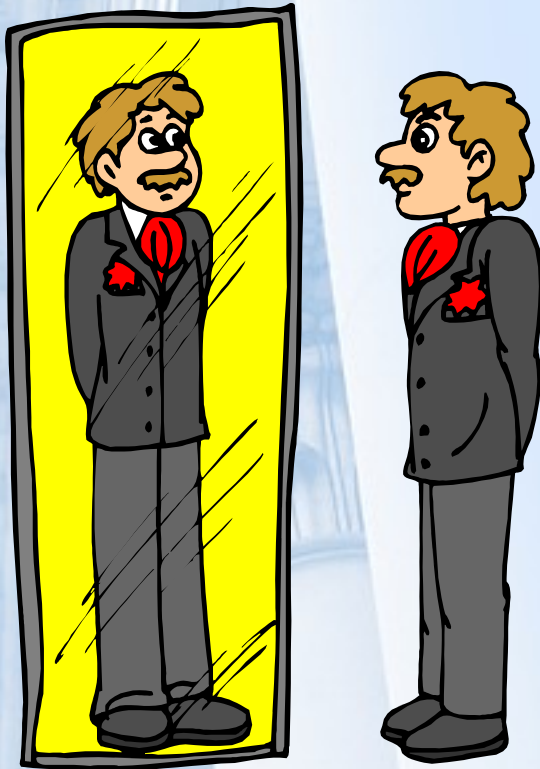


# **Is the Bible Reliable?**

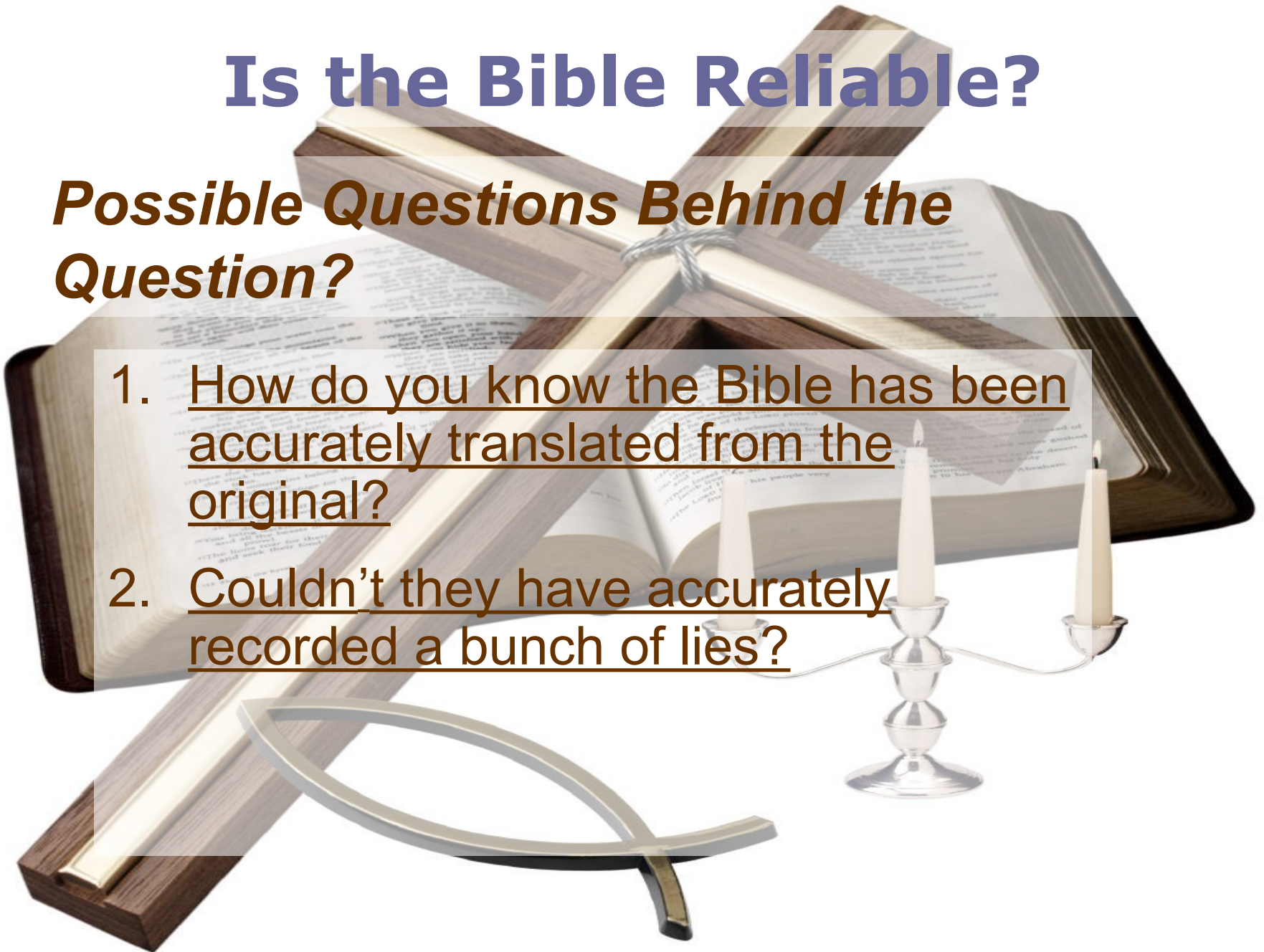


**Why don't you believe the Bible is as reliable as some of the ancient books written around the same time period from authors like Josephus or Tacitus, or Homer's Illiad?**

# Is the Bible Reliable?

## *Possible Questions Behind the Question?*

1. How do you know the Bible has been accurately translated from the original?
2. Couldn't they have accurately recorded a bunch of lies?



# Establishing The Case For The Reliability Of The New Testament

1. Are the New Testament Documents a Reliable Record of the Things Jesus Said and Did?

Three Tests:

- **Bibliographical**
- **External evidence**
- Internal evidence

# Bibliographical Test

It examines the textual transmission by which documents reach us.

