

Religions of the world:

**Christianity:** 2.1 Billion. Includes Catholic, Protestant, Eastern Orthodox, Pentecostal, Anglican, Monophysite, AICs, Latter-day Saints(LDS), Evangelical, SDAs, Jehovah's Witnesses, Quakers, AOG, nominal, etc.

**Buddhism:** 376 Million. No Bible or Holy book. "The Way of the Zen" is popular. Find your own path through meditation. Buddha (Siddhārtha Gautama) was born 563 or 623 BC and lived 80 years. Son of rich father who doted on him and shielded him. Left his wife and children to go and search for Nirvana. His monks (followers) documented his life in a collection of books called "Buddhist texts".

**Hinduism:** 900 Million. Believe in reincarnation, karma, nirvana, meditation, polytheism, idolatry and pantheism. The Samhitas date to roughly 1500–1000 BCE  
They read "The Four Veda's".

1. The Rigveda, containing hymns to be recited by the hot
2. The Yajurveda, containing formulas to be recited by the adhvaryu or officiating priest
3. The Samaveda, containing formulas to be sung by the udgāt
4. The Atharvaveda, a collection of spells and incantations, apotropaic charms and speculative hymns

**Chinese Traditional.** 394 Million. Chinese folk religion is composed of a syncretistic combination of religious practices, including Confucianist ceremonies, ancestor worship, Buddhism and Taoism. Chinese folk religion also retains traces of some of its ancestral neolithic belief systems, which include the veneration of (and communication with) the sun, moon, earth, the heaven, and various stars, as well as communication with animals. It has been practiced by Chinese people for thousands of years, for much of that time alongside Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism.

**Islam.** 1.5 Billion. Quran is their holy book. It was written in 22 years by Muhammad in Arabic, which most Muslims can't even read. Written around 610-632 BC. Muhammad claims to be a prophet of Allah. Most this day don't know what's in it. It's been changed numerous times over the years. Used as a political football to control the people today. Mecca is a rock that they worship.



**Mormon.** Book of Mormon written by Joseph Smith in 1830. Lead to the Golden Plates by an angel at a nearby hill in Wayne County New York, but then had to give them back after transcribing them. No one has ever seen them to verify them. Most of the transcriptions were plagiarized from the King James Bible, The Wonders of Nature, View of the Hebrews, including an unpublished manuscript written by Solomon Spalding.

**Jehovah's Witnesses.** The watch tower society. Door to door witnessing. They pour different meanings into the same words that we use in our faith. Latter-day Saints.

Evangelicals: The Holy Bible. 66 Books written by 40 Authors over a 1,500 year period in different languages and world times. Old Testament (Hebrew) New Testament Koine Greek/Aramaic. The Septuagint (Greek translation of Hebrew). Everything points to Christ. A basic message of Christ has sacrificed for you, you only need to accept the free gift of salvation. All other religions teach you must sacrifice for them to gain access to heaven. Christ serves us from a place of love. Other religious beliefs are you serve them to gain favor.

**THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE-** Because Jesus says so

First, we know that the Bible is God's Word because no less an authority than Jesus Christ Himself says it is. Sounds like circular reasoning, right?

**THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE-** Historical Reliability

Not so fast, the New Testament documents are actually very reliable historically. The authors of the New Testament were either eyewitnesses to the life of Christ, or were close associates of eyewitnesses. And so they give a clear testimony as to the deity of Jesus Christ. Jesus not only claimed to be God, but He proved His claim through [1] the fulfillment of messianic prophecy, [2] the performance of miracles, and ultimately and most succinctly through His historically verifiable resurrection from the dead.

**THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE-** Jesus' Authority

If you can prove that Jesus is God in human flesh, whatever He says is truth. And what does Jesus say concerning the bible? He says that it is the very Word of God! As to the Old Testament, Jesus said that the "Scriptures cannot be broken," and therefore they are sufficient, authoritative, and inspired. In fact, he went on to promise that the Bible will guide not only his apostles, but all of us in the truth — the truth he was talking about is not subjective truth, but objective verifiable truth.

**THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE-** The Living Word

Now as I've shown inductively, Jesus Christ Himself, God incarnate, testifies not only to Scripture's authority (Matt. 22:43), but to its reliability (Matt. 26:54), to its sufficiency (Luke 16:31), and finally to its finality (Matt. 4:4,7,10). Bottom line: The living Word (Jesus) bears testimony to the Written Word (the Bible).

**THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE-** Conclusion

The truth is, demonstrating that the Bible is the Word of God is not all that difficult. Of course you have to be dealing with someone who is an open minded person. If someone has already made up his mind and doesn't want to be confused with the facts, you're never going to be able to talk him into the kingdom. Only the Holy Spirit can truly open the heart.