

Ethos - What We Believe About the Bible

Lighthouse Church

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Many people have a difficult time understanding the Bible.

Before exploring what we believe about the Bible. It is important to recognize what it is.

Structure

- TaNaK - Hebrew and Aramaic
 - Torah - Law
 - Nevi'im - Prophets
 - Ketuvim - Writings
- The New Testament - Greek
 - The Gospels and Acts
 - Epistles - Letters
 - Revelation - apocalyptic literature

Comparing the Bible to other Books of Antiquity

- Plato - The earliest manuscript is 1200 years older than the autograph and 7 have been discovered.
- The works of Julius Caesar - The earliest manuscripts are 1000 years older than the autograph and 10 have been discovered.
- Aristotle - The earliest manuscripts are 1400 years older than the autograph and 49 have been discovered
- Homer's The Illiad - The earliest manuscripts are 500 years older than the autograph and 643 have been discovered. - 95% accurate
- The Bible
 - The earliest manuscripts 100 years from autograph (fragments from within one generation)
 - 5,600 copies have been discovered
 - 99.5% accurate
- No other ancient book comes close to comparing to the Bible in the number Manuscripts or accuracy of those manuscripts.

More than Rules to Follow

Psalm 1:1-2

1 Blessed is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
2 but his delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law he meditates day and night.

You will be blessed when you find joy in reading and applying God's word to your life.

The Bible reveals to us the intent and purity of God's truth to guide us through life

Psalms and Proverbs continues to speak to this...

Psalms 12:6 - The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times.

Psalm 119:105 - Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalm 119:160 - The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever.

Proverbs 30:5 - Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

Fulfillment of the Law

Matthew 5:17-18

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

The work and teachings of Jesus fulfilled complete the Word of God.

Apostles told the story of the fulfillment

1 Timothy:1:13

13 Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

Colossians 3:16

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Peter himself knows the power of the testimony he has written about Jesus because he knows it wasn't his will to write it. It was through the power God by the will of God.

2 Peter:1:16-21

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," 18 we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. 19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

The words in our Bibles are not simply words written by men who followed a good moral code. They were life transformational guidance from God himself.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

The Spirit of God is the ultimate source of scripture.

He give us His word to equip our lives as followers of Jesus.

The Bible is only as powerful as we use and apply it to our lives

Resource - <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/how-to-read-the-bible/>

The Bible is God's Word to us. It was written by human authors under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. We believe that the Bible, Old and New Testaments, is inspired by God; it is the truth without any mixture of error.