

## Did the Bible Really Come From God? Part 3

Well hey folks, I don't know about you, but after High School I thought I was finally done with all that learning stuff, you know what I'm saying? I mean, I figured I could just sit back and relax and enjoy life without having to "crack the books" anymore. Anybody else think that? And at first, I was kind of bummed out about it, but then I realized you can learn a lot of important stuff in life. In fact, so much so that I've got to share them with you **right now**. You tell me if there aren't important things to know in life.

1. Never lick a steak knife.
2. If you ever find yourself behind another car in the Drive-Thru ATM where the person is actually using the Braille keypad on machine there...run!
3. You can you tell a man that there are 400 billion stars and he'll believe you, but if you tell him a bench has wet paint, he has to touch it!
4. A plastic surgeon's office is the only place where no one gets offended when you pick your nose?
5. When people apply deodorant, they will always have to use the exact same number of swipes under each arm.
6. People will never answer the phone on the first ring. They will always wait until the second ring.
7. The number of people watching you is directly proportionate to the stupidity of your action?
8. Marriage is a relationship in which one person is always right and the other is a husband.
9. People who keep running over a string a dozen times with their vacuum cleaner, then reach down, pick it up, examine it, then put it down to give their vacuum one more chance, they need help!

10. Never under any circumstances take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.

But as you can see, there's a lot of important things in life we all need to learn, aren't there? But folks, if you were to ask me what is one of **the most important things** in life that people all over the world need to learn, **especially Christians** today, it would have to be this. To never, ever, ever **doubt that the Bible Really Did Come from God!** And I say that folks, because as we've been seeing, that's is no longer the case. Christian, non-Christian it doesn't matter! Due to a century or more of skepticism and false criticism towards the Bible, and hypocritical behavior from Christians who never pick up the Bible, people, even Christians are starting to doubt that the Bible really did come from God!

Therefore, to stave off this criticism and hypocrisy even in the Church, we're going to continue in our study called, "**Did the Bible Really Come from God?**" And what we're doing folks is taking a look at the **Ten Lines of Solid Logical Evidence** showing us that the Bible really did come from God. And so far we've seen that the **1<sup>st</sup> line of evidence** was **the Bible** says so. And last time we saw that the **2<sup>nd</sup>** and **3<sup>rd</sup> line of evidence** is that **Jesus** and the **Apostles** say so! Hello! If Jesus said it came from God then I'm kind of thinking you might want to listen to Him! And if the Apostles

were all willing to die a horrible death for it, then gee whiz, I think they really believed it came from God too!

But that's still not all. The **4<sup>th</sup> line of logical evidence** showing us that the Bible really did come from God is that **History says so**. But don't take my word for it. Let's listen to God's.

**1 Corinthians 10:1-11** “For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers, that our forefathers were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. They all ate the same spiritual food and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert.

Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: “The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry.” We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did – and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. We should not test the Lord, as some of them did – and were killed by snakes. And do not grumble, as some of them did – and were killed by the destroying angel.

These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.”

So how do we know that the Bible really did come from God? Well, what did we just read? Apparently the 4<sup>th</sup> line of evidence is that **History** says so. What'd we just read? Paul not only said that the Old Testament **history** was written down for us, even today, as examples so we wouldn't do what they did, i.e. to sin against God, but here's the point. This admonition to pay attention to Old Testament and the New Testament history, i.e. the

Bible, has been pretty much commonplace **all throughout history**. Why? Because the bulk of history believed that the Bible really did come from God, and you might want to listen to it! It's only been in **recent years** that people have become skeptical due to a century or more of false criticism and skepticism.

But don't take my word for it. Let's listen to History. The **1<sup>st</sup> proof** that history believed that the Bible really did come from God is shown by **Their Citations** of it. Let's take a look at a list of **just a few** of our Early History's citations of **just** the New Testament and you tell me if they didn't think it really did come from God.

- Justin Martyr - 330
- Hippolytus - 1,378
- Irenaeus - 1,819
- Clement Alex. - 2,406
- Eusebius - 5,176
- Tertullian - 7,258
- Origen - 17,922
- Grand Total - 36,289

And here's the point. You might think, "Well, whip dee do dah. So what! What's the big deal about those guys quoting the New Testament so many times?" Well, here's the point. Stop and think about it. Why would they quote it so often, as a source of truth and authority, unless the **really believed** it came from God, Who holds the Ultimate authority? And besides,

the effects of quoting the New Testament so many times has produced an **interesting side-effect**. Check this out.

“Sir David Dalrymple was wondering about the dominance of Scripture in early writing when someone asked him, ‘Suppose that the New Testament had been destroyed, and every copy of it lost by the end of the third century, could it have been collected together again from the writings of the Early Church Fathers of the second and third centuries?’

And after a great deal of investigation Dalrymple concluded: That question roused my curiosity, and as I possessed all the existing works of the Fathers of the second and third centuries, I commenced to search, and up to this time I have found the entire New Testament, except eleven verses.”

Now folks, this is the point, this is the amazing truth. Even if the entire New Testament was completely destroyed, we could still reconstruct it **just from the quotations taken from it!** The Bible is the only book in **on the planet** you can do this with. History clearly believed it came from God!

