

Doubt Less..About the Bible

Intro

- **Unsinkable.** That was the word used to describe the RMS Titanic.
- April 15th, 1912 (112 years ago tomorrow); 1,500 people +
- Unsinkable..



- *When was a time that you were confident in something and it failed you? (or someone)*
 - Job..relationship..finances..promotion
- God's Word won't fail us! It won't sink.
- The fear is that what if it hits an iceberg..what if someone points out a contradiction, or what about other books, were additions made to it, on and on it goes. Can we trust it?

Why Can I Trust the Bible?

2 Timothy 3:15-16

Based on multiple layers of evidence, we can trust that the Bible is God's Word to us.

1. What the Bible Says About Itself (2 Tim. 3:16-17)

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God^[a] may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

-2 Timothy 3:16-17

- God breathed
- Useful!
- Why? to be thoroughly equipped for every good work
- **Swiss army knife: When I was a kid, I found a swiss army knife on a camping trip**
- *What good works does God have for*



you?

- Single mom with your kids? That co-worker? Serve here Sundays?

2. What Jesus Says About It (Luke 4)

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'" (vs. 4)

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'" (vs. 8)

For it is written,

*"He will command his angels concerning you,
to guard you,"*

and

*"On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone."* (vs. 10-11)

And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" (vs. 12)

- ***What's your go-to in temptation? (what are you reaching for?)***
 - **Are you *medicating* or are you *meditating*?** (on your word I meditate day and night)
 - One brings temporary relief the other brings lasting peace
 - The icebergs of life do not stop! God's Word is reliable. Those other things, will give out (like the Titanic's failure of the rivets used to fasten the hull plates to the ship's main structure).

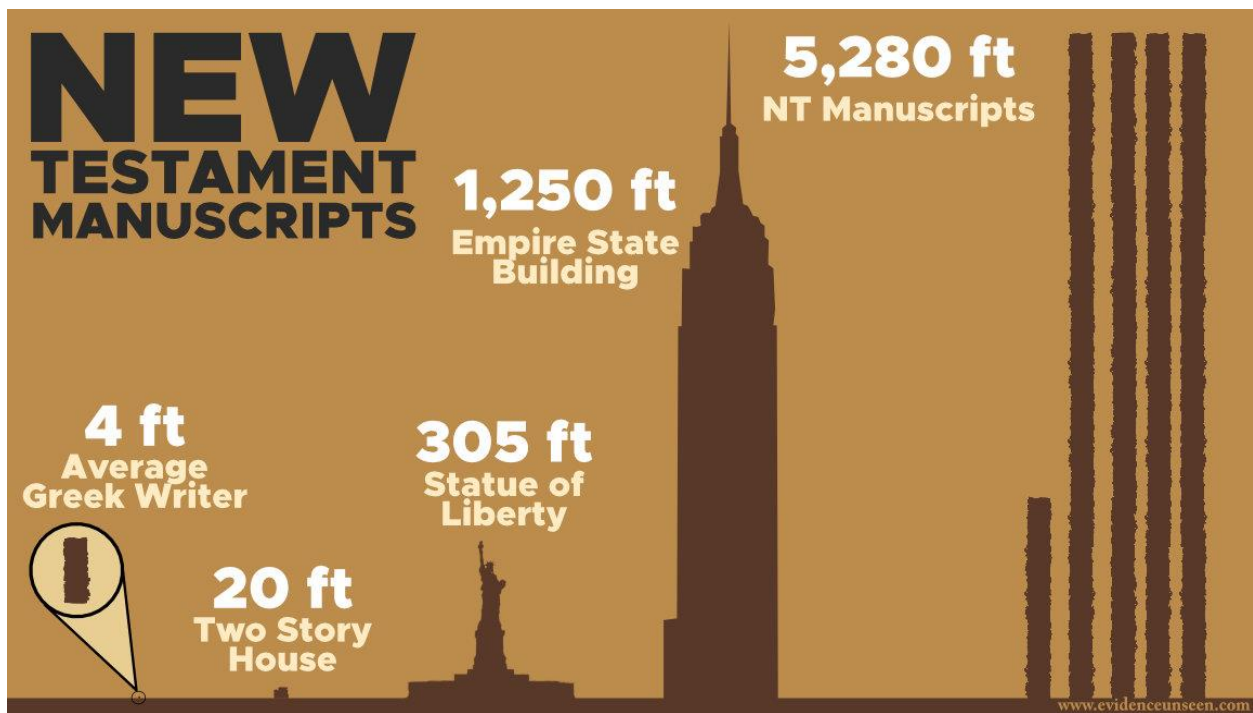
3. What Scholars Say About It

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect

-1 Peter 3:15

- **Accuracy & Preservation**

As I have dealt with one apparent discrepancy after another and have studied the alleged contradictions between the biblical record and the evidence of linguistics, archaeology, or science, my confidence in the trustworthiness of Scripture has been repeatedly verified and strengthened -Gleason Archer, Professor of Old Testament and Semitic Languages



