

Basic Training Lesson 5.2

The Bible is God's Word Part 2

Ps 1:1-2

1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

1. Review
1. Basic Training 1: The Importance of Truth
2. Basic Training 2: Love and Marriage were God's Ideas (2 lessons)
3. Basic Training 3: Prayer & Prayer Warfare (4 Lessons)
4. Basic Training 4: New Testament New Birth and the New Life (2 lessons)
5. Basic Training 5: The Bible is God's Word (3-4 lessons)
6. Basic Training 6: Who is God?

7. Last time we began our discussion of how we can know the Bible is the Word of God.
8. First, the Book declares itself to be God's Word.
9. Second, kings, prophets and apostles declared it as such.
10. Third, Jesus Christ Himself endorsed it as such.
11. Anyone who accepts the integrity of Jesus Christ must also accept the fact that He endorsed the scriptures as God's Word.
12. Another reason we can know the Bible is God's Word is the character of the Bible.

II. The Character of the Bible

A. Content

1. The first characteristic to note is the content of the Bible; it answers man's deepest philosophical and spiritual questions.

2. Questions concerning our origin, identity, purpose, destiny, are all covered in the Bible.
3. Consider this one: Why is there something rather than nothing?

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the Heaven and the earth.

John 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

4. Who am I? Where did I come from? Why do I exist? Am I only matter that has evolved or is there something special about me?

*Genesis 1:27 So God **created** man in his own image, **in the image of God** created he him; male and female created he them.*

5. What is my purpose for being here?

*Revelation 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and **for thy pleasure** they are and were **created**.*

6. Where is my life going? What is my ultimate destination?

John 14:2-3

2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

*3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that **where I am, there ye may be also.***

7. The content of the Bible provides answers that can only come from God.

B. Moral superiority

1. A second characteristic to note is that the Bible is morally superior to any other book.
2. The Bible teaches about holiness, morality, love, justice, truth, grace, and mercy in a way that no other book does.

Micah 6:8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what [is] good; and what doth the LORD

- require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?*
3. *1 Peter 1:15 But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;*
 4. No other ancient book on religion has such a unique emphasis on strict monotheism and on ethical conduct.
 5. The Bible contains the highest moral teachings and calls for the highest standard of ethics of any book in the world.
 6. If the world's most moral book is not what it claims to be, than it would be the world's biggest lie.
 7. But it proclaims its own words to be truth.
- c. Unity
1. Its content and its moral superiority are characteristics that indicate it is the Word of God.

2. But a third characteristic, its unity of message, is also a strong testimony about the Bible.
3. Imagine how a book that began to be written 1500 years ago, around 500 AD during the days of the legendary King Arthur of England. **[image 5-2-0]** Arthur] One author began it that year, and another completed it this year.
4. Imagine that book, after having 40 different writers over that 1500 year period, writing from three different continents, with such varied occupations as fishermen, shepherds, tax collectors, doctors, trained theologians, princes and kings.
5. What is the chance that book would come together with a highly spiritual content, such moral superiority, and such a totally unified message like the Bible?
6. The Bible was written over period spanning 1500 years with all these qualities.

7. Moses was a prince educated in the royal palace of Egypt. Peter was a Galilean fisherman who was called “unlearned and ignorant”.
 8. Solomon was a wise king. Luke was a doctor. Paul a trained theologian. Amos was a shepherd. Matthew was a tax collector.
 9. Yet even with these major differences in background and huge time span of the writers, it presents a consistent and coherent message on morality, salvation and one plan for the future.
 10. Only the Bible shows such high character because it is the Word of God.
John 17:17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.
- III. Historical and Scientific Verification
1. We’ve examined the testimony of scripture itself, the testimony of Jesus Christ and the

character of the Bible as reasons we can know it is God's word.

2. Now let us take a look at evidence from history and science.
 - A. Agreement with history
 1. Archeological and historical research have added to the evidence that confirms the accuracy of the Bible.
 2. **[image 5-2-1]** The cover story of the March/April 2014 issue of the Biblical Archaeology Review, is called "Archeology Confirms 50 Real People in the Bible."
 3. In 1993, a 9th Century BC Aramean inscription on a basalt stone mentions a victory won over the **kingdom of Judah** and the **House of David**, and the King of Israel. "This was the first time the name of David has been found in any ancient inscription outside the Bible."
 4. **[image 5-2-2]** Picture of piece of stone fragment_House of David.

5. The article also shows pictures a carving of King Sargon of Assyria. **[image 5-2-3]** Here is a stone carving of him in his palace in Khorsabad.
6. Before these records were uncovered of an Assyrian king named Sargon, the Bible was criticized as inventing a fictitious king. But his palace has been discovered in Iraq as well as a confirmation of his capture of Ashdod that is described in Isaiah 20.
7. **[image 5-2-4]** This is a Cuneiform prism that was discovered that describes another Assyrian king, Sennacherib, boasting of his military campaigns in Judah in the city of Lachish as recorded in 2 Chronicles 32:9. It also mentions that he had King Hezekiah entrapped in Jerusalem “like a bird in a cage.”
8. **[image 5-2-5]** This is an engraving from a Moabite stone that mentions Omri, king of Israel (2 Kings 3), the God of the Israelites, and the House of David.

