

Apologetics

Know Why You Believe

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”

-2 Timothy 2:15

APOLOGETICS TOOLS:

- Scripture
- Evidence
- Reason

Is the Bible God's Word?

Scripture Claims Divine Inspiration

“All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

-2 Timothy 3:16

- **Peter: 2 Peter 1:21; 3:2; 3:15-16**
- **Jesus: Mathew 5:18; 12:40**
- **Old Testament Prophets: Jer. 22:1**

Evidence: Authenticity of the Bible

4 Tests of Manuscript Authenticity

- Copies close in time to original
- Number of copies
- Copies agree
- Confirmed by external sources

Evidence: Authenticity of the Bible

- **Copies close in time to original**

- Homer's Iliad

- 720BC – 400BC = 320 year gap

- Gospel of Mark

- 50AD – 235AD = 175 year gap

- **Number of copies**

- Homer's Iliad

- 643

- Bible

- 24,000+

- **Copies agree**

- Homer's Iliad

- 15,600 lines, 764 in doubt; 5%

- Bible

- 20,000 lines, 40 in doubt; 0.2%

- **Confirmed by external sources**

- Ancient writings quote vast majority of Bible

Evidence: Does it work?

- 'test me in this' *Malachi 3:10*
- 'taste and see' *Psalms 34:8*
- 'do what it says' *James 1:22*

"Do not withhold discipline from a child; if you punish him with the rod, he will not die."

-Proverbs 23:13

Reasonable – It makes sense

"anyone who comes to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek him."

-Hebrews 11:6

"I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?"

-Jeremiah 32:27

"We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us."

-1 Corinthians 2:12