1. The number of copies
2. The time interval between the original and the existing copies
3. The degree of accuracy of the copies

# The Number of Copies

Author	Book	(X)	Copies
Caesar	Gallic Wars	1000 yrs	10
Plato		c. 1300 yrs	7
Tacitus	Annals	c. 1000 yrs	20
Pliny	Natural History	c. 750 yrs	7
Thucydides	History	c. 1300 yrs	8
Herodotus	History	c. 1350 yrs	8
Homer	Iliad	c. 400 yrs	643
New Testament		50 yrs 100 yrs 150 yrs 225 yrs	<b>5,686</b>



There are:

- 5,686 hand written Greek N.T. manuscripts
- 10,000 Latin Vulgate
- 9300 Old Latin, Slavic, Arabic, Anglo Saxon, etc.  
Other Languages –

A total of 24,970 [i] manuscript copies of portions of the New Testament exist today

[i] McDowell, *The New Evidence That Demands A Verdict*  
P. 34

<b>Author</b>	<b>Book</b>	<b>Written</b>	<b>Earliest Copy</b>	<b>(X)</b>
<b>Caesar</b>	<b>Gallic Wars</b>	<b>100 – 44 BC</b>	<b>e. 900 AD</b>	<b>1000 yrs</b>
<b>Plato</b>		<b>400 BC</b>	<b>e. 900 AD</b>	<b>e. 1300 yrs</b>
<b>Tacitus</b>	<b>Annals</b>	<b>100 AD</b>	<b>e. 1100 AD</b>	<b>e. 1000 yrs</b>
<b>Pliny</b>	<b>Natural History</b>	<b>61 – 133 AD</b>	<b>e. 850 AD</b>	<b>e. 750 yrs</b>
<b>Thucydides</b>	<b>History</b>	<b>460 – 400 BC</b>	<b>e. 900 BC</b>	<b>e. 1300 yrs</b>
<b>Herodotus</b>	<b>History</b>	<b>480 – 425 BC</b>	<b>e. 900 AD</b>	<b>e. 1350 yrs</b>
<b>Homer</b>	<b>Iliad</b>	<b>800 BC</b>	<b>e. 400 BC</b>	<b>e. 400 yrs</b>
<b>New Testament</b>		<b>50 – 100 AD</b>	<b>e. 114 fragments e. 200 books e. 250 most of NT e. 325 complete NT</b>	<b>25-50 yrs 100 yrs 150 yrs 225 yrs</b>



# The Time Interval

The N.T. has earlier manuscripts closer to the time of original composition.

For example:

- John Ryland fragment (117-138 A.D.) - one generation
- Bodmer Papyrus (150-200 A.D. ) - whole books
- Chester Beatty Papyri (250 A.D.) - most of the N.T.
- Codex Vaticanus (325-350 A.D.) - nearly all the Bible

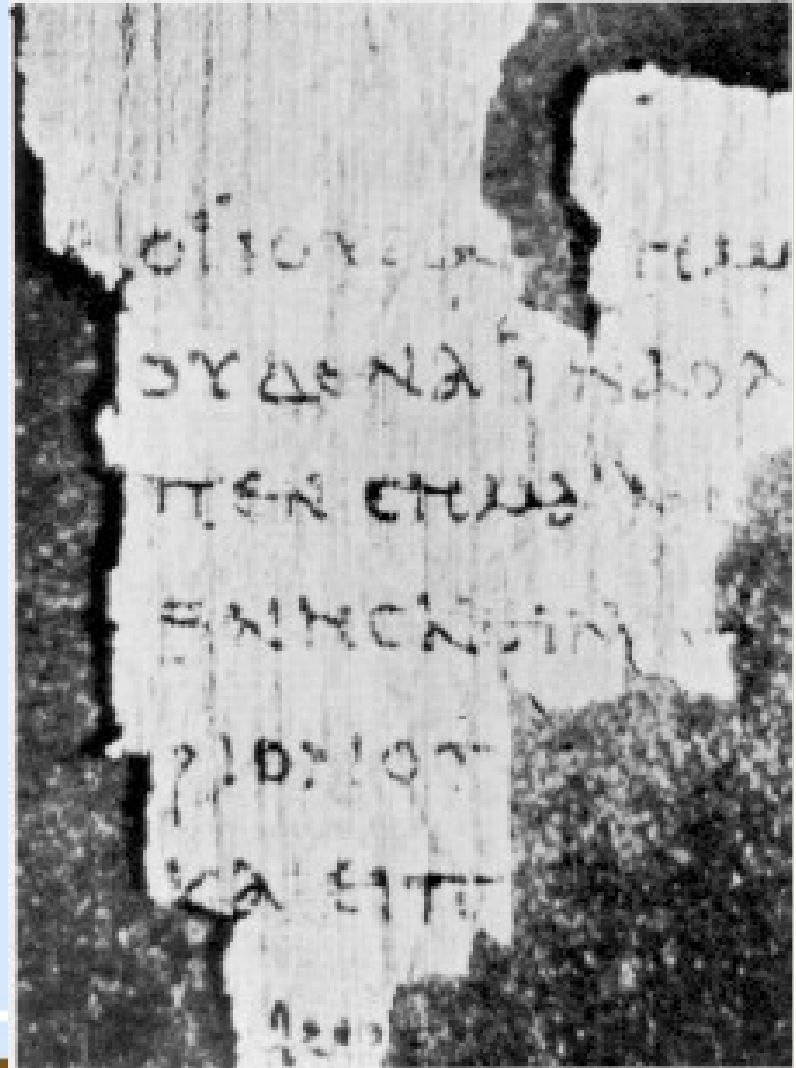


# *John Rylands fragment*

*John 18:31-33 - A.D. 117-138*

*– One generation from original*

- It was carbon-14 dated what some say is 110-150 A.D.
- It contains a few verses of the Gospel of John, John 18:31-33 and a second piece, John 18:37-38.
- Since it was found in Egypt, which is some distance from the traditional composition in Asia Minor, we can confirm that the gospel of John was written before the end of the first century.



# *The Bodmer Papryus* **P66, 72, 75.**

Contains whole books  
– *About 150-200 A.D.*  
*pictured here John*  
*1:1 – 14*

- P66 contains 104 leaves of John 1:1-6:11; 6:35b-14:26; and fragments of 40 other pages, John 14-21.
- P72 is the earliest known copy of Jude, I Pet. and 2 Pet.
- P75 contains most of Luke and John. Dated between 175-225 BC. It contains the earliest know copy of Luke. (See Gen Intro. P390)



# *Chester Beatty Papyri (P45, 46, & 47)*

*Contains most of the  
New Testament – A.D.  
250*

- P45 alone contains all 4 gospels and Acts.
- It is located in the Beatty Museum near Dublin.







## **Codex Sinaiticus, 340 AD**

Contains half of the Old Testament books and all the N.T. except a few verses such as Mark 16:9-20 and Jn. 7:53-8:11.

# *Codex Vaticanus*

*Contains almost the entire  
Bible old and new -  
A.D. 325-350*

It includes most of the LXX version of the Old Testament and most of the New Testament in Greek. Missing are I Tim. through Philemon, Heb. 9:14 to the end of the N.T. and the General Epistles.



