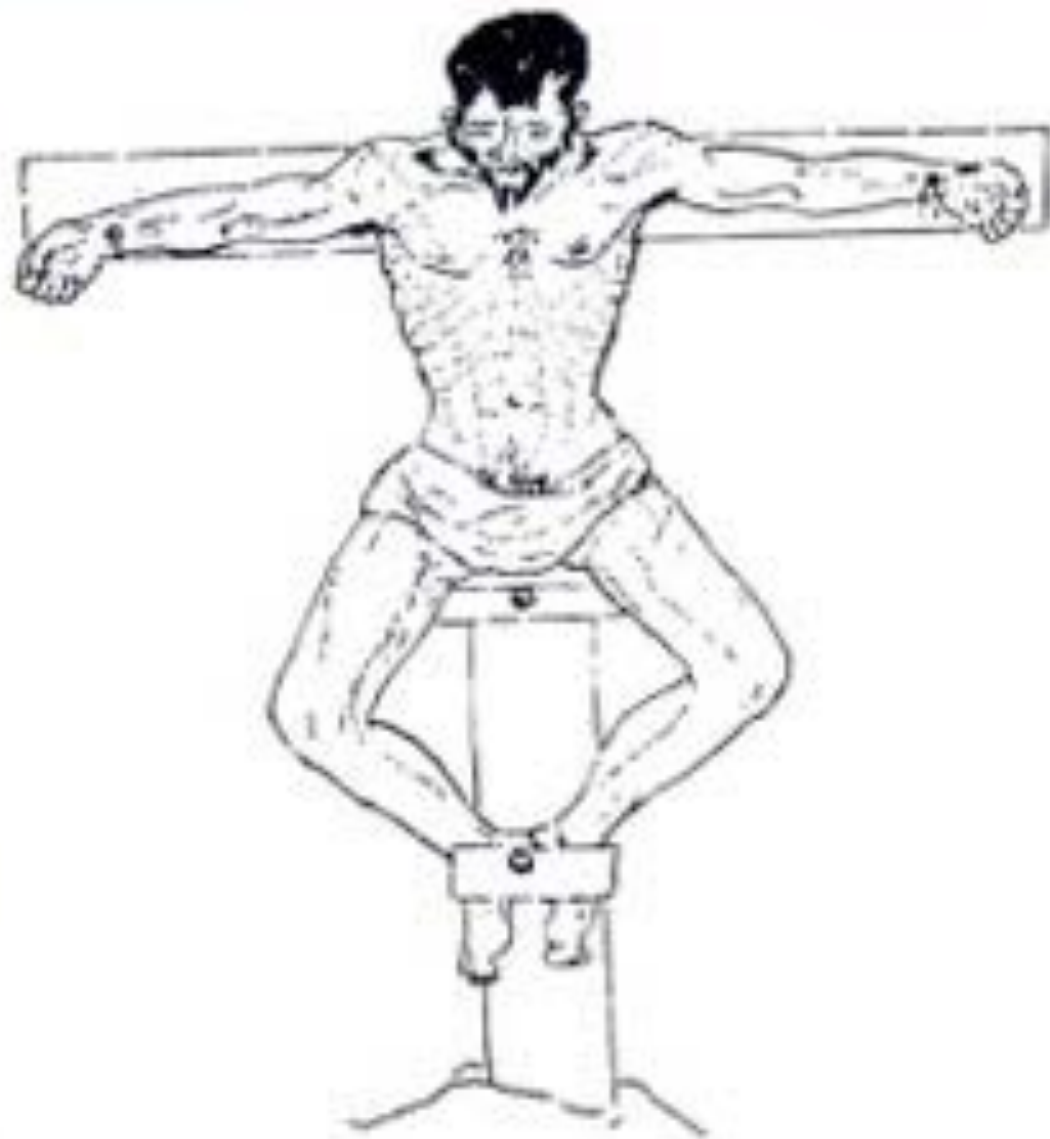


Joseph Caiaphas

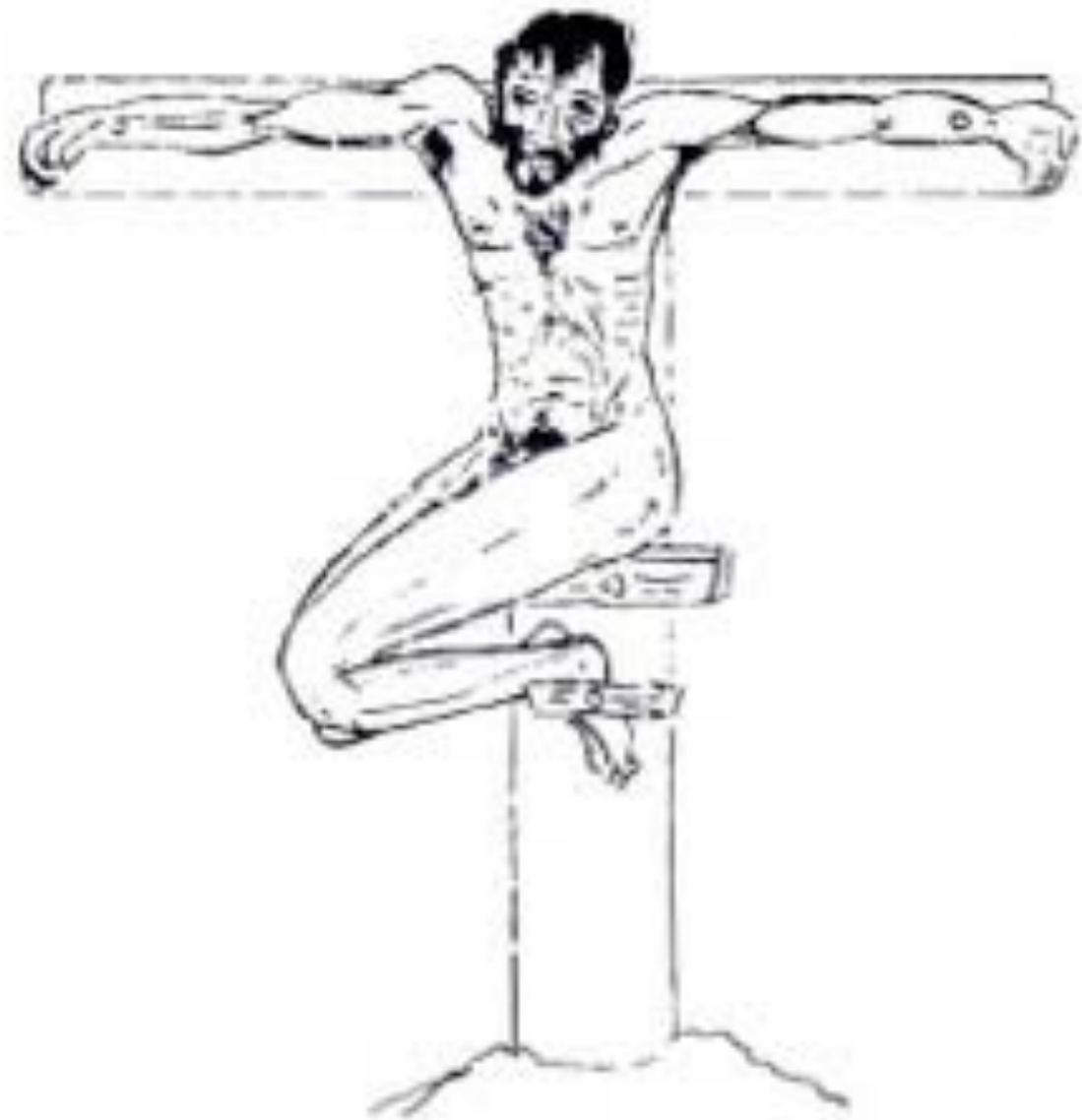
THE PILATE INSCRIPTION







A: 'Open position' crucifixion
(final restoration).



B: Crucifixion with legs adjacent
(initial restoration).

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