

## God Questions, Part 2: “Is the Bible true?”

### Proverbs 30:5-6

#### 1. Where the Bible originated

- It is divided in two sections: Old Testament (O.T.) and New Testament (N.T.).
- The O.T. is subdivided into History (5/12), Poetry (5), and Prophecy (5/12). The first O.T. book written was probably Job (ca. 1900 BC); then Moses wrote the first five books listed in the O.T. (Gen. – Deut.) around 1400 B.C.; and the last book/prophet is Malachi (400 B.C.).
- The N.T. is subdivided into Gospels (4), History (1), Letters (21), and Prophecy (1). All of the N.T. books were written between AD 46 – 90.
- Every book of the Bible was written by a prophet, an apostle (one who had been an eyewitness of the risen Christ), or someone with a direct link to one. All the words of the Bible are “*theopneustos*” or “God-breathed” (2 Tim. 3:16).

#### 2. How the Bible is absolutely unique

- a. In its composition written over 2,000 years from 1900 BC to AD 90; by more than 40 authors; with different backgrounds; in 3 different languages; from 3 continents; yet with continuity and agreement from cover to cover.
- b. In its circulation, translation, durability, and effect on people: it changes one’s worldview, relationships, values, vocabulary, and view of eternity.

#### 3. How the Bible has been copied and translated

- Written in 3 languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek.
- The O.T. was meticulously copied and preserved.
- The N.T. was widely copied and quickly distributed.
- The English Bible is translated directly from the original languages.

#### 4. How science and history compare to the Bible

*What the Bible Says*  
*Earth is a sphere.*

*Number of stars =  
more than a billion.*

*Every star is different.*

*Light is in motion.*

*Air has weight.*

*What People Thought*  
*Earth is a flat disk.*

*Number of stars =  
1,100.*

*All stars are the same.*

*Light is fixed in place.*

*Air is weightless.*

*What We Now Know*  
*Earth is a sphere.*

*Number of stars =  
more than a billion.*

*Every star is different.*

*Light is in motion.*

*Air has weight.*

*Winds blow in  
cyclones.*

*Blood is a source of  
life and healing.*

*Winds blow straight.*

*Sick people must be  
bled.*

*Winds blow in  
cyclones.*

*Blood is a source of  
life and healing.*

- For centuries, scientific theory was at odds with the Genesis 1 description of the physical and biological development of the earth. Today scientists are in substantial agreement.
- As to history, archaeologist Nelson Glueck said, *"It may be categorically stated that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a biblical reference."*

## **5. How prophecy compares with the Bible**

- The O.T. contains hundreds of prophecies about the coming Messiah that were written down around 1,400 to 400 years before Jesus was born.
- In Jesus' first coming, 332 prophecies were fulfilled.
- The odds of anyone fulfilling just 8 of those prophecies is 1 in  $10^{17}$ . That would be the same as filling the state of Texas 2 feet deep in silver dollars, marking just one silver dollar with an "X", mixing it in with the rest, blindfolding someone who travels anywhere they want in the state, reaching down, and picking out that one, marked silver dollar.
- The odds of fulfilling all 332 prophecies is 1 in  $10^{157}$ . Since there are only  $10^{80}$  atoms in the universe, no comparison exists in the universe for the size of that number. Yet, Jesus fulfilled all 332 prophecies. How would you explain that?