# Comparing Ancient Manuscripts

Author	Book	Date Written	Earliest Copy	Gap (yrs.)	No. of copies
Homer	Iliad	800 B.C.	400 B.C.	400	643
Herodotus	History	480-425 B.C.	900 A.D.	1,350	8
Thucydides	History	460-400 B.C.	900 A.D.	1,300	8
Plato		400 B.C.	900 A.D.	1,300	7
Demosthenes		300 B.C.	1100 AD.	1,400	200
Caesar	Gallic Wars	100-44 B.C.	900 A.D.	1,000	10
Livy	Hist. Rome	59 B.C.-17AD	4th cent.(partial)	400	1 partial
			10th Cent. (mostly)	1,000	19
Tacitus	Annals	100 A.D.	1100 A.D.	1,000	20
Pliny Secundus	Natural History	61-113 A.D.	850 A.D.	750	7
New Testament		50-100 A.D.	130 A.D. fragment	50+	5,686
			200 (books)	100	
			250 (most of N.T.)	150	
			325 (Complete N.T.)	225	

Taken from Josh McDowell, *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict*, p. 38



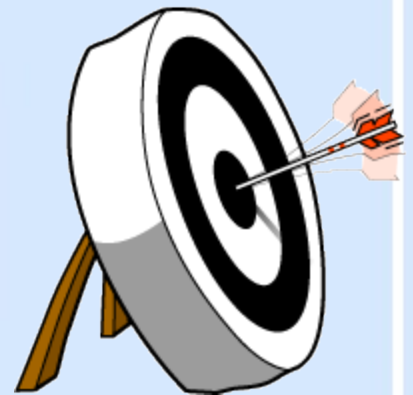
# Degree of Accuracy

Even with 25 thousand NT manuscripts, they are so close that we are virtually certain of 97% - 98% of the New Testament.

Almost  $\frac{1}{2}$  are 1 and 2 word variants for spelling, adding “the”, etc.

None of these affect doctrine.

For details: [www.Bible Query.org](http://www.Bible Query.org)



# External Evidence Test

- It determines whether other Historical material confirms or denies the internal testimony of the document
- The test asks: what sources are there, apart from the documents under analysis, that substantiate its accuracy, reliability and authenticity

# Extra-Biblical Christian Sources

Quotations from early Church Fathers  
concerning the New Testament

Writer	Gospels	Acts	Pauline	General	Revelation	Totals
Justin Martyr	268	10	43	6	3	330
Irenaeus	1,038	194	499	23	65	1,819
Clement (Alex)	1,107	44	1,127	207	11	2,406
Origen	9,231	349	7,778	399	165	17,992
Tertullian	3,822	502	2,609	120	205	7,258
Hippolytus	734	42	387	27	188	1,378
Eusebius	3,258	211	1,592	88	27	5,176
Grand Totals	19,368	1,352	14,035	870	664	36,289

**Taken from Josh McDowell, *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict*, p. 43**

# External Evidence Test

“Indeed so extensive are these citations that if all other sources for our knowledge of the text of the New Testament were destroyed, they would be sufficient alone for the reconstruction of practically the entire New Testament.”

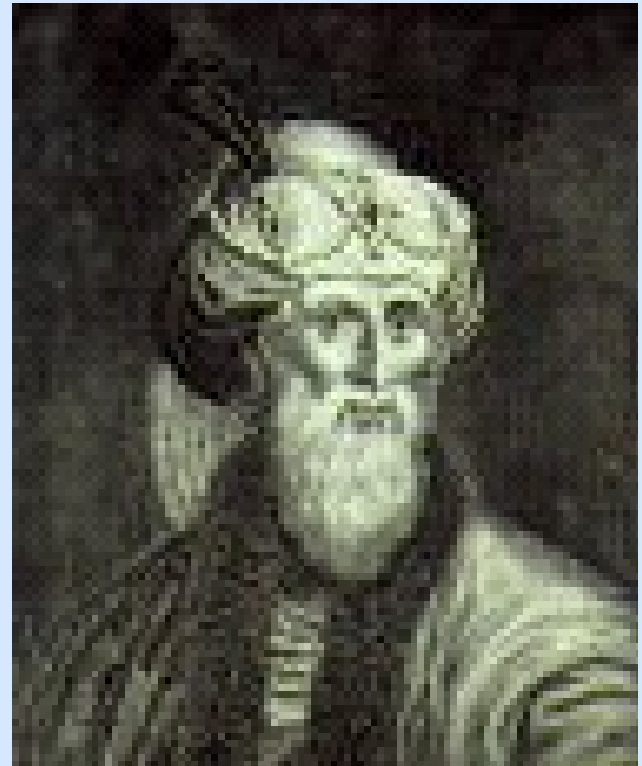
Bruce Metzger, *The Text of the New Testament*, p. 86



# Extra-Biblical Secular Sources

<b>Writer</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject</b>
 Cornelius Tacitus	112	Death of Jesus at the hands of Pilate
 Lucian	2 <sup>nd</sup> cent.	The new cult of Christianity
 Flavius Josephus	66	Life/Death of Jesus
 Suetonius	120	Christ-The reason for Jews expulsion from Rome
 Pliny	112	Christians bound not to sin - Jesus
 Thallus	52	Histories-Darkness at Christ's death (eclipse)
 Philegon	1 <sup>st</sup> cent.	Darkness=Eclipse
 Mara Bar-Serapion	73	Calamities brought by deaths. Socrates, Pythagorus, and Jesus

# *Flavius Josephus*





# Roman Source: Josephus

Josephus says,

“At this time there was a wise man who was called Jesus. And his conduct was good and (he) was known to be virtuous. And many people from among the Jews and other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned him to be crucified and to die. And those who had become his disciples did not abandon his discipleship. They reported that he had *appeared to them three days after his crucifixion and that he was alive; accordingly He was perhaps the Messiah concerning whom the prophets have recounted wonders.*”

As cited in Josh McDowell, *Evidence that Demands a Verdict*, p. 85  
(Arabic text, 10th Cent.)

# The Significance of Josephus

The significance of this passage by Josephus:

- Makes reference to Jesus' claim to be the Christ
- Speak of His miracles
- Points out that people perceived Jesus' teachings as the truth
- Indicates the historicity of Pilate and the event of the cross
- Records the claim by His disciples that Jesus was resurrected
- Documents that Jesus had many converts

# *The Talmud*





## Jewish Source: The Talmud

“On the eve of Passover Yeshua was hanged. For forty days before the execution took place, a herald went forth and cried, ‘he is going to be stoned because he has practiced sorcery and enticed Israel to apostasy. Any one who can say anything in his favor, let him come forward and plead on his behalf.’ But since nothing was brought forward in his favor he was hanged on the eve of the Passover.”

*The Talmud, Sanhedrin, 43a* (cf. John 11:8, 16)

# The Significance of the Talmud

The significance of Jewish writings about Jesus:

- Confirms the historicity of Jesus' life.
- Confirms His death by the method of crucifixion (The Jewish method of execution would have been stoning)
- Indicates that Jesus did do miraculous things but attributed his power to the devil (similar to Mark 3:22; Matt. 9:34; 12:24)
- Indicated that Jesus gathered many converts from the Jewish community



# Story of Jesus from secular writers

“Jesus lived during the time of Tiberius Caesar. He lived a virtuous life. He was a wonder worker. He had a brother named James. He claimed to be the Messiah. He was crucified under Pontius Pilate. An eclipse and an earthquake occurred when he died. He was crucified on the eve of the Jewish Passover. His disciples believed that he rose from the dead. His disciples were willing to die for their belief. Christianity spread rapidly as far as Rome. His disciples denied the Roman gods and worshiped Jesus as God.”