- **Impact**

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope. -Romans 15:4

- Time and again, the Scriptures give encouragement and hope.
- Moral and ethical frameworks
- Humanitarian efforts & social justice
- language and art
- Education
- Scientific and technological progress
- Art and architecture
- Shaping family values

"The Bible's influence on Western culture cannot be overstated. Its moral, legal, and philosophical principles have shaped the development of Western civilization, providing a foundation for ethical thought, political theory, and social institutions." - Robert Alter, Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Berkeley.

- Personal Transformation!

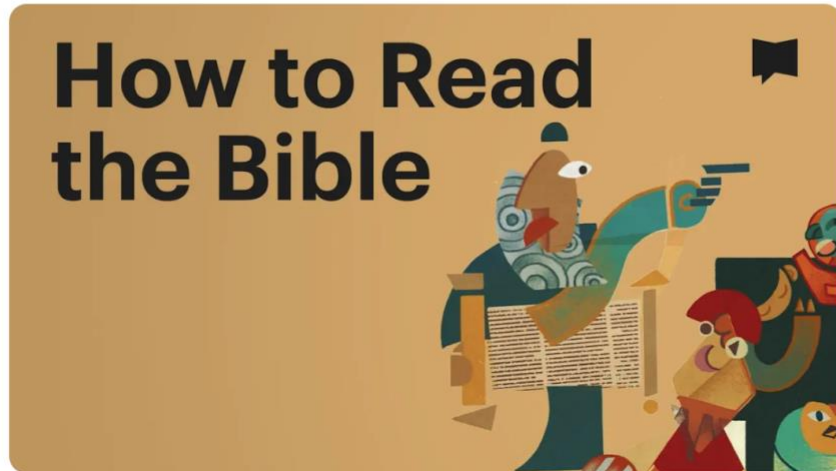
Next Steps

- a. **Time with God:** give specific plan
 - i. BibleProject: How to Read the Bible. This is 19 days.
Try it, see what happens.
- b. Join or Lead Group (flyer at Information Center, vvcc.online/groups)



Bible

Day 1 of 19



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 > >>

Today Apr 11 Apr 12 Apr 13 Apr 14 Apr 15 Apr 16 Apr 17

1 Devotional [Start Reading >](#)

2 2 Timothy 3:15 >

3 Hebrews 4:12 >

4 Luke 24:13 >

c. Know Jesus & Get Baptized

Conclusion (Personal)

- My time in God's Word
 - 7th grade Andrew
 - Steve Christen
 - Encourage me to have a regular time with God in His Word

- Bible and 99 cent journal (I duct taped mine).
 - My alarm went off, before my feet hit the ground, I read a chunk, wrote some observations, and went on my day
 - That has made all the difference
- If I had a question.. “I don’t know, but let me get back to you.”
 - What I learned from that-the Bible can take our questions!
- My struggle recently
 - Gone back to the basics..Bible, journal, time, place
 - So if you’re struggling..you’re not alone
- The unsinkable Titanic...sunk
 - We can put our trust in this book, because ultimately it’s not the book we put our trust in, it’s the author of the book. And we’re going to talk more about Him next week!
 - Why Can I trust the Bible?
 - What it says about itself
 - What Jesus says about it
 - What Scholars Say about it
 - What do I do about it?
 - Make a plan
 - Join a Group or Lead a Group
 - Come to know this Jesus and let us know-get baptized and declare it to the world
 -

NEXT PAGE, SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS CONTINUED....

DOUBT LESS

3 – Doubt Less About the Bible

SMALL TALK

1. Share a time you trusted in something and it let you down? Or someone?

VIEWPOINT

2. **READ 2 Timothy 3:16-17.** What do we see here about Scripture?
3. **READ Hebrews 4:12-13.** What do we see here about the Word of God?
4. **READ Luke 4:1-13.** How does Jesus respond in the midst of temptation? What can we learn from this?

GETTING PERSONAL

5. What doubts have you wrestled with when it comes to God's Word? What might you do to address some of these doubts? Remember, the Bible can take it! This might also look like getting some help from your Group Leader or a Pastor. You don't have to address those doubts alone.

MAKING PROGRESS (THIS WEEK)

6. Do you have a plan when it comes to spending time with God? (Where, when, what, etc.). If so, is there anything that would be helpful to adjust in it? If you don't have a plan, what could you start doing?