



“Why I Choose To Believe The Bible Is True”

Voddie Baucham

Christians can be stumped within two to three questions posed to them by a skeptic/atheist.

Once asked “why” they believe what they believe, most Christians will answer they believe that because that is what the Bible says.

Skeptics will end the conversation for 90% of Christians- when asked “Why do you believe what the Bible has to say?” In other words, they are asking how a Christian is confident in their belief that the Bible is true?

Most Christians rely on one of two “fallback” answers:

1. *“I believe the Bible because that is the way I was raised.”*

The problem with that is that many things we were raised to believe we later learn are false.

Example: In school we learn that a cold is a virus- and maybe our parents taught us we catch a cold by going outside without a hat on.

2. *“I choose to believe the Bible because I tried it and it worked for me.”*

This opens up a huge logical hole when based only on personal experience.

Story of Malcolm X- became a changed man. He tried Islam, it worked for him. Then he later denounced it-which is why he was killed.

What about the changed life of a Mormon, or a Muslim? Their lives are changed, but that does not their faith system is true.

Voddie’s response:

“I choose to believe The Bible because it is a reliable collection of historical documents, written by eyewitnesses during the lifetime of other eyewitnesses, reporting supernatural events that took place in fulfillment of specific prophecies and claimed their writings are Divine and not of human origin.”



Reliable Collection Of Historical Documents

- 66 individual books
- Written in 3 languages (Greek-Hebrew-Aramaic)
- Over 23,000 archaeological digs- not one disproven
- Many historical references in Scripture not found anywhere else- only later to be proven true thru archaeological discovery
- Includes specific names, places, people- all verifiable

Written By Eyewitnesses-During The Lifetime Of Other Eyewitnesses

- If you many witnesses telling the same story- it can likely be believed
- Too many eyewitnesses (several hundred) who would have disputed

- Arguments that the Bible has been changed over time
 - **#1 Multiple Translator Argument**
 - The Bible has translated so many times it is no longer reliable- it changed over time
 - Resolution: It does not matter how many times the Bible has been translated. It would only matter if they were translations of translations. This is NOT the case- they are translations of the ORIGINAL Greek, Hebrew, and Aramaic manuscripts.
 - **#2 Overzealous Monk Argument**
 - Constantine and the Council of Nicea – he limited them to only 66 books. And those books have to be doctored up to present Jesus in a certain divine way.
 - Resolution: No evidence of this happening. Council of Nicea simply acknowledged of what was already considered the Bible
 - The 3 holes of The Overzealous Monk argument:
 - **Hole #1: Manuscript Hole**- we have 6000 New Testament manuscripts- written only 2 ½ decades after writings of the originals
 - Julius Caesar Gallic Wars- less than 12 manuscripts
 - Aristotle poetics- less than 10 copies (1400 years after originals)
 - Socrates- no manuscripts- all we know about him was written by Plato
 - Homer's Iliad- 2100 years after original



- **Hole #2: Language Holes**- first translations written in Syriac, Coptic, and Latin
 - o Overzealous monks have to find 6000 original manuscripts in Greek
 - o Steal those manuscripts without getting caught
 - o Make up lies in Syriac, Coptic, and Latin based on original Greek manuscripts
 - o Change all of the manuscripts, don't get caught in the changes
 - o Have to make lies in all those languages- match those lies to the lies in the Greek

- **Hole #3: Writings of Early Church Fathers**
 - o 95% to 98% of New Testament can be recreated thru writings of early church fathers
 - o Thru early writings all of New Testament can be reproduced except for 11 verses
 - o Lie about all the early writings of church fathers
 - o Live 300 years to get this done

Reporting Of Supernatural Events

- Hearing the actual voice of Almighty God
- Healings and miracles
- Crucified-Dead-Buried-Resurrected

Took Place In Fulfillment Of Specific Prophecies

- Psalm 22 – “My God My God, why has thou forsaken me?”
- Why did Jesus refer to the title of a song written 1000 years before Jesus was born- before crucifixion was even created.
- Jesus is quoting what was happening to Him as He was crucified

Claim Their Writings Are Divine - Not Of Human Origin

- The authors of the Bible claim it is God speaking directly to and thru them
- Just because men wrote the books does not mean they are not reliable
- All books written by men- so do we throw them all out because they were written by men?

Some will argue the Bible cannot be proven scientifically...

History cannot be measured using Scientific Method

- Observable – Measurable- Repeatable
- History cannot even be proven scientifically
- You cannot prove scientifically George Washington was our first President- because we cannot observe or repeat it, and it cannot be measured



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History is better measured using:

Evidentiary Method

- Like we use in court
- Needs reliable witnesses whose stories line up
- Bible has 66 books- 3 languages- 3 continents- 40 authors- over 1500 years- 23000 archaeological digs
- You cannot prove scientifically George Washington was our first President- because we cannot observe or repeat it, and it cannot be measured

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Discussion / Application Questions

1. What did you learn from this presentation?
2. How well would you say your church/parents taught you regarding the validity/truth of the Bible?
3. Who in your life has presented any of the arguments against the Bible?
Are you now better equipped to discuss this with them?
4. What are "next step(s) you can now take as a result of this presentation?"