

Believe the **B**ible

***"To the law and to
the testimony: if they
speak not according
to this word. it is
because there is no
light in them."
Isaiah 8:20***

Why Should I Trust the Bible?

Unscramble the letters to find the answers...

- 1) H Y E R P C P O A S H O C E M R T E U

Without fail, prophecies in the Bible have happened exactly as outlined by the prophets. Predictions made hundreds of years before the event happened, have been accurately fulfilled.

- 2) T I E S I I F T T S E F O A

G H I E H R W P E R O

Everytime you read the Bible, something new can be learned. It is a chanel of life-changing power. Its sound advice, proven wisdom and timeless concepts testify that someone of much higher capabilities is in control.

- 3) C A G A E H C I O L L O A R S N I D F

V F I Y R E E L B B I S T A C F

No archaeological find has ever contradicted the Bible. It has only confirmed what the Bible teaches. As archaeologists progress, they uncover more and more evidence to support the Bible.

- 4) C R O A L H I I S T S T R E W R I

F I M C R O N B L I B E R I S E T O S

There are a number of reputable historical writers who verify scriptural facts. As an example, Thallus, in 52 A.D., wrote about the darkness that covered the land during Jesus' crucifixion.

- 5) T I S H A A

S H I V E E C O L Y O R T I S E N

Many different authors wrote the Bible over hundreds of years, yet they provide a consistent, common-threaded and ever clarifying story.

- 6) H E T L O Y H T R I S I P

V O C T S I N C U Y O O T

I E V L E B E

As you read the Bible and the Spirit of God prompts you to embrace truth, you should follow your conscience. Repeatedly rejecting the Holy Spirit will result in less and less guidance.

Why Is the Bible Sometimes Difficult to Understand?

Unscramble the letters to determine the answers.

- A) II Peter 3:16 "As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction."

It some things that are to understand.
O A C T I N S N D R A H

Even though some things are difficult to understand, by increasing your knowledge of the scriptures and with the Holy Spirit's help, you can avoid incorrect interpretations.

- B) The last author of the Bible died over 1,900 years ago.

You a different .
K A S E P G E U L A A N G

The way we think and the words we use today are different than the words Bible writers used in their day. We should carefully consider the words they used and their original meaning.

- C) People had different customs, fashions and ways of living that are very different from how we live today.

You in a different .
V E I L T R U C L U E

We need to consider the context of a text and the surrounding circumstances in which the event happened.

- D) The Bible mentions kings, nations, rivers, cities and other historical facts, of which we are not familiar with today.

You at a different in .
E V I L I M T E Y H O I T S R

We can learn more about the geography and historical figures in Bible times to help in our understanding of the Bible.

- E) Luke 24:45 "Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,"

You have allowed to you.
O T N O D G P L E H

You can read and read, but without God's help, you will not obtain a right understanding. In fact, you can cause major damage to your spiritual journey because you might go down an entirely wrong path of thought.

Are Some Parts of the Bible More Important Than Others?

Enter the number from the Bible concept in the left column, in the line next to the appropriate text that teaches about it in the right column.

1. All scripture is inspired.	_____ Luke 24:25-27
2. It is equally important to obey the Old Testament prophets and the New Testament Apostles.	_____ II Peter 3:2
3. The message of the Prophets in the Old Testament was about Jesus.	_____ Matthew 5:17
4. Inspiration received from the Father, Jesus or the Holy Spirit will all agree.	_____ Acts 3:20-21
5. Error happens when we don't know the scriptures.	_____ Mark 12:24
6. It is foolish to disbelieve what the prophets wrote.	_____ 2 Tim. 3:16
7. If you don't believe what Moses wrote, you won't believe what Christ said.	_____ John 5: 45-47
8. Jesus didn't try to change what Moses wrote. He fulfilled the prophecies in Moses' writings.	_____ Luke 24:44
9. Jesus believed that the words in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms would come true.	_____ I John 5:7

Some people believe that the Old Testament is not as inspired or reliable as the New Testament.

However, the Bible does not support that view. Also, Jesus didn't believe that.

He referenced the scriptures numerous times and the scriptures He referred to were the writings of prophets in the Old Testament. The New Testament didn't exist yet.

Jesus was very clear that we should believe the prophets and read the scriptures.

However, He did strive to correct misunderstandings and erroneous interpretations of the scriptures.

Are There Discrepancies in the Bible?

You may hear people talk of apparent discrepancies in the Bible, where it seems to conflict with other parts of the Bible, thus testing their faith. However, apparent discrepancies need not deter us from our "Journey of Faith". If you perceive a discrepancy in the Bible, examine it, consider carefully the following points and ask yourself these questions:

Point #1:

Humans are prone to misinterpretation due to reliance on self or lack of thorough investigation.

