

## **The Newness of Life lesson 5-Trust the Bible God Wrote it Plainly In Stone**

*Ex 34:27 And the LORD said unto Moses, Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel.*

*Deut 27:8 And thou shalt write upon the stones all the words of this law very plainly.*

*Ex 24:3-4*

*3 And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments: and all the people answered with one voice, and said, All the words which the LORD hath said will we do.*

*4 And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel.*

- I. Review/Introduction
1. The Newness of Life 1-What Just Happened? When Peter used the keys of the kingdom to open the gospel message to three groups.
2. The Newness of Life 2-Victory in the New Life. God intends you to have victory in this new life and He provided you helps so you CAN be victorious over daily battles.
3. The Newness of Life 3-Teach us to Pray. The Lord's prayer is a guide for a simple daily conversation with God. Talking to God daily is critical to our new life.
4. The Newness of Life 4-Victory in Spiritual Warfare. When the devil attacks, we need to remember and to use the authority Jesus gave us over the devil to make him flee.
5. The Holy Bible is trustworthy and is uniquely God's Word to mankind. God spoke words, and in some cases, God Himself wrote the words down on stone.

6. In other cases, God spoke to His prophet or apostle and then told them to write down those words.
  7. When we combine daily prayer with daily Bible reading, we end up with a two-way conversation with God that sets us up with a plan to succeed in every day.
  8. On good days, it sets up on a highway of blessing and rejoicing.
  9. On difficult days, it puts us on the best path toward not just survival, but also victory.
- II. The Bible is a book about answers
1. The Bible is not so much a book as it is a library of 66 books.
  2. And although some of its earliest books were written between 3-4 thousand years ago, it remains the most current book that still holds the answers that modern man, from senior citizens to Gen-Zers seek answers to.

3. Scientists and philosophers have focused on the big question: Why is there something rather than nothing? And how is there a universe and how is it that we are even able to consider such a question?

*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 Bible contains answers that are existential and transcendental. That means it explains why we even exist and that those answers come from One who is much higher than this physical realm.
8. The Bible came to us from God to give us a window to peer through to understand something about God, our existence, and eternity.
9. Even God's name revealed in the early days that we translate as Jehovah, or Yahweh, actually means "self-existent one" or "the

being one,” or “the I AM.” God is, He always has been and always will be. So we can trust His Book.

III. Why is the Bible trustworthy?

A. It is God’s actual words

1. First, the Bible contains words that God spoke

*2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*

2. *2 Peter 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved [carried along] by the Holy Ghost.*

3. These verses tell us that scripture came to us in a [slide] two-fold manner.

- a. First, God “inspired”: theo-neustos: “God-breathed” words to the writers;

- b. Second, God “moved”: “carried, or moved by bearing” the prophets to speak and write.
- 4. Literally, that means that God breathed words into men’s minds, and then the Spirit moved them to speak them and/or write them down.
- 5. That is how we got the Bible from God’s mind to the pages in front of us today.

B. Jesus certified the Old Testament

- 1. So God inspired and moved biblical writers to record His words. In addition to that, Jesus Christ Himself confirmed the trustworthiness of the writings of the Old Testament :

*Luke 24:44-45*

*44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the*

*psalms, concerning me.*

*45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,*

2. Jesus validated the Old Testament by calling it the “scriptures.” Jesus also said the scriptures are more important than our traditions:

*Mark 7:8-9*

*8 For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do.*

*9 And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.*

3. That means that while we may have had some traditions handed down to you about how you do life and religion, but Jesus said to make sure you place the Bible as the higher priority.
4. So make a priority at discovering what the Bible says, because while traditions may



change over time, the Bible remains the same trustworthy Book:

*Matt 5:17-18*

*17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.*

*18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*

5. **[2 images: jot is yod; tittle on the resh and daleth]** A “jot” or yod, is the name of the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet. A tittle is a single pen stroke that can change one letter into another.
6. Jesus said the Bible is indestructible down to the smallest part.
7. And we have a story in Jeremiah that demonstrates what that is true.
8. A wicked king named Jehoiakim did not like the words of God that the Prophet Jeremiah had written on a scroll, so he took out his knife, cut it in pieces and threw it in the fire.

*Jeremiah 36:23 And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth.*

9. But that did not destroy God's word because God is a living God! God just gave the same words to Jeremiah again and he wrote them down another time.
10. God's word is indestructible because God is indestructible!
11. And Jesus believed in the stories in the Old Testament about how God created men and women, making them male and female.
12. Jesus believed in the story of Noah and the ark saying His coming back was just as certain.
13. And Jesus believed Jonah was swallowed by a whale and spent 3 days in its belly and came out alive the third day.