9. The article names 50 people mentioned in the Old Testament whose existence was also confirmed through various archeological discoveries.
10. 5 Egyptian kings; 1 Moabite king; 9 kings of Israel; 14 kings of Judah; 6 Assyrian kings; 5 Babylonian kings; 5 Persian kings.
11. Then in the March-June 2018 issue of the Biblical Archaeology Review, there was an article that mentioned the discoveries of 34 seal impressions found in a dig at the City of David. One such seal has written King Hezekiah son of Ahaz **[image 5-2-6.0]**, and another says Belonging to Isaiah the Prophet. ¹ **[image 5-2-6.2]**
12. There is no other ancient book that has so much archeological evidence to support its accounts. That is because the events of the Bible are historical, not myths or legends.
13. Because God cannot tell a lie, we would expect nothing less of His Word, and

¹ <https://www.baslibrary.org/biblical-archaeology-review/44/2/7> accessed 3/7/2023

archeology has certainly offered confirmation of the accuracy of the truth found in the Bible.

Titus 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

- B. Agreement with science
 - 1. Not only have many historical discoveries confirmed the message of the Bible, there is also agreement with science as well.
 - 2. During the period covered by the Old Testament, people believed many superstitions and false scientific concepts, yet the Bible never contradicts true science.
 - 3. If it were not for the divine inspiration of the Bible, it would also be full of scientific errors.
 - 4. There are many scientific truths that were not known during the ancient days during which the Bible was written but are recorded in scripture.

- a. Blood plays an essential role in sustaining life
Leviticus 17:14 For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off.
- b. The earth hangs on nothing in outer space
Job 26:7 He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.
- c. The earth is round
Isaiah 40:22 It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in:

- d. The global wind circuits that are observable only from space.
Ecclesiastes 1:6 The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits. [image of earth]
- e. The hydrological cycle that shows that the rain on land came from water which evaporated from the sea.
Ecclesiastes 1:7 All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.
- f. The Four Laws of Thermodynamics are some of the most important laws in physics. The first two that deal with the conservation of energy, and entropy are inferred in Genesis 2:2-3, and Psalms 102:25-26.

c. Dinosaurs in the Bible

1. From <http://www.clarifyingchristianity.com/dinos.shtml>
2. Behemoth: Job 40:15-24 tells of a huge creature whose tail is as a cedar tree, ribs like bars of iron and he eats vegetation. He is called the “First of the ways of God” which in Hebrew implies it is the biggest animal ever created by God. The largest land animal discovered is the brachiosaurus and all descriptions of Behemoth match him with the **brachiosaurus. [image 5-2-7]**
3. Leviathan: Job 41, Psalm 104:25-26, Isaiah 27:1 all describe this creature as a sea dragon, ferocious, terrifying with terrible teeth, scales of armor, and he breathes out fire. His description closely matches a **kronosaurus. [image 5-2-8]**
4. It is a fact of nature that spewing fire is a defensive technique of the small bombardier beetle of Central American, which has a flame-throwing nozzle that

sprays high temperature jet of gas. **[image 5-2-9]**

5. If that feature exists on a modern creature, it is not unlikely that it existed in the ancient dragon-like creature called leviathan.
 6. Here is an interesting thought. Stories of fire-breathing dragons have abounded in ancient cultures. It is likely that the dragon stories are based on a truth that such animals did exist, as recorded in the Bible.
- IV. Fulfilled Prophecy
1. The Bible is the only prophetic book of major religions.
 2. It is the **ONLY** book whose specific predictions have come to pass without error.
 3. There are approximately 1800 predictions in the Bible and many have already been literally fulfilled and some are being fulfilled in our day.

- B. Fulfilled prophecies concerning Israel
1. One of the most astounding prophecies in scripture is the re-gathering of the Jews to the land called Palestine.
 2. God made a promise to the father of the Israelites, Abraham, that He would give them the land of Canaan or Palestine as we call it today.
 3. They eventually occupied it and their kings ruled from there.
 4. However, they rebelled against God and God removed them as punishment for their rebellion. But He also promised to return them there:

Isaiah 11:11-12

11 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the

sea.

12 And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

5. This is one of the most remarkable fulfillments of prophecy. After 1900 years of not existing as a nation, Israel was re-gathered into their land and became a nation again in 1948.
6. Jews continue to pour into Israel every week.
- c. Fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus the Messiah
 1. The Old Testament predicted many events concerning the Messiah (approximately 456 predictions).
 2. Among them are:
 - a. His genealogy from the tribe of Judah through King David
 - b. His miraculous conception

- c. His ministry in Galilee
 - d. His rejection by Jews
 - e. The time of His birth
 - f. The place of His birth
 - g. His triumphal entry into Jerusalem
 - h. His betrayal for 30 pieces of silver
 - i. And these details concerning His last 24 hours: His trial, His silence, being hit, spit on, punished with other criminals, piercing, mockery, offering of gall and vinegar to drink, the casting of lots for His garments, unbroken bones, crucifixion, death, burial with the rich, resurrection and ascension.
3. Each of these details of Jesus' life were predicted long before He was born.
- v. Summary
1. We've examined some of the evidence of why we can know the Bible is the Word of God.

2. We looked at the testimony of scripture itself, indicating that it came by inspiration of God and then God moved the people to speak and write it.
3. We considered the supremely high moral content and character of the Bible clearly that identifies it as the Word of God.
4. We saw how history and science also confirm the accuracy of scripture.
5. And finally we considered the fulfilled prophecy that gives the Bible the authority of the Word of God.
6. The Bible is what it says it is: God's Word.
Ps 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.
7. *Ps 1:1-2*
1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.
2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD;

and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

8. With such strong evidence supporting the Bible, we need to give the Word of God a regular and trusted place in our lives.
9. Next week we will consider other strong evidence like its indestructibility, its worldwide use, and how it changes lives.
10. I am a life that has been changed by the Word. When I was around 17 years old, the choir director in our church told me to memorize this passage of scripture:
Proverbs 3:5-6
5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.
11. Just before we started dating, an evangelist told my wife to memorize this verse:
Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

12. We are evidence that when a young person takes a Bible verse and makes it their life map, it can make a lifetime of difference.