

QUESTIONING JESUS

Week 2: The Question of the Bible

Key idea:

The Bible is God's infallible revelation to humanity, and therefore it can be trusted as a firm foundation for belief and life.

Key text:

2 Peter 1:16–21

We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. ¹⁹ And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Key points:

1. The Bible is God's inspired, inerrant, authoritative Word
2. The Bible was written by eyewitnesses to the events described, or by those who did careful research
3. The text of the Bible has been carefully transmitted so that it is the most well-attested book we have from the ancient world
4. There is strong historical and archaeological confirmation for the truthfulness and accuracy of the Bible
5. The fulfillment of many prophecies gives a firm foundation for trusting in the reliability of Scripture
6. Jesus - God in the flesh Who conquered death - taught that the Bible is God's inspired Word and that we should believe and obey it

Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday's text and teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. Does it make sense to claim that the Bible is a good book that contains much truth, but that it is not God's Word? Why or why not?
3. What do you personally think of the Bible? Do you believe it is God's Written Word? Do you believe it is inspired? Inerrant? Authoritative in all it teaches? What are the biggest challenges for you in accepting the full truthfulness and authority of Scripture?
4. Jesus said that until heaven and earth pass away not the slightest stroke of a pen would pass from God's law (the Old Testament) until everything was fulfilled. Furthermore, He said Scripture could not be broken (John 10:35). What do these statements tell of His view of Scripture? How does that affect your view of the truthfulness and authority of Scripture?
5. How is the identity of Jesus as the Eternal Son of God, the One Who conquered death, related to the question of the truthfulness and authority of Scripture?
6. If a friend who was an unbeliever said that they thought the Bible had some good stories, but that it was just a human book, how would you respond? If they said they did not believe the Bible could really be trusted, how would you respond? Could you give them an answer for why you trust the Bible?

Resources for Further Study:

[*The Case for Christ*](#) by Lee Strobel - Part 1: Examining the Record

[*Be Thinking - Is The Bible Reliable?*](#)

[How Did I Get My Bible?](#) - seminar taught by Bret at BRCC

[*The New Testament Documents: Are They Reliable?*](#) - by FF Bruce