

"Evidential Reasons For Faith"

Volume 1 - Issue 4

The Bible & The Christian Faith

Topic: Biblical Authority

Q. Did the 1st Century Christian church regard the scriptures as the sole authority over any other source in matters pertaining to God?

A. Yes. 1) Jesus told the Sadducees they were in error not knowing the Scripture. Matthew 22:29. **2)** Jesus told the scribes & the Pharisees that they transgressed the commandment of God because of their tradition. Matthew 15:3-4. Jesus then quoted from the Scriptures. **3)** Peter declared we have a sure word in the Scripture which we should heed. 2 Peter 1: 19-21. **4)** Peter also directs the church to be mindful of the words spoken before by the holy prophets and the commandments of the apostles of the Lord & Savior. 2 Peter 3:2 (the Old Testament & New Testament) **5)** Paul - states the Scriptures have been given by inspiration of God. 2 Timothy 3:16. **6)** The saints at Berea were commended because they sought to confirm Paul's words with the Scriptures. Acts 17:11.

The Bible & Historical Accuracy

Topic: The Bible & Historical finds

Q. What are some biblical events, places, or things archaeology confirms.

A. 1) When Israel was divided as a nation, between 841-813 BC. Jehu ruled for 28 years - 2 Kings 9:1-10, 36; 2 Chronicles 22:7-12. Shalmaneser III ruled Assyria from 859-824 BC. It has been discovered that this Assyrian King built himself a palace at Calah and set up his Black Obelisk (a kind of victory monument) in the public square. Inscribed in the second panel, Jehu of Israel pays tribute to the Assyrian King. Layard found this in 1846.

2) Hezekiah King of Judah ruled from 716-687 BC some 29 years. 2 Kings 18:13-21. A clay prism was discovered from Sennacherib's palace at Nineveh, it tells of his attack on Judah in 701 BC, The scripture details his attack, in the verses given above.

The Bible & Scientific Accuracy

Topic: Creation or Evolution

Q. When was the universe brought into being?

A. 1) By evolution? The absence of meteorite dust would not confirm evolution. Some fifteen million tons of nickel meteorite dust settles to earth each year. If the earth has indeed existed for five billion years, then there should now be a layer of this dust at least 200 feet thick all over the planet. Of course, no such layer is found.

2) By evolution? The decay of earth's magnetic field has a half-life of 1,400 years. This means it is weakened by 50% each 14 centuries. It also means the magnetic field was twice as strong 1,400 years ago as it is now, four times as strong 2,800 years ago, and so on. Only 7,000 years ago it must have been 32 times as strong. It is very doubtful that it could have been much stronger than this.

The Bible & Prophetic Accuracy
Topic: Prophecy & Ancient Cities

Q. What are some prophecies of the past regarding ancient cities?

A. The city of Tyre, is prophesied of concerning its fall by the prophet Ezekiel in the twenty-sixth chapter of his book. Tyre was a coastal city off the Mediterranean Sea. Part of this city was a half of a mile out in the sea. Ezekiel predicts:

- 1) The Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar would capture the city. verse 7
- 2) Other nations would later participate in Tyre's destruction. verse 3
- 3) The city would be scrapped, and made flat, like the top of a rock. verse 4
- 4) It was to become a place for the spreading of nets. verse 5
- 5) Its stones and timber were to be laid in the sea. (Zechariah 9:3,4) also verse 12
- 6) The city was never to be rebuilt. verse 14

We'll consider the fulfillment next week

Week 4