

Text: various
Topic: Reliability of the Bible
Series: The Big Questions

Focal Point Radio Ministries

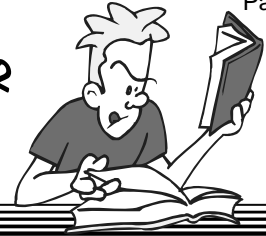
July 22 & 23, 2000

Pastor Mike

The Big Questions

part 2

What's So Special About the Bible?



1. Ponder _____

2. Realize _____

3. Notice _____

4. Don't _____

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.

1. Who do you know who is ambivalent about the importance or trustworthiness of the Bible?

Read 2 Peter 1:21 and 2 Timothy 3:16. Why do such emphatic claims reduce the ability of the rational person to be neutral toward the Bible? In other words, why do verses like these compel us to make a firm decision one way or the other about this book?

2. How would you respond to someone who says that the Bible cannot be trusted because its message has been distorted through centuries of retelling, rewriting, revising and retranslating its content over and over again?

3. Read the following truncated list of Old Testament prophecies and New Testament fulfillments. How do these verses help to bolster your confidence that the Bible was coauthored by an omniscient God?

Isaiah 7:14 → Matthew 1:18;
Genesis 22:18 → Matthew 1:1;
Zechariah 9:9-10 → Matthew 21:4-9;
Jeremiah 23:5 → Luke 3:23, 31;
Isaiah 53:7 → Matthew 27:12;

Micah 5:2 → Matthew 2:1 & 6;
Genesis 49:10 → Luke 3:23, 33;
Isaiah 53:6, 9 → 1 Peter 2:21-25;
Isaiah 35:5, 6 → Matthew 9:35;
Isaiah 53:12 → Matthew 27:38.

Read through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule. Don't worry about catching up, just jump in.

Sunday

Ps.54-55 & Jn.21

Monday

Ps.56-58 & Mt.1

Tuesday

Ps.59-60 & Mt.2

Wednesday

Ps.61-63 & Mt.3

Thursday

Ps.64-65 & Mt.4

Friday

Ps.66-68 & Mt.5

Saturday

Ps.69-70 & Mt.6

Books (listed from simple to more challenging)

- Lutzer, E. *Seven Reasons Why You Can Trust the Bible*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1988.
Strobel, L. *The Case for Christ*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing, 1998.
Geisler, N. & W. Nix. *From God to Us: How We Got Our Bible*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1974.
Montgomery, J.W. *History and Christianity*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1972.
Comfort, P.W. *The Complete Guide to Bible Versions*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1991.
Belcher, R. *The Layman's Guide to the Inerrancy Debate*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1980.
McDowell, J. *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict: Evidence I & II*. Nashville TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1999.
Ewert, D. *From Ancient Tablets to Modern Translations: A General Introduction to the Bible*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1993.
Geisler, N. & W. Nix. *A General Introduction to the Bible: Revised and Expanded*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1986.
Bruce, F.F. *The New Testament Documents: Are They Reliable?* Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing, 1984.
Lightner, R. *A Biblical Case for Total Inerrancy: How Jesus Viewed the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1998.
Comfort, P.W. *The Origin of the Bible*. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1992.
Pache, R. *The Inspiration and Authority of Scripture*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1969.
Henry, C.F. *God, Revelation, and Authority: God Who Speaks And Shows, volumes 1 - 6*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1999.
Harrison, R.K., et al. *Biblical Criticism: Historical, Literary and Textual*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing, 1978.
Metzger, B. *The Text of the New Testament: Its Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration*. New York: Oxford Press, 1968.
Comfort P.W. & D. Barrett. *The Complete Text of the Earliest New Testament Manuscripts*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1999.
Epp, E.J. & G.D. Fee. *Studies in the Theory and Method of New Testament Textual Criticism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1993.

Websites

www.bible-history.com

www.ntgateway.com/textcrit.htm

www.doubters.net/bible

www.skypoint.com/~waltzmn/