Taken from Dr. Norman Geisler's PowerPoint lecture "Twelve Points that Prove Christianity is True" (Order the CD at [www.normgeisler.com](http://www.normgeisler.com))



# Accuracy Established

Conclusion from bibliographical and external evidence test

“The interval then between the dates of the original composition and the earliest extant evidence becomes so small as to be in fact negligible, and the last foundation for any doubt that the Scriptures have come down to us substantially as they were written has now now been removed. Both the authenticity and the general integrity of the books of the New Testament may be regarded as finally established.”

Sir Frederic Kenyon, *The Bible and Archaeology*, p. 288

**So, the New Testament Documents  
Have Been Reliably Copied!**



2. How do we know that we don't have a bunch of accurately copied documents by a bunch of liars?



## Manuscript Evidence

Three Tests:

- Bibliographical
- External evidence
- **Internal evidence**

# Internal Evidence Test

- Determines whether the written record is credible or to what extent
- Attempts to gauge the authors ability to tell the **truth**



# Criteria for Establishing Credibility

## Internal Evidence Test

David Hume's criteria for testing the credibility of witnesses:

1. Do the witnesses contradict each other?
2. Are there a sufficient number of witnesses?
3. Were the witnesses truthful?
4. Were they non-prejudicial?



David Hume, *Inquiry Concerning Human Understanding*, p.



# Internal Evidence Test 1

## 1. The witnesses did not contradict each other.

To be sure, there are minor discrepancies:

- One account (Matt. 28:5) mentions only one angel at the tomb.
- John says there were two angels at the tomb (John 20:12).
- Minor discrepancies in testimony can actually demonstrate the credibility of the witnesses.



# Internal Evidence Test 2

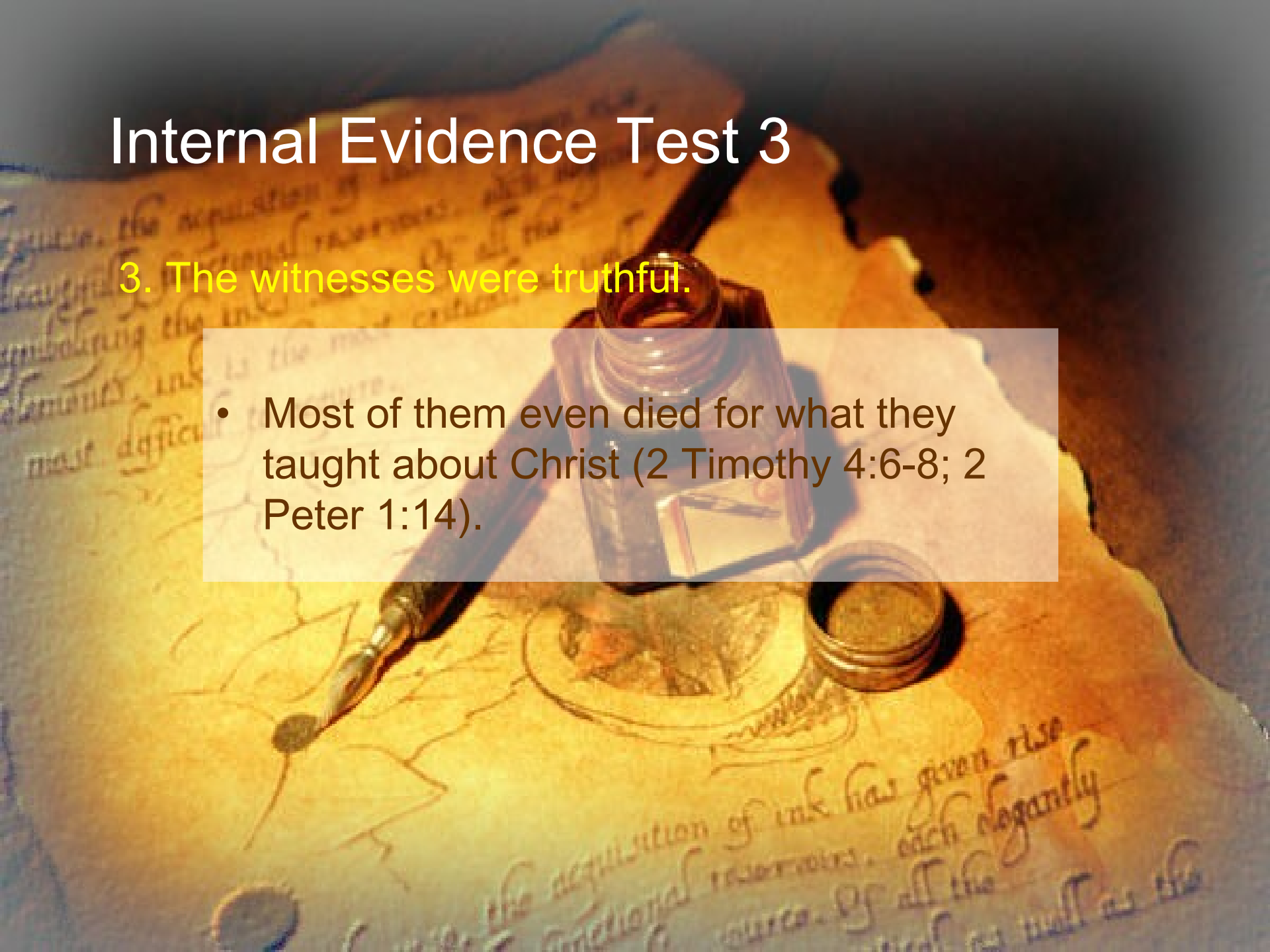
## 2. There was a sufficient number of witnesses.

- There are nine different people who wrote the N.T., all of whom were eye witnesses or contemporary to the events they recorded. Six of them are most important to establishing Jesus' claim of miracles (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, and 1 Corinthians).
- All of these books bear witness to the miracle of the Resurrection.
- In 1 Cor. 15, Paul mentions there were 500 people who saw Jesus after the Resurrection.

# Internal Evidence Test 3

## 3. The witnesses were truthful.

- Most of them even died for what they taught about Christ (2 Timothy 4:6-8; 2 Peter 1:14).



# Internal Evidence Test 4

## 4. The witnesses were non-prejudicial?

- Jesus not only appeared to believers; He also appeared to unbelievers like James. (John 7:5; 1 Cor. 15:7)
- He appeared to the greatest unbeliever of the day—a Jewish Pharisee named Saul of Tarsus. (Acts 9:5)

# Internal Evidence Test 4

(cont.)

