

4 Reasons why we can trust that the Bible is verifiably Gods word.

Men may have many marvelous things to teach us, but God's revelation has *all things which pertain to life and godliness* (2Peter 1:3); now more than ever, the world does not need the good advice and wisdom of man, it needs a revelation from God.

[Does] the message of the Bible - really come from God, or is it a fine achievement of man's spiritual and moral search for God? If ... the message of the Bible, really came from God, then it is the most important fact in the world. If it is just a human invention or achievement, then it is the most dangerous lie in the world.

There isn't any shortage of people who claim that they have a revelation from God. But we have to be careful to not regard a message as being from God if it isn't. How can we know that the Bible is really from God and not man?

First, we know that the Bible is reliable, accurate and TRUSTWORTHY as an ancient document. We know this because the text itself is reliable (we know this from the study and comparison of ancient manuscripts). And we know this because archaeology has consistently confirmed and supported the Biblical record, and has never contradicted the Bible. People, places, and events in the Bible are repeatedly verified by archaeology.

Second, we know that the Bible is UNIQUE, and special among all books ever written. It is unique in its **continuity**, being written over 1600 years, over 60 generations, by more than 40 authors, on three different continents, in different circumstances and places, in different times, different moods, in three languages, concerning scores of controversial subjects, but it speaks with one united voice. It is unique in its **circulation**, being the most published and popular book ever. It is unique in its **translation**, being the first book translated, and having been translated into more languages than any other book. It is unique in its **survival**, having survived the ravages of time, manual transcription, persecution, and criticism. It is unique in its **honesty**, dealing with the sins and failures of its heroes in a manner quite unknown among ancient literature. It is unique in its **influence**, having far and away a greater influence on culture and literature than any other book in existence.

Third, the Bible is a book of predictive PROPHECY, literally fulfilled. For example, there are some 300 prophecies concerning the Messiah that were exactly and literally fulfilled by Jesus, such as His birth at Bethlehem, His manner of death and burial, and so forth. Another example is that the Bible describes the rise of four successive world empires (Babylonia, Persia, Greece, Rome) with such accuracy that all critics can do is claim that the passage was actually written after the events happened.

Fourth, the Bible is a book that has profoundly CHANGED the LIVES of millions, irrespective of their race, class, era, sex, locale, age, or social status.

One might look at all this evidence and still say, "It doesn't *prove* that the Bible came from God." The point is granted; but it does give us a *reason* to believe that it did. In the end, believing the Bible is from God is a step of faith. But it is a step of *intelligent and informed faith*, not a leap of blind faith.

Taken from David Guziks commentary on Galatians.