	Yes	No
- Have I prayed about the subject and asked for the Holy Spirit's guidance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Have I studied what other parts of the Bible teach about this subject?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Point #2:

A scribe could make a mistake when copying.

	Yes	No
- Is this one of the rare cases when a copying mistake was made, such as punctuation was left out or a 3 was written as 2, etc.?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Point #3:

A translator could mistakenly use an incorrect word.

	Yes	No
- Has the meaning of a word changed since my version of the Bible was written?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Could the translator have misunderstood the original word and have I looked it up in a Hebrew or Greek dictionary?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Point #4:

Some words in the Bible are simply accurately recording an event that took place. For example, consider the words of Job's friends. Clearly, the advice that Job's friends gave to Job were not inspired by God. However, God's inspired writers faithfully recorded the story so we can learn from it today.

	Yes	No
- Have I investigated the source of the subject and who said it?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Point #5:

Since the original words were inspired by God, a discrepancy wouldn't be in the original manuscripts or else God couldn't be relied upon to communicate His word.

	Yes	No
- Am I doubting God Himself?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are There Inspired Writers In Our Time?

The Bible informs us that there will be false and good prophets in the last days. In order to know if someone is being led by the Holy Spirit or not, we have to put them to the test.

- A) Matthew 7:15-17 "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravaging wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit."

Yes No

Does the "Prophet" produce good fruit, which can be seen by their actions?

☐ ☐

- B) Isaiah 8:20 "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them."

Are the words of the "Prophet" in harmony with the teachings in the Bible?

☐ ☐

- C) I John 4:1-3 "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God..."

Does the "Prophet" believe that Jesus Christ has come to earth as a human?

☐ ☐

- D) I Cor. 12:3 "Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost."

Does the "Prophet" teach that Jesus is the Savior and the Son of God (not just simply a good man)?

☐ ☐

- E) Deut. 18:20-22 - "But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him."

Has the "Prophet's" predictions come to pass?

☐ ☐

- F) Ephes 4:3-6 - "Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

Does the "Prophet" teach the same things the Holy Spirit, Jesus and God the Father inspired true prophets to write (or does he/she contradict?

☐ ☐

TOTAL SCORE (add 1 point for each "Yes" answer):

Will Science Ever Catch Up?

Compare what the Bible teaches to what people actually believed.
Then answer "yes" or "no" in the right-side column.

The Bible Teaches:	Where It's Found:	What People Actually Believed:	Do People Still Doubt This?
1. The earth is round	Isaiah 40:22 Job 26:10 Prov 8:27	People in the fifteenth century feared sailing because they might fall over the edge of the flat earth.	_____
2. The earth is suspended in nothing	Job 26:7	A popular belief at the time this text was written, was that the earth was held up on pillars, people or animals.	_____
3. There are paths in the sea	Psalms 8:3-8	This text informs us that there are "paths of the seas". Not until the 1800's did scientists believe this and find and map many of these paths. They found ocean currents that dramatically sped ocean travel times, warm and cold continental currents, and a forty mile wide, 2000 feet deep current flowing from the Gulf of Mexico up through the Atlantic. Matthew Maury launched this research project and made these important discoveries after reading this Bible text and taking God at His word.	_____
4. The earth is deteriorating	Psalms 102:25,26	This text indicates that the earth is deteriorating. However, when this scripture was written, people believed that the universe was unchangeable. Since then, science has proven that the universe is actually experiencing radical changes.	_____
5. The Hydrologic Cycle	Job 36:27-28 Eccles 1:6-7 Eccles 11:3 Amos 9:6	The cycle of water and its important work in our earth wasn't understood until just a few years before Christ was born. Yet the Bible informed us about it around 1600 BC.	_____
6. Species reproduce only their own kind	Genesis 1	Only within the last couple hundred of years has the theory of evolution taught that new species evolve from other species over millions of years. Though, science has never been able to produce a "missing link." The Bible evidence, on the other hand, teaches that a kangaroo can only reproduce a kangaroo and a giraffe can only reproduce a giraffe.	_____

The Bible is always eventually proven right. When will we learn?

Activity: "One Word"

Instructions:

Let's get to know the Bible better by exploring Bible words! Think about a Bible word listed below and try to come up with one word that best describes it. What does the word make you think of first and what kinds of emotions does the word invoke? Try to sum it all up into just one word.

Groups: Divide participants up into teams of two. Give one of the Bible words below to one of the participants on the first team (write and cut them out on a piece of paper ahead of time, or whisper the word in their ear so no one else knows what it is). That participant then tries to get his teammate to guess the word. He does this by saying one word (no actions, humming, phrases or sentences allowed). Then the teammate guesses one word. If incorrect the first person provides another word and the teammate can guess one word again. Up to five clue words and guesses can be given. If the secret word is not guessed after the fifth clue, the next team in line gets one guess at it. If they correctly guess it, they get 2 bonus points.