- The witnesses to the resurrection had nothing to gain personally.
  - They were persecuted and threatened with death for their stand. (cf. Acts 4, 5, 8)
- The witnesses wrote things that didn't necessarily reflect favorable on them or their cause.
  - Disciples arguing about positions of honor in heaven; who would have a seat at Jesus right hand (Mt. 20: 21)
  - Peter not eating with those who were uncircumcised (Gal. 2:11-12)
  - Women found the tomb empty first (Mt. 28:7-8; Mark 16:5-6; Luke 24:3; Jn. 20:1-2)
  - Jesus calling Peter Satan (Mt. 16:23)



***Ten reasons that the New Testament writers told the truth***

***Taken from "I Don't Have Enough Faith To Be An Atheist, by N. Geisler & F. Turek pp. 275-297***

1. Left in embarrassing details about themselves.
  - Multiple times there was no understanding in what Jesus taught (Mark 9:23, Luke 18:34, John 12:16).
  - They are rebuked – Peter was called Satan by Jesus Himself (Mark 8:33), and Paul rebuked Peter for being incorrect on doctrinal issues (Galatians 2:11).
  - They were doubters – some even doubted after seeing the resurrected Christ (Mathew 28:17).
  - People that are trying to pass off a story would not diminish their character while building their case.

## ***Ten reasons that the New Testament writers told the truth***

2. Included embarrassing and difficult sayings about Jesus:
  - Considered “*out of His mind*” by His mother and brother (Mark 3:21).
  - Is called a “*drunkard*” (Mathew 11:19).
  - Is called “*demon possessed*” (Mark 3:22).
  - Is called a “*madman*” (John 10:20).

# ***Ten reasons that the New Testament writers told the truth***

## 3. Left in demanding sayings of Jesus.

- Matthew 5:28 *But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*
- Matthew 5:48 *Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*
- Matthew 5:44. 45 *You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,*

## ***Ten reasons that the New Testament writers told the truth***

4. Carefully distinguished Jesus words from their own.
  - Points to the fact Jesus said what was recorded since the New Testament writers could have easily avoided difficult theological issues.
    - For example, Paul explicitly distinguished his own words from Jesus' words (1 Cor. 7:10-12)
    - They writers of the N.T. did not put into the mouth of Jesus answers to controversial issues like, circumcision, speaking in tongues, women in the church and etc..

## ***Ten reasons that the New Testament writers told the truth***

5. Described multiple events about the resurrection that they would not have included if they were trying to pass off a lie.
  - Joseph of Arimathea buried Jesus who was a member of the Sanhedrin, which was the Jewish ruling counsel that had sentenced Jesus to die for blasphemy. If Joseph did not bury Jesus the story would have been easily exposed by the Jews that opposed Christianity.
  - The eyewitnesses to the empty tomb were women. Women were not considered reliable witnesses and their testimony of events carried no weight in a court of law. Including women as the first witnesses to the resurrected Christ would only have hurt their case if they were trying to pass off a lie.



# ***Ten reasons that the New Testament writers told the truth***

- Mathew recorded the Jews fabrication of the resurrection
  - *Matthew 28:11-15 While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.' If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.*
- The Jews would have easily known if this recording was the truth or a lie and the recording could have been easily contested. If Matthew had made up the empty tomb story why would he have given his readers such an easy way to expose a lie? The only possible explanation is that the tomb was empty and Jesus resurrected.

## ***Ten reasons that the New Testament writers told the truth***

6. Over 30 historically confirmed people were referenced.
  - Several things were recorded of people that were in great power (Pilate, Caiaphas, Festus, Felix, and etc.)
  - There is no way possible that the New Testament writers could have gotten away with writing blatant lies about Pilate, Caiaphas, Festus, Felix and the entire Herodian blood line.

# *Ten reasons that the New Testament writers told the truth*

## 7. Included divergent details

- Divergent details show that the New Testament writers did not get together and try to smooth out their testimonies.
  - Matthew 27:44 - Did both robbers insult Christ, or did only one do this?
  - **Problem:** Matthew says here, “*the robbers who were crucified with Him also heaped insults on Him.*” However, according to Luke, only one insulted Him (Luke 23:39) while the other one believed in Him, asking, “*Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom*” (Luke 23:42).

## ***Ten reasons that the New Testament writers told the truth***

### 8. Appealed to verifiable facts, even facts on miracles.

- *2 Corinthians 12:12 The things that mark an apostle—signs, wonders and miracles—were done among you with great perseverance.*
- Miracles were done among the people showing and proving eye witness accounts.
- *1 Corinthians 15:6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.*
- People who were still alive at this time could have easily dismantled this if it were untrue.



# Did the Writers Use Primary Sources?

Luke 1:1-4 says,

“In as much as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word have handed down to us, it seemed fitting for me as well, **having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write [it] out for you in consecutive order**, most excellent Theophilus; so that you might know the exact truth about the things you have been taught.”



# Did the Writers Use Primary Sources?

- 2 Pet. 1:16 says,

“For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we make known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, **but we were eyewitnesses of His Majesty.**”

- I John 1:3 says,

“**What we have seen and heard we proclaim to you** also, that you also may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.”



## Did the Writers Use Primary Sources?

- John 19: 35 says,  
  
“And **he who has seen has borne witness, and his witness is true**; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you also may believe.”



