



ANSWERS TO LIFE'S 7  
MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

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**HOW CAN I KNOW THE BIBLE IS TRUE? Part 1**      **September 23, 2012 | 9:15 & 10:50am**

Introduction: Even if we accept that there is a Divine Creator, how do we know that He is the God revealed in the Bible instead of the god described in any of a multitude of other religious writings?

- I.      What Do We Mean When We Say The Bible Is “True”?
  - A.      Inerrant

2 Timothy 3:16-17 “<sup>16</sup>All Scripture is inspired [literally, “God-breathed”] by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; <sup>17</sup>so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work;”

- B.      Inspired

2 Peter 1:21 “For no prophecy [of Scripture] was ever made by an act of the human will, but men, moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.”

## HOW TO START OVER WHEN I'VE BLOWN IT?

### 1. Definition of inspiration

“Inspiration is God’s superintending of human authors so that, using their own individual personalities, they composed and recorded without error in the words of the original autographs His revelation to man.”

Dr. Charles Ryrie

### 2. Explanation of inspiration

- a. “God superintending men”
- b. “Their own individual personalities”
- c. “Composed and recorded”
- d. “His revelation”
- e. “Without error”
- f. “In the words of the original manuscripts”

## II. Evidences For The Trustworthiness Of The Bible

### A. The Bible’s Claims About Itself

## HOW TO START OVER WHEN I'VE BLOWN IT?

1. The inspiration of the Old Testament

- a. Claimed in the Old Testament

Exodus 20:1 “Then God spoke all these words saying . . .”

Isaiah 1:2 “Listen, O heavens, and hear, O earth; for the Lord speaks . . .”

Jeremiah 1:1-2 “The words of Jeremiah . . . to whom the word of the Lord came . . .”

Psalm 95:7b-8 “Today, if you would hear His voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the wilderness,”

Hebrews 3:7 “Therefore, just as the Holy Spirit says, ‘Today if you hear His voice,’”

- b. Claimed by the apostles

2 Timothy 3:16 “All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;”

2 Peter 1:21 “for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.”

### c. Claimed by Jesus Christ

Matthew 19:4-5 “4 And He answered and said, ‘Have you not read that He who created them from the beginning made them male and female’ 5 and said, ‘For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’”

Matthew 12:39-40 “<sup>39</sup> But He answered and said to them, ‘An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign will be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet; <sup>40</sup> for just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.’”

Matthew 24:37-39 “<sup>37</sup> For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.

<sup>38</sup> For as in those days which were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup> and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away, so shall the coming of the Son of Man be.”

Matthew 22:31-32 “<sup>31</sup> But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read that which was spoken to you by God: <sup>32</sup> ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”

Matthew 5:17-18 “<sup>17</sup> Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law, until all is accomplished.”

## 2. The inspiration of the New Testament

### a. Claimed by Paul

1 Timothy 5:18 “For the Scripture says, ‘You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,’ and ‘The laborer is worthy of his wages.’”

### b. Claimed by Peter

2 Peter 3:15-16 “<sup>15</sup> And regard the patience of our Lord as salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, <sup>16</sup> as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.”

### B. Fulfilled Prophecy

#### 1. The prophecy concerning Cyrus

Isaiah 39:5-6 “<sup>5</sup> Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, Hear the word of the Lord of hosts, <sup>6</sup> ‘Behold, the days are coming when all that is in your house and all that your fathers have laid up in store to this day shall be carried to Babylon; nothing will be left,’ says the Lord.”

Isaiah 44:28 “It is I who says of Cyrus, ‘He is My shepherd! And he will perform all My desire.’ And he declares of Jerusalem, ‘She will be built.’ And of the temple, ‘Your foundation will be laid.’”

### 2. The prophecies concerning Jesus Christ

#### Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah:

- Place of His birth (Micah 5:2),
- Time of His birth (Daniel 9:25),
- Manner of His birth (Isaiah 7:14),
- His betrayal for thirty pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12),
- Manner of His death (Psalm 22:16),
- People's reaction to His death (Psalm 22:7, 8),
- His burial in a rich man's tomb (Isaiah 53:9).

### C. The Unity of the Bible

“As sacred texts, however, the Bible and the Qur'an could not be more different. To read the Qur'an is like entering a stream. At almost any point one may come upon a command of God, a burst of prayer, a theological pronouncement, the story of a earlier prophet or a description of a final judgment... None of its 114 suras, or chapters, focuses on a single theme.” Ken Woodward

### Conclusion