

Tough Questions

Can I Trust the Bible?

Week 3

From The Video:

1. Author _____.

The Bible was written by 40 different authors over a period of 1600 years living on 3 different continents using 3 different languages.

“And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.”

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)

2. Historical _____.

“Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word.”

Luke 1:1-2 (NIV)

3. Fulfilled _____.

Jesus would be born in Bethlehem - Micah 5:2

Jesus would be born of a virgin - Isaiah 7:14

Jesus would teach in parables - Psalm 78:1-2

Jesus would usher in a new covenant - Jeremiah 31:31

Jesus would be betrayed by a friend - Psalm 41:9

Jesus would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver - Zechariah 11:12-13

Jesus would die by being lifted up - Numbers 21:9

Jesus would die among criminal - Isaiah 53:12

Not one of Jesus' bones would be broken - Exodus 12:46

Jesus would be pierced by hands and feet - Psalm 22:16

People would cast lots for Jesus' garments - Psalm 22:18

Jesus would raise from the dead - Isaiah 25:7-8

“Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophet’s own understanding, or from human initiative. No, those prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God.”

2 Peter 1:21 (NLT)

Questions:

Open:

When it comes to reading, what style of writing do you prefer: Fiction, Biographical, Mystery, Historical, Poetry, Humor, Scientific, or other?

Digging Deeper:

What do you remember believing about the Bible growing up?

Imagine the Bible is on trial, and you have been called to testify. Which point from the lesson would you use to convince others the Bible is God’s Word? Explain.

Look through the list of fulfilled prophecies. What impressed you most about these prophecies?

Some of the stories in the Bible (i.e. Noah and the ark, Moses and the Red Sea, or Jonah and the whale) sound far-fetched or figurative in nature. Yet Jesus seemed to talk about these events as historical facts. Do you find any story in the Bible hard to believe (Don’t be afraid to be honest)? How does 1 Corinthians 2:12-16 encourage you?

Read Romans 10:17. What does this passage tell us about the relationship between faith and time in the word? What has been your greatest obstacle to reading the Bible?

Take it Home:

According to 2 Timothy 3:16, several benefits come from reading God's Word. Reflect on ways you personally benefited from putting your trust in God's word (maybe a sermon, Bible study, or something you read on your own)?

Make the commitment to spend time in the word. It doesn't have to be much; one chapter a day would be great. Start with the book of John and then move on to James. As you read, underline verses that stand out to you. Reflect on those verses throughout the day and look for opportunities to put what you are reading into practice.

Answer Key:

Author Unity.

Historical Accuracy.

Fulfilled Prophecy.



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