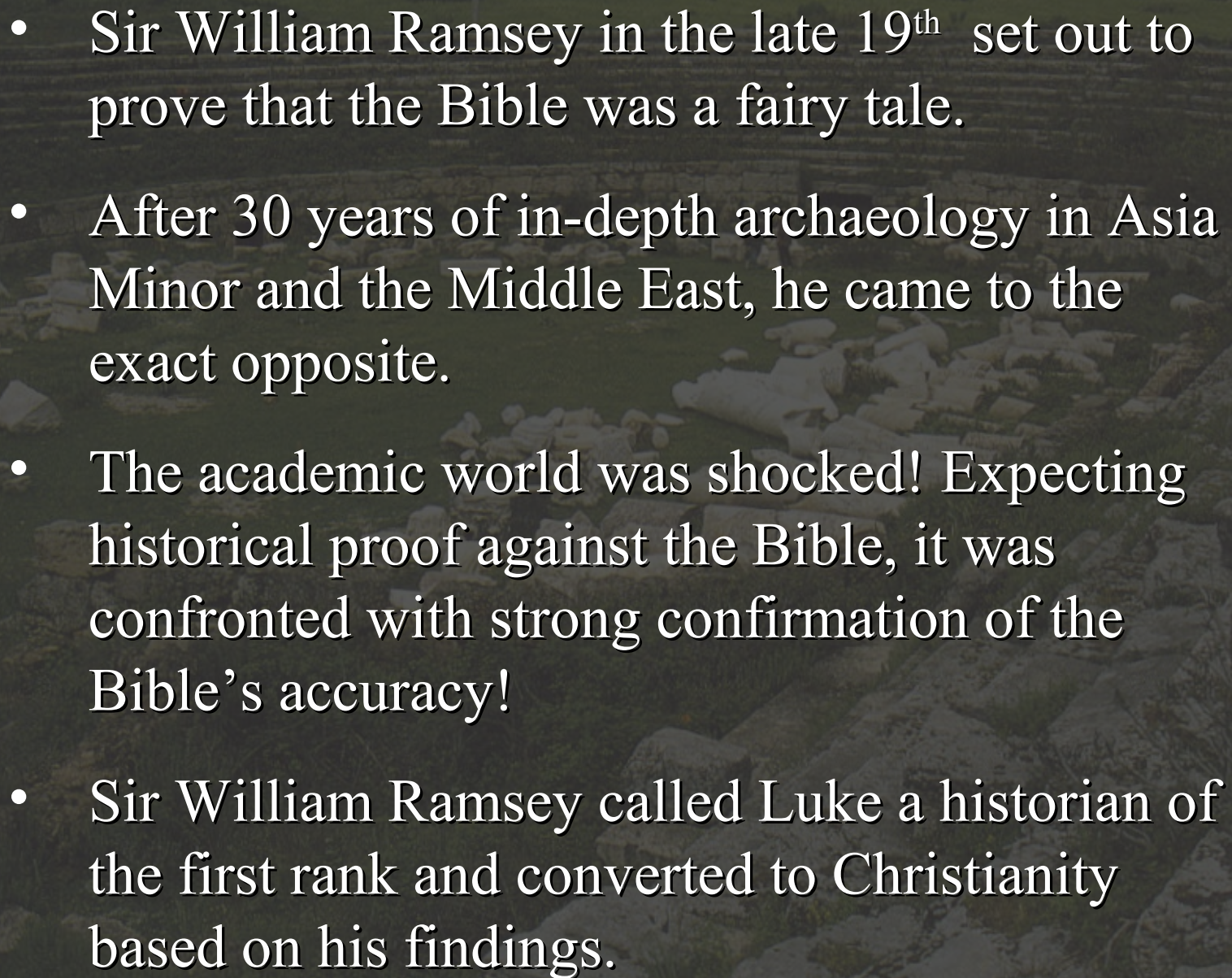
# Archaeology

## **The Testimony of the *Stones***

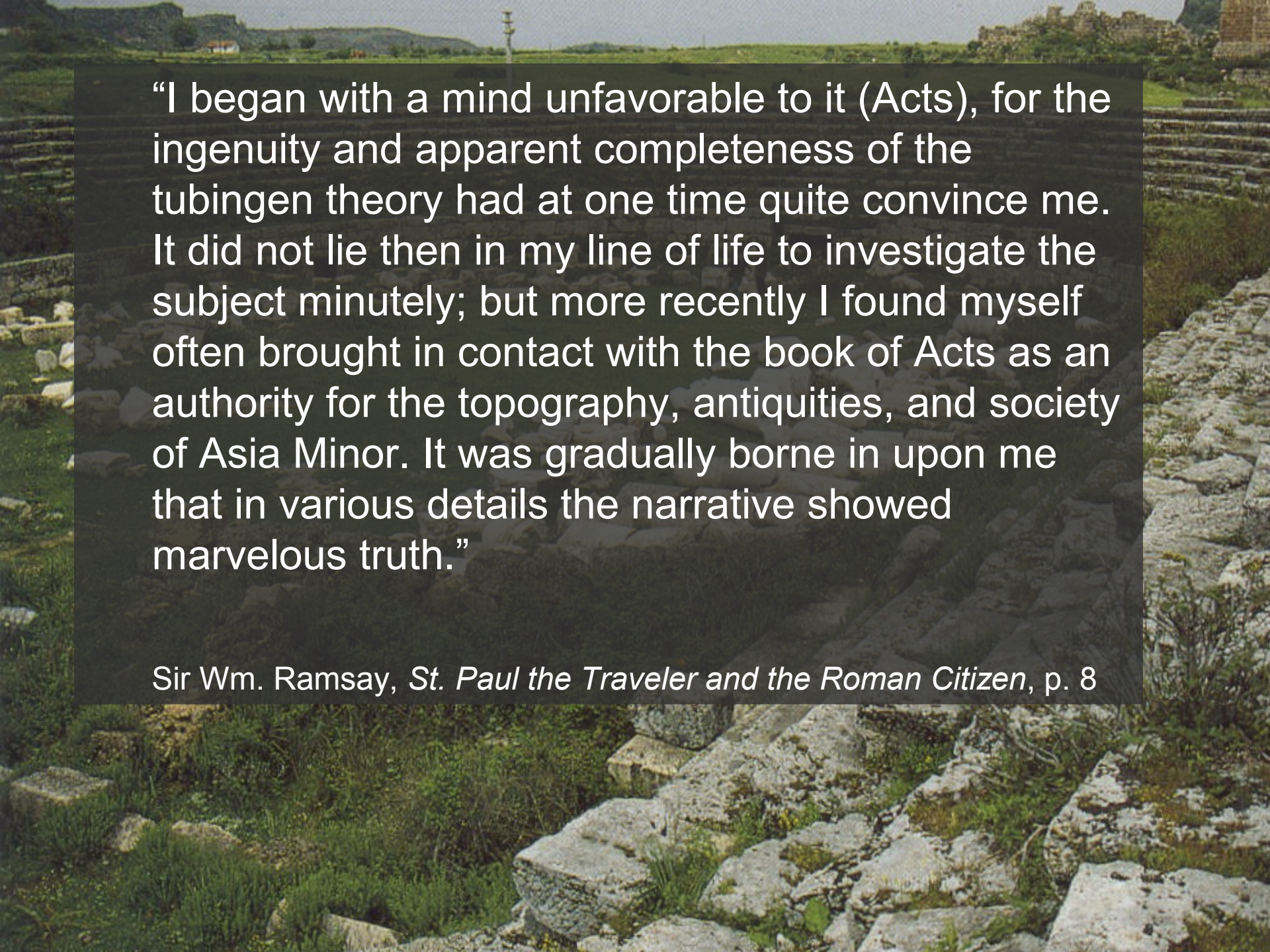
- 1. No archaeological evidence has ever refuted the Bible.**
- 2. Thousands of archaeological finds support the Bible.**





- 
- The background of the slide is a photograph of ancient stone ruins, likely a Roman or Greek site, built on a hillside. The ruins consist of numerous rectangular stone blocks and walls, some of which are partially overgrown with green vegetation. In the distance, there are rolling hills and a clear sky. The overall scene is bright and sunny, suggesting a clear day.
- Sir William Ramsey in the late 19<sup>th</sup> set out to prove that the Bible was a fairy tale.
  - After 30 years of in-depth archaeology in Asia Minor and the Middle East, he came to the exact opposite.
  - The academic world was shocked! Expecting historical proof against the Bible, it was confronted with strong confirmation of the Bible's accuracy!
  - Sir William Ramsey called Luke a historian of the first rank and converted to Christianity based on his findings.





“I began with a mind unfavorable to it (Acts), for the ingenuity and apparent completeness of the tubingen theory had at one time quite convince me. It did not lie then in my line of life to investigate the subject minutely; but more recently I found myself often brought in contact with the book of Acts as an authority for the topography, antiquities, and society of Asia Minor. It was gradually borne in upon me that in various details the narrative showed marvelous truth.”