- IV. The Character of and Evidence for the Bible
  - A. Moral superiority
    - 1. A characteristic to note is that the Bible is how it is morally superior to any other religious book.
    - 2. When you consider the Bible's teaching about holiness, morality, love, justice, equity, truth, grace, and mercy, it hits a high mark 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 us to live by the highest standard of ethics of any book in the world.
  6. So think about this: 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 if its words are true, as it calls us to truth, then we should prioritize it in our lives making it our guide for living.
- B. Agreement with history
1. Archeological and historical research over the past 200 years, and very much of that has been in the last 50 years, have provided much evidence that confirms the accuracy of people and events recorded in the Bible.
  2. As an example, The cover story of the March/April 2014 issue of the Biblical Archaeology Review, is called **[image]** **“Archaeology Confirms 50 Real People in the Bible.”**

3. In the 10 years since that issue was published, that article has been updated so the list is now up to **[image] 83 Real Bible People** personalities from both old and new testaments that have been confirmed by sources outside the Bible.
- c. Fulfilled Prophecy
1. The Bible is the only prophetic book of major religions.
  2. There are approximately 1800 predictions in the Bible and many have already been literally fulfilled and some are being fulfilled in our day.
  3. One of the most astounding prophecies in scripture relates to the promise God made to the father of the Israelites, Abraham, that He would give them the land of Canaan.
  4. And they did rule over that land for a time, but when they rebelled against God, God allowed others to boot them out, but He also promised they would return to that

land one day:


*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.

7. And there are the prophecies in the Old Testament foretelling the coming of the Messiah (approximately 456 predictions).
8. Among them are:
  - a. His genealogy from the tribe of Judah through King David; His miraculous conception; His ministry in Galilee; His rejection by Jews; The time of His birth; The place of His birth; His triumphal entry into Jerusalem; and His betrayal for 30 pieces of silver.
  - b. Also foretold in prophecy were these details concerning the Messiah's 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.
9. Each of these details of Jesus' life were predicted long before He was born.

- v. The Witness in Human Society
  - A. Universally available
    - 1. What is remarkable to consider every time we speak of this, the Bible the best selling and most widely distributed book of all times with between 5 and 7 billion copies being distributed worldwide.
    - 2. No other book in the world has ever come close to having such a widespread distribution as the Bible.
    - 3. And despite the rise of some dictators who wanted to rid the world of the Bible, those dictators passed off the scene and there are even more Bibles available now than there were in their day.
    - 4. Perhaps you have heard about the book,  **“God’s Smuggler,”** by Bro. Andrew. In 1955, when the atheist communist governments of eastern Europe were prohibiting the printing, selling and distribution of the Bible, Bro. Andrew, a



Dutch missionary, began smuggling Bibles behind the Iron Curtain.

5. Bro. Andrew would pray this simple prayer as he was attempting to cross a border:
6. “Lord, in my luggage I have Scripture that I want to take to Your children across the border. When You were on earth, You made blind eyes see. Now, I pray, make seeing eyes blind. Do not let the guards see those things You do not want them to see.”
7. He told of how border guards would take four hours to search his car, two in the front, two in the rear, and two underneath, and all the while would have someone watching his eyes to see if he would grow nervous. But somehow they would somehow never see the Bibles.
8. He had packed Bibles into his little blue Volkswagon, under the back seat or under the front hood, but in an interview in 1975, he reported that in 20 years of smuggling Bibles, he never lost one.

9. And because of his work, the Word of God brought hope into some of the darkest and most oppressed places on earth.
- B. Life-changing power
1. Why is all this talk about the Bible so important? Because people who believe and act on the teachings of the Bible can receive answered prayers, healings, and even receive the Holy Ghost, all in ways just as was promised and experienced in the Bible.
  2. And there is the undeniable evidence that sinners who believe the Bible are converted supernaturally and delivered from sinful habits, addictions, sinful lifestyles, chronic lying, alcoholism, drug addictions, fornication, adultery, homosexuality, stealing, and murder, and more.

*1 Cor 6:9-11*

*9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not*

*deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,  
10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.*

*11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.*

3. Many people whose lives were trapped in the sins described there have been able to testify to the truth of this verse:

*2 Cor 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

4. I am not just in the church, when I trust in the Bible's promises, I can be filled with the Spirit in me and also be IN CHRIST!
5. If you are in Christ, you are in the safest place possible.

6. Why even death cannot hold down those who are in Christ!

*1 Thess 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:*

7. People who believe the Bible message and commit their life to that message are still miraculously changed yet today.

## VI. Conclusion

1. Does the Bible still change lives? Is there anyone here who has had the Bible to impact your life to the point of changing you?
2. Is there anyone here who wants the Bible to change their life? Jesus is giving an invitation:

*Matt 11:28-30*

*28 Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

*29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me;*

*for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.*

*30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.*

3. The most important truth that we can apply from what we have learned is that the Bible is God's Word and it trustworthy.
4. If God wrote a book, wouldn't it be wise to know much about it and obey it?

*John 5:39 Search the scriptures ; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*

5. That Book tells about eternal life and of Jesus.
6. Make reading it, listening to it, studying it, meditating on it, and memorizing it, a priority.