

# **"Evidential Reasons For Faith"**

## **Volume 1 - Issue 5**

### **The Bible & Christian Faith**

#### **Topic: The God of The Bible**

**Q.** How does God reveal Himself in the Old Testament?

**A.** In Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." In the Hebrew the word God is translated Elohiym, which means the Supreme God emphasizing power and might. The first chapter in Genesis this term is the only one used for God. The word is a plural noun, with a singular verb. Used 2,570 times throughout the Old Testament. It is obvious to realize that God is displaying His awesome power and might by creating the heaven and the earth and all that is in them. There are many other names given that describe God in the Old Testament that identify His being, character and acts. They are too numerous to mention. In the second chapter another word is introduced for God which is Lord or in the Hebrew, either Yahweh or Yehovah, or in English Jehovah meaning the Self-Existent or Eternal One. The two terms are used in conjunction with one another on many occasions. Thus you have Lord God or The Self-Existent Supreme God.

### **The Bible & Historical Accuracy**

#### **Topic: The Bible & Cultural Consistency**

**Q.** Is the Bible consistent with cultural discoveries of archaeology?

**A.** Yes. The city Nuzi (Nuzu), modern Yorgan Tepe, is a site 12 miles southwest of modern Kirkuk in Northeastern Iraq. It was excavated from 1925 to 1931 by the American Schools of Oriental Research in cooperation with the Iraqi Museum, Harvard, and the University of Pennsylvania Museum. Such Archaeologists as Chiera, Pfeiffer, and Star directed the several seasons of work. The site is known to have passed through prehistoric, Akkadian, Hurrian, and Partho-Sassanid periods. The Hurrian era, about 1,500 BC revealed some 20,000 cuneiform tablets documenting the affairs of leading citizens of the time. At Nuzi there is evidence of the sale of the birthright (Gen. 25:31 of Esau); The oral blessing (Gen. 27:26-30 of Isaac & Jacob); and the practice of the wife giving a slave girl to her husband to bear children (Gen. 30:1-4 of Rachel, Bilhah to Jacob). The finds are consistent with the biblical record of that time.

### **The Bible & Scientific Accuracy**

#### **Topic: Is there a God?**

**Q.** How did life come into being?

**A.** Primarily, there are three views that attempt to answer this question. (1) Atheistic Materialism (2) Theistic Evolution (3) Special Creation. Let's first examine Atheistic Materialism - this position identifies the source of life coming from an accidental arrangement of molecules one billion or more years ago. It states that the method by which this occurred was through mutations. The first man and woman were subhuman apes. This view claims that the Genesis account of creation is pure myth. The proponents of this view is Darwin and his followers. The problem with this view would be the first and second laws of thermodynamics, the law of biogenesis, and the Bible. We'll continue our treatment of this subject in our next newsletter.

## **Bible & Prophetic Accuracy**

### **Topic: Prophecy and Ancient Cities**

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

**A.** The city of Tyre -The prophet Ezekiel wrote about Tyre's demise around 590 BC, Nebuchadnezzar surrounded the city of Tyre. The siege lasted thirteen years, and in 573 BC the coastal city was destroyed. But he didn't capture the island city. In 332 BC Alexander the Great arrived. Alexander built a bridge leading from the coastline to the island city by throwing the debris of the old city into the water. He literally scraped the coastline clean. After a seven month period, Alexander took the city and destroyed it. From that point on the surrounding coastal area has been used by local fisherman to spread and dry their nets. Tyre has never been rebuilt in spite of the well known nearby freshwater springs of Roselain which yield 10,000 gallons of water daily. These events fulfilled the prophecies of Ezekiel 26 verses 1-14; and Zechariah 9 verses 3-4.