

Theme: Apologetics

Subject: The Case for the Bible

Introduction:

The Bible is extremely unique. Its uniqueness is a testimony to the fact that it is in fact inspired by God. In this lesson we want to look at the various features of the Bible in hopes of ascertaining the marks that indicate it's a divine origin. Through an examination of its various facets, we are going to build a case for the Bible.

I. Unique in its continuity

- A. *Written over the span of 1500 years*
- B. *Written by more than forty authors* from every walk of life, including kings, military leaders, peasants, philosophers, fishermen, tax collectors, poets, musicians, statesmen, scholars, and shepherds.

- Moses, a political leader and judge, trained in the universities of Egypt
- David, a king, poet, musician, shepherd, and warrior
- Amos, a herdsman
- Joshua, a military general
- Nehemiah, a cupbearer to a pagan king
- Daniel, a prime minister
- Solomon, a king and philosopher
- Luke, a physician and historian
- Peter, a fisherman
- Matthew, a tax collector
- Paul, a rabbi
- Mark, Peter's secretary

C. Written in different places

1. Moses in the Wilderness
2. Jeremiah from a Dungeon
3. Paul from prison
4. Luke while traveling
5. John while exiled on Patmos

D. Written in different times

E. Written during different political periods

F. Written in different languages

1. **Hebrew** - The Language of the Israelites
2. **Aramaic** – The language of the Near East
3. **Greek** - It was the international language spoken at the time of Christ, as English is becoming in the modern world.

G. Written on different Continents

1. Asia
2. Europe
3. Africa

H. Written in different genres

1. Poetry
2. Historical Narrative
3. Law
4. Prophecy
5. Parables

*The continuity of the Bible demonstrates that God revealed his word in various circumstances, languages, and geographical locations. God also revealed his word in various literary genres (styles) that vividly portray God's message. ***Written in a span of 1500 years, all of these various authors presented one major theme, and that theme was Christ Jesus.***

II. The Bible is the History of Christ Story

- A. The Law provides the foundation for Christ answering the question why do we need him (Romans 10:4, Gal. 3:26-27)
- B. The Old Testament Historical Books provide the preparation for Christ answering the question How did God prepare for his coming.
- C. Prophecy provides expectation for Christ
- D. The Gospels provide the historical arrival and work of Christ
- E. The Book of Acts is the Preaching of Christ
- F. The epistles are the interpretation of Christ

III. The Claim of the Bible According to Jesus and the Apostles (Read these scriptures carefully)

- A. It is inspired. God is the source of the bible. (2 Tim. 3:16, 2 Peter 1. 20-21)
- B. It is authoritative (John 10:35, Matthew 5:17)
- C. It is Historically Reliable - Matthew 24:36-37 – Jesus in this passage refers to Genesis 6-8 regarding judgment in Noah's day.

Conclusion:

It is clear from this lesson that the case for the Bible is that it is weak in its design, and it is a divine product from God. The diversity of the Bible is absolutely phenomenal, and it claims for itself to have marks of divine inspiration. As we read Scripture, every question must be mindful that they are reading the word of God. This means that each of us must come to the Scriptures with a certain level of respect recognizing that it is God's communication to the fallen humanity.