

Question: What are some good reasons for believing the Bible is from God?

In order to give a satisfactory answer to this question, a short series of articles will be required. I hope you will take the time to read them.

1) Its Honesty:

The first reason that I will give to believe that the Bible is The Book of God may not be the strongest of reasons, but it certainly is a “good reason.” Stop and think, when you write or talk about yourself, don’t you try to cover up your imperfections in order to present yourself in the best possible way? Yet the Bible presents many of God’s chosen leaders as having character flaws that led them to sin and displease Him. **Abram** (Abraham) lied twice about Sarai (Sarah) his wife being his sister (Gen 12:13; 20:2). **Isaac**, Abraham’s son, followed suit by lying about his wife Rebekah (Gen 26:7). **Jacob**, Isaac’s son, was guilty of deceiving his father (Gen 27), and taking unfair advantage of his brother (Gen 25:29-34).

The Bible depicts **Moses**, God’s lawgiver for Israel, as an insecure, reluctant leader (Exo 3). Forty years earlier, in his first attempt to lead Israel against Egyptian oppression, he killed a man and was forced to run for his life into the desert. The Bible reveals the shameful sins of Israel’s most beloved **King David**, who took another man’s wife, and then conspired to have her husband killed. There is even a reference in the Bible to the nation of **Israel** having become more evil than Sodom and Gomorrah (Eze 16:46-52).

The Bible shows that mankind is often hostile to God the Creator (Ro 1:18-32; 3:23; 6:23). It predicted the spiritual confusion, from false teaching, that is so common today (1Ti 4:1-3; 2Ti 3:1-5). It teaches that very few people will find the way of salvation (Mt 7:13-14). Obviously, the Bible was not written to give comfort to people who think that everyone is going to heaven, just by different routes. Jesus instead teaches that we must “strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able” (Lk 13:24).

When Jesus sent the apostles to preach the gospel, first in Israel and then to the world, He made them aware of the hardships they would encounter (Mt 10:16-25; 34-36). He forewarned them that some of His disciples would have enemies to the cause of Christ in their own families. Indeed, the men who wrote the Bible were painfully honest about the motives of the people they were writing about because they were writing by inspiration, i.e., from God’s vantage point.

2) Its Preservation

In 1947, a tribe of Bedouin shepherds discovered one of the most important archeological treasures of our time. In a cave on the northwest rim of the Dead Sea, a broken jar yielded documents that had been hidden for two millennia. Additional finds produced Old Testament manuscripts that predated the previous oldest copies by 1,000 years. One of the most important discoveries was a copy of Isaiah on a leather scroll, which is essentially the same as the book of Isaiah that appears in our own Bibles. This discredited the claims of those who believed that the original Bible had been lost to time and tampering. We trust that God was merely at work, through human agency, preserving the Bible.

Thanks for reading today. Next week we will present other good reasons for believing the Bible is from God. If you would like to enroll in a Bible correspondence course by mail, then notify us at the address above or at our web site.