

Lesson 1 - He Said, She Said?

Biblical Authority is More than Hearsay

➡ What is the Bible?

1. A _____ (a record about God) and in some ways an *auto-biography*.
2. _____ Revelation about God, His doings, instructions, and salvation vs. General Revelation (Creation - Romans 1:20, Psalm 19:1) that proclaims God exists.
3. "...A _____ collection of [66] historical documents written down by eyewitnesses during the lifetime of other eyewitnesses. They reported to us supernatural events that took place in fulfillment of specific prophecies and claimed that their writings are divine rather than human in origin."¹
4. The Bible was written by 40 authors, over a period of 1,500 years, on 3 continents, and in 3 languages and yet it tells the _____, without contradiction.
5. _____ (Psalm 119:160, John 17:17)

➡ How do you know that the Bible is God's Word?

1. The _____ Tells Me So! - "***All Scripture is breathed out by God*** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness." (*2 Timothy 3:16 – *bold and emphasis mine*)

¹ Voddie Baucham: This is why we believe the Bible is true – Uploaded by Wretched - <https://youtu.be/txbC6j71bng>

Through Scripture confirming Scripture, it is clear that all Scripture is God-breathed and authoritative.

- a. The Old Testament (Luke 24:45, Luke 4:21).
- b. The New Testament (1 Timothy 5:18, 2 Peter 3:16)

2. The _____ said so

- a. Prophets – Jeremiah 1:2, Ezekiel 1:3
- b. Apostles – (Paul) 1 Corinthians 2:13 and 1 Thessalonians 2:13, (Peter) 2 Peter 1:16-21, (John) Revelation 1:1

3. _____ - Miracles confirm a message.

4. The Canon of Scripture is the _____ and Acknowledged Word of God

Testimony to the Canon of God's Word:

a. **Eyewitness Testimony** _____

b. **Archeological Testimony** _____

c. **Historical Testimony** _____

d. **Church Acceptance** _____

e. **Chain of Custody** _____

f. **Early Testimony** _____

g. **Councils** _____

➔ **Why Can You Trust the Bible's Testimony to be God's Word?**

1. _____ Testimony
 - a. **The Old Testament** – Jesus called upon the authority of the Old Testament. (Matthew 4:4, 7, 10)
 - b. **The New Testament** - Jesus promised that God, the Holy Spirit would be the one to guide His disciples when they authored what we now call the New Testament. (John 14:26, 16:12-13)

Here's another way to think about it:

If Jesus, who is God, teaches something then it is true (because God cannot lie).

Jesus taught that the Bible is God's Word.

Therefore, it is true that the Bible is the Word of God.²

2. _____ Character (Hebrews 6:18)

3. _____ - The Bible
Claims to be God's Word.

- a. Circular reasoning, though weak, is still valid.
- b. The validity of God's Word is backed with evidence which actually shows that it is not circular reasoning.
- c. Self-Authentication is a valid authority.

² I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist by Norman Geisler and Frank Turek – pg. 375-376

➔ **Why did God give us the Bible?** 2 Timothy 3:16-17 gives a key outline: "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for **teaching**, for **reproof**, for **correction**, and for **training in righteousness**, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." (*Bold and emphasis mine*)

➔ **Summary - Nine Reasons to Trust the Bible**

Accuracy [of text and transmission] demonstrates it.

Unity [of message] supports it – All 66 books tell the same narrative.

Thinking minds endorse it.

Human nature requires it – We need an absolute guide for life.

Our Savior taught it.

Revelation [prophecy] confirms it.

It's own claim demands it.

The character of God secures it.

Your personal experience/testimony illustrates it.

Scripture Under Scrutiny – Speaker Brian Edwards (Answers in Genesis)



***Authority and motivation are two keys
to getting the job done!***

➡ Resources for Further Study on this Topic

- **Lecture DVD** - *Scripture Under Scrutiny* – Speaker Brian Edwards (Answers in Genesis)
- **Curriculum for Kids** – Yes, God is Real - www.networkerstec.com/curriculum.html
- **Course** – Footing Before Foundation - www.networkerstec.com/apologetics.html
- **Book/Curriculum** – I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist by Norman Geisler and Frank Turek
- **Book/Pamphlet** – Why Trust the Bible from Rose Publishing
- **Book** - How the Bible Came to Us by Meryl Doney
- **Book** – How Do you Know the Bible is From God? by Kyle Butt
- **YouTube** - Voddie Baucham: This is why we believe the Bible is true – Uploaded by Wretched
- **YouTube** - Is the Bible truly God's Word? – Uploaded by Got Questions Ministries