Sir Wm. Ramsay, *St. Paul the Traveler and the Roman Citizen*, p. 8

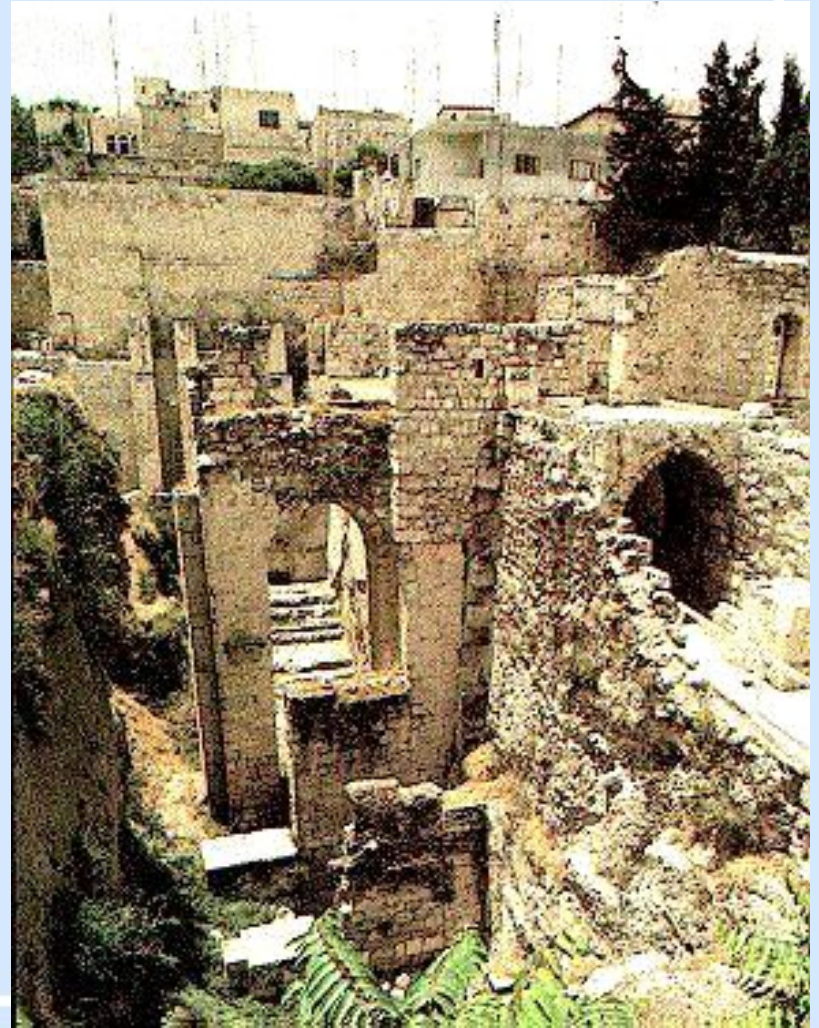


## *The Pool of Bethesda*

*In John 5:1-15 Jesus healed a man at the Pool of Bethesda*

*An John 5:1-15 Jesus heals a man at the Pool of Bethesda. Five porticoes were discovered Forty feet underground, archaeologists discovered pools matches John's description. [5]*

**[5] Youngblood, R. F., F. F. Bruce, B. K. Harrison, & Thomas Nelson Publishers. Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary. Nashville: T. Nelson, 1995.**



## *The Pool of Siloam*

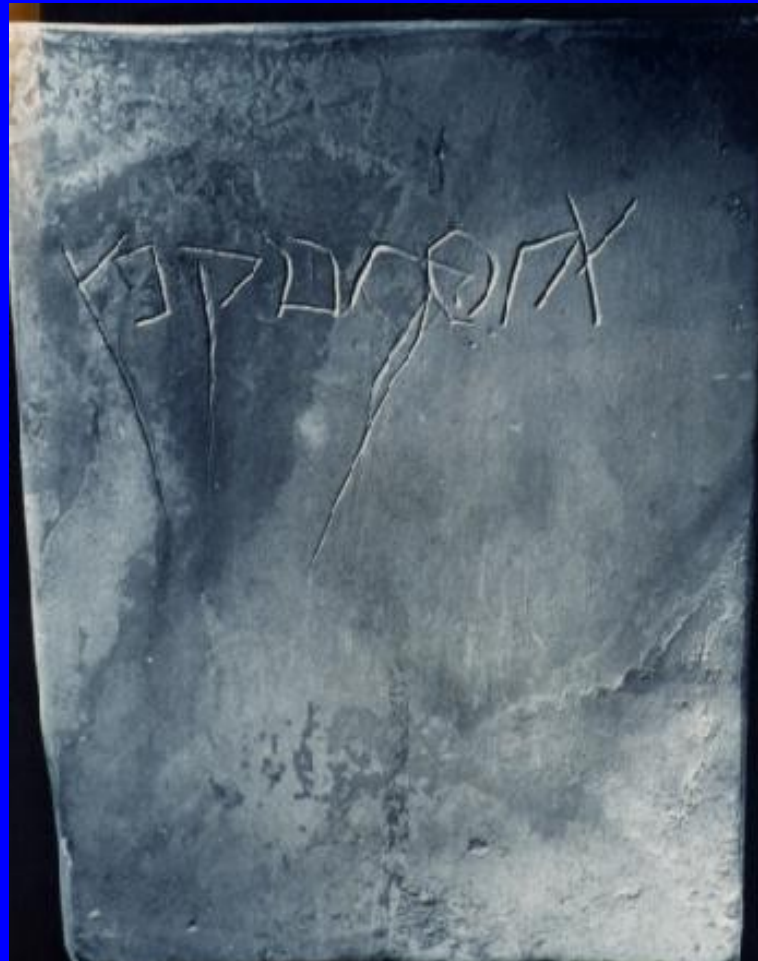
*In 9:7 John mentions another long disputed site, the Pool of Siloam. However, this pool was also discovered in 1897, upholding the accuracy of John.*





