

Why Do We Believe the Bible?

From Scroll to eBook #2



For “Extra Credit”

- Who still remembers our memory verse from last week?

- For _____ never had its origin in the _____ will, but prophets, though human, _____ from God as they were _____ along by the _____.(2 Peter 1:21, NIV)

Why Do We Believe the Bible?

- Because it asks us to
- Because archeology “proves” the Bible
- Because millions of others do
- Because it is changing our lives

The Bible Asks us to Believe it

- Blessed is the one
who does not walk in step with the wicked
or stand in the way that sinners take
or sit in the company of mockers,
² but whose delight is in the law of the LORD,
and who meditates on his law day and night.
³ That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,
which yields its fruit in season
and whose leaf does not wither—
whatever they do prospers.
- Psalm 1:1-3, NIV

Who is Blessed?

- Those who “Delight in the Law”
 - What was “the Law” during King David’s time?
- We know what “delighting” means by contrast
 - Not walking in counsel of the wicked
 - Not standing in the way of sinners
 - Not sitting in the seat of scoffers

Delighting is Positive

- Walking in the way of Scripture
 - Bible shapes my habits and attitudes
- Standing the path of Scripture
 - Permanence
- Sitting in the seat of Scripture
 - Resting

Implications for Churches

- Our beliefs and expectations come from scripture
 - Not because _____ says so, or wrote so
 - Not because this is how we do things at my work
- We must continually struggle to fully understand scripture

Biblical Prosperity

- Bearing fruit
 - Seeing results
 - Becoming more like Jesus
 - Helping others become more like Jesus



Archeology “proves” the Bible

Archeology "Proves" the Bible

- In Genesis 37:28, Joseph was sold for 20 silver shekels
- This is exact amount that archaeologists have recently discovered slaves sold for 1800 BC. The price had risen to 90-120 shekels by 400 BC, when "experts" said Genesis was written.



Archeology “Proves” the Bible

- In 1993, excavators in Dan found part of a shattered stele which celebrates the victory of King of Damascus over several kings, including “King of Israel, from the House of David” (9th Century BC)



Archeology “Proves” the Bible

- “Genesis 14 is inaccurate, naming towns that never existed,” said “experts.”
- A tablet from Ebla (found in 1974) mentions all 5 Genesis 14:8 cities in the same order and with the exact same spelling.



Millions of others believe the Bible

The World's Most Read Book

- 100 million copies sold every year
- Read in 2,200 languages
- 48% of US Americans use the Bible
 - <https://www.barna.com/research/state-of-the-bible-2018-seven-top-findings/>



The Bible is changing our lives

What's Your Story?

- Did the Bible ever give you hope?
- Did the Bible ever bring you peace?
- Did the Bible ever keep you safe?
- Did the Bible ever give you wisdom?

BIBLE TOOL: MEDITATION

- Bible Meditation is putting God's Word in our minds
- Eastern Meditation is taking all thought out of our minds

MEDITATE BY PONDERING

- **Ponder** each word in a verse – what does it add?
- “But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night (Psalm 1:2, ESV)”

MEDITATE BY PERSPECTIVE

- Pick a person in the Bible story and look at it from their perspective
- How many perspectives are there in the story of Palm Sunday?

MEDITATE BY RE-READING

- How many different versions do we have tonight?
 - NIV
 - NLT
 - Christian Standard Bible
 - The Message
 - Many more

NEXT WEEK

- How the Bible Came to Us
 - The miracle of the Bible's survival
 - How we know our versions are accurate
 - The process of recognizing the Bible (canon)