- 5 points are awarded if the word is guessed after the first clue.
- 4 points are awarded if the word is guessed after the second clue.
- 3 points are awarded if the word is guessed after the third clue.
- 2 points are awarded if the word is guessed after the fourth clue.
- 1 point is awarded if the word is guessed after the fifth clue.

A round is complete when all teams have completed their turn. Note: If there are too many participants to have only one team give clues at a time, hand out a secret word to all teams at once.

Secret words:

Miscellaneous

Flood (Gen 7:10)
 Dust (Gen 3:19)
 Curse (Gen 12:3)
 Tent (Joshua 7:22)
 Dead (Luke 20:38)
 Soul (Luke 21:19)
 Promise (Acts 13:32)
 Fasting (2 Cor. 6:5)
 Anger (Ephes 4:31)
 Gospel (Ephes 6:15)
 Fable (2 Tim 4:4)
 Rich (Eccles. 10:6)
 Confess (James 5:16)
 Ashamed (1 Peter 3:16)
 Run (1 Samuel 20:36)
 Safe (Proverbs 29:25)
 Amen (Romans 1:25)
 Angel (Rev. 20:1)
 Vision (Daniel 2:19)
 Laugh (Eccles 3:4)

Things

Meat (Job 30:4)
 Creature (2 Cor. 5:17)
 Camel (Gen 12:16)
 Lightning (Psalm 77:18)
 Heart (Proverbs 22:11)
 Whirlwind (Isaiah 21:1)
 Wine (Jeremiah 13:12)
 Shekel (Ezekiel 45:12)
 Lily (Matthew 6:28)
 Fox (Matthew 8:20)
 Sword (Acts 12:2)
 Tongue (Philip.2:11)
 Topaz (Ezekiel 28:13)
 Wind (Psalm 1:4)
 Lion (Isaiah 5:29)
 Muffler (Isaiah 3:19)
 Clay (Jeremiah 18:4)
 Cheese (Job 10:10)
 Idol (1 Cor. 8:4)
 Offering (2 Samuel 6:17)

Places

Eden (Joel 2:3)
 Ethiopia (Esther 1:1)
 Firmament (Gen 1:7)
 Jerusalem (2 Chron 32:18)
 Kingdom (2 Peter 1:11)
 Temple (Rev 11:19)
 Armageddon (Rev 16:16)
 Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36)
 Sodom (Gen 19:24)
 Womb (Jeremiah 20:17)
 Wilderness (Matthew 3:1)
 Rome (Acts 28:16)
 Galilee (Mark 1:16)
 Valley (Joel 3:14)
 Paradise (Rev. 2:7)
 Vineyard (Deut. 23:24)
 Home (Luke 15:6)
 Sinai (Exodus 31:18)
 Pit (Rev. 20:3)
 Bethlehem (Matthew 2:1)

People

Adam (1 Cor. 15:22)
 Shem (Gen 9:18)
 Stranger (Jeremiah 7:6)
 Heathen (Psalm 9:15)
 Musician (Psalm 109:1)
 Publican (Matthew 5:46)
 Priest (Matthew 8:4)
 Herod (Acts 12:21)
 Prisoner (Ephes. 3:1)
 Solomon (1 Kings 1:17)
 Jonah (Jonah 1:1)
 Naaman (2 Kings 5:20)
 Luke (Col. 4:14)
 Daniel (Ezekiel 28:3)
 Father (Matthew 23:9)
 Eli (1 Samuel 1:9)
 Witch (Deut. 18:10)
 Princess (Lament. 1:1)
 Ruth (Ruth 1:14)
 Jezebel (1 Kings 18:4)

Answers to Worksheets

Lesson 3 - Believe the Bible

Why Should I Trust the Bible?

1. Prophecy has come true
2. It testifies of a higher power
3. Archaeological finds verify Bible facts
4. Historical writers confirm Bible stories
5. It has a cohesive storyline
6. The Holy Spirit convicts you to believe

Why is the Bible Sometimes Difficult to Understand?

- A. Contains, Hard
- B. Speak, Language
- C. Live, Culture
- D. Live, Time, History
- E. Not, God, Help

Art Parts of the Bible More Important than Others?

1. I Tim. 3:16
2. II Peter 3:2
3. Acts 3:20-21
4. I John 5:7
5. Mark 12:24
6. Luke 24:25-27
7. John 5:45-47
8. Matthew 5:17
9. Luke 24:44

Do People Still Doubt?

1. No, 2. No, 3. No, 4. Yes & No, 5. No, 6. Yes

Notes