# Ossuary of Joseph Caiaphas: High Priest 18-36 A.D.

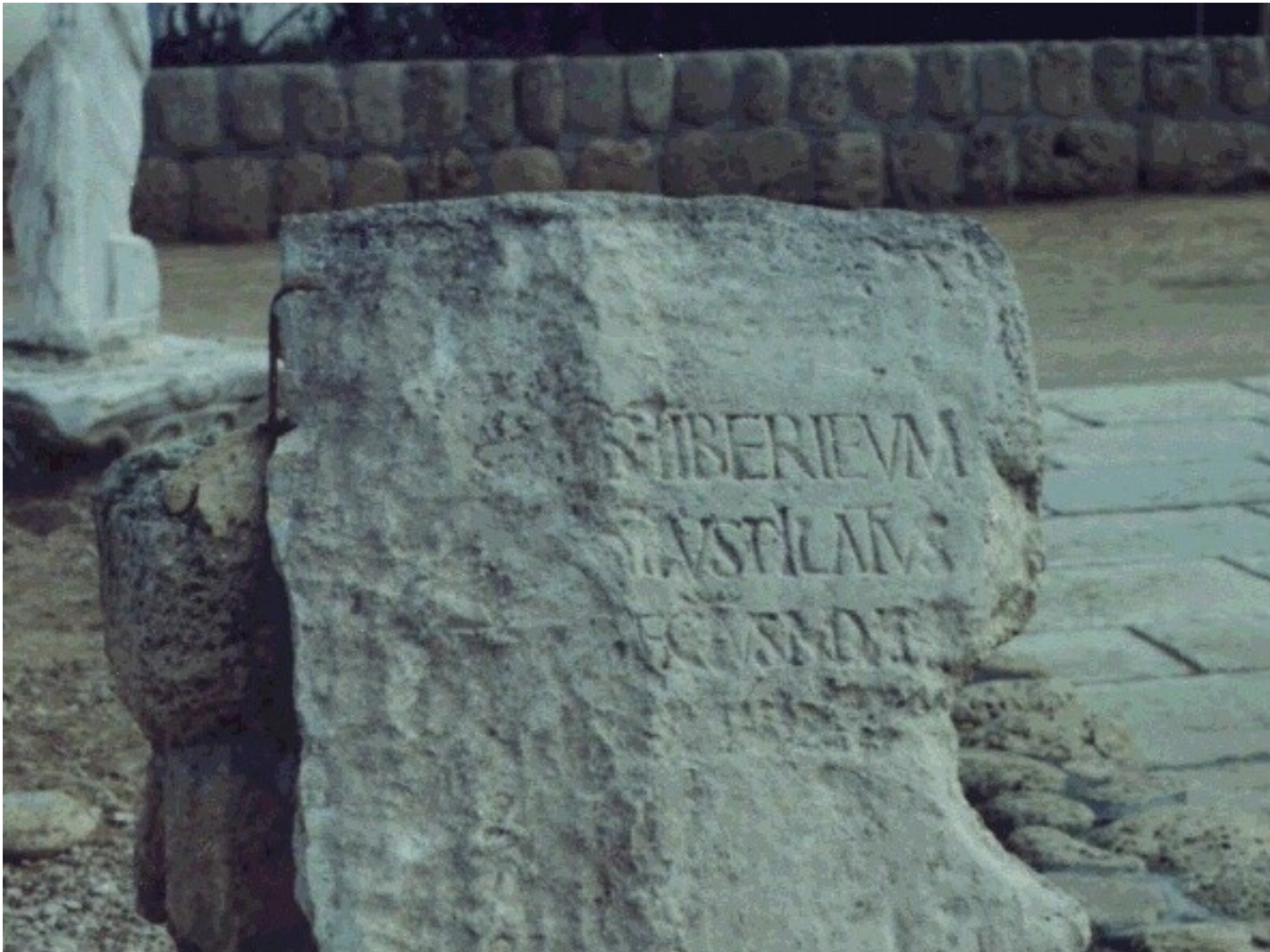
(Discovered 1990)



# Archaeological Evidence

- **1993 - Egyptologists found inscriptions on a monolith that had “House of David” and “King of Israel” written on it.**
- **Until 1993 there was no proof of the existence of King David or even of Israel as a nation prior to Solomon outside of the Bible.**

**“Pontius Pilate Prefect of Judea”  
26-37 A.D. (Discovered 1961)**





# What Are The Dead Sea Scrolls and Why are They Important?

- **In 1947 – A bedouin shepherd boy discovered scrolls in cave** at Qumran (about eight miles south of Jericho)
- The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls affirms the historical reliability of the Old Testament.
- They represent 1100 ancient manuscripts and more than 100,000 fragments
- They were written primarily in Hebrew and Aramaic, written by the Essenes.



## *The Dead Sea Scrolls*

- *The Dead Sea Scrolls demonstrated the meticulous care in recording the manuscripts for Jews.*
- *The Dead Sea scrolls attest to textual accuracy*



## The Significance of the Dead Sea Scroll discoveries?

The earliest manuscripts up until the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls was the Cairo codex dated about A.D. 895 containing both the latter and former prophets.

The Dead Sea Scrolls date from the third century B.C. to the first century A.D.



# Isaiah 53 in the Great Isaiah Scroll

(A Dead Sea Scroll from 100 B.C.)



A photograph of a fragment of the Great Isaiah Scroll, showing Hebrew text written in black ink on a light-colored, textured surface. The text is arranged in horizontal lines, with some words and numbers highlighted in red ink. The fragment is numbered 1, 5, 10, and 15 on the right side. The text is a translation of Isaiah 53, which describes the suffering servant. The red markings include numbers and some words, possibly indicating a specific version or a correction of the text. The fragment is numbered 1, 5, 10, and 15 on the right side. The text is a translation of Isaiah 53, which describes the suffering servant. The red markings include numbers and some words, possibly indicating a specific version or a correction of the text.

# The Significance of the Dead Sea Scroll discoveries?

Massoretic Text of Isaiah

916 A.D.

Dead Sea Scrolls text of Isaiah

125 B.C

Isaiah 53 has 166 words

words in question=1

Total variation= < 5%

**A Survey of Old Testament Introduction, p.19 Gleason Archer, Jr.**



## The Significance of the Dead Sea Scroll discoveries?

The two copies of Isaiah found in the Qumran caves, “proved to be word for word identical with our standard Hebrew Bible in more than 95% of the text. The 5% of variation consisted chiefly of obvious slips of the pen and variations in spelling.”

A Survey of Old Testament Introduction, p.19 Gleason Archer, Jr.

# A Reporters Conclusion

## Archaeology (N.T.)



“In extraordinary ways, modern archeology has affirmed the historical core of the Old and New Testaments--corroborating key portions of the stories of Israel’s patriarchs, the Exodus, the Davidic monarchy, the life and times of Jesus.”

Jeffrey Shelter, *Is the Bible True?*, US News and World Report, Oct. 25, 1999, p. 52

# Conclusions of a Respected Archaeologist (cont.)

“We can say emphatically that there is no longer any solid basis for dating any book of the New Testament after about A.D. 80, two full generations before the date between 130-150 given by the more radical New Testament critics of today.”

Albright, *Recent Discoveries in the Bible Lands*, p. 136

## Archaeology O.T.

“The geography of Bible lands and visible remains of antiquity were gradually recorded until today more than 25,000 sites within this region and dating to Old Testament times, in their broadest sense, have been located...”

Wiseman, “Archaeological Confirmation of the Old Testament”  
in C.F. Henry, *Revelation and the Bible*, 301-302

As the famous archaeologist, Nelson Glueck, once said,

*"it may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a biblical reference. Scores of archaeological findings have been made which confirm in clear outline or exact detail historical statements in the Bible."*

(Rivers in the Desert, pg. 31, 1959)