And this Early History witness is important, because just like in a crime scene investigation, you want the best, the earliest, and the most first hand eye-witness accounts of people who were right on the scene when it happened, right? Of course! Well, this is what we have with the Early History accounts. These people were right there on the scene when the Biblical events were taking place and so what they have to say about it **carries much more weight** than the skeptics today who are 2,000 years removed, right? How accurate can you be discerning a car wreck 2,000 later, right? Next to none! But what we have with our Early History is that these

guys clearly believed that the Bible came from God! And so you might want to listen to them. They're the accurate witness!

But that's not all. The **2<sup>nd</sup> proof** that history believed that the Bible really did come from God is shown by **Their Canonicity** of it. Or in other words, how the Bible came to be. And this is an important point because usually the skeptic will say something like this, "Well okay, fine. Maybe the early history believed that the Bible came from God, but how do we know the books we have in the Bible today, are the actual ones that are supposed to be there? Haven't you heard? There's **lost letters** of the Bible that somebody's trying to hide from us?" How many of you have heard that before? Yeah, it's all over the place. And this is why it's important to understand the **canonicity**, or in other words, how the books of the Bible were chosen. When you look at the facts, you'll see there was absolutely no conspiracy at all! Rather, the Early Church was **extremely careful** to get it right. They actually put into place a logical filter to help discover which books were logically **qualified** to be in the Bible. Let's take a look.

- Was the author of the book an Apostle?
- Does it agree with the rest of Scripture?
- Was it accepted by the Early Church?
- Was it circulated by the Early Church?
- Was it quoted by the Early Church?
- Did it come with the Power of God?

And so as you can see with this logical filter in place the Early Church really didn't so much **determine** which books were to be in the Bible, as it was that they **discovered** which books were **already** qualified to be in the Bible. There's no secret conspiracy going on here, and neither is there anything willy nilly about them choosing which books were to be in the Bible. They were extremely careful and logical and it was guided by God.

In fact, the canon of the Scripture was pretty well set by 150 AD, which is well before Constantine, and well before and the first Church Council, and well before the first Pope and the birth of the Roman Catholic Church. And this is important because people out there want to say that **these entities** have secretly kept out certain books that should've been in there, you know, those "lost books of the Bible," They're hiding it from us. Really? As we just saw, the canon of the Bible was pretty much set by 150 AD and the books that were rejected, were rejected for good reason. They didn't make it through the logical filter. And yet, the whole reason why this "conspiracy theory idea" of the so-called "lost books" of the Bible is even experiencing a revival of sorts is because there's a book out there, that was even made into a movie called, "The DaVinci Code." How many of you guys heard of that? Yeah. But the problem is, once you look at the facts you see that Dan Brown the author was either a really really bad researcher or a

flat out liar because he's full of errors and inconsistency. For instance, he said that Jesus had kids and was actually married and there are 1,000's of manuscripts proving this that they're hiding from us. Really? Here's the actual conspiracy folks. Check out the facts!

Brian Edwards: "You know it's quite amazing how scholars and others insist on propagating something that has absolutely no support in reality. As an aside, take the popular idea that was popularized by Dan Brown in the DaVinci Code that Jesus married Mary Magdalene. There are even, and I read them, there are even academics who assume that. They take it up. Well let me tell you that there is not a single text in all the gnostic writings that we have to record that Jesus married Mary Magdalene. Not a single text and yet still, the myth is propagated."

In other words, his lie continues to spread. Why? Because he knows the axiom. If you repeat a lie loud enough, and long enough, and often enough, people will believe it. Including in a book or a movie called, "The DaVinci Code." It's a lie!

But you might be thinking, "Wait a second. Didn't they find in the news a fragment that said Jesus had a wife and was married?" No. They found a **tiny fragment** that said "Jesus said to them, 'My wife...'" and was cut off. First of all how many times in the Scripture does Jesus refer to us the Church as His Bride or wife, right? So that means nothing. Second, they're guessing the fragment dates from the 4<sup>th</sup> century, long after the Gospels were written. They're just trying to tie it in. And third, even the secular researchers studying the fragment said "this doesn't prove anything

definitive about Jesus,” and I quote, “**Faking antiquities is not uncommon,**” which is why many people are already saying fragment it yet another in a long line of fakes trying to dupe people, like with the DaVinci Code!

It’s a bunch of baloney and yet the press just runs with it! And so it is with these so-called “lost books” of the Bible! When you look at the facts folks, you’ll see they were never lost! They were rejected, and for good reason! In fact, once you read them for yourselves you’ll see they actually **excluded themselves** from the bible! You don’t even need to do it. It’s self-evident!

For instance, the so-called **Judas Gospel** that was published for us in 2006, but it has been known every since 180 AD where it was rejected it made Judas the Apostle who betrayed Jesus out to be some sort of a hero.

Or the so-called **Letter of Herod** where the person forging that forgot that that Herod at the time of Jesus’ birth was not the same Herod as His trial and crucifixion. As one guy states, “Whoops! Get your history right if you’re going to do a good bit of forgery.”

Or how about the **Gospel of Thomas**. It tries to give us secret details about Jesus early years as a child and says amongst other wild things that, “As Jesus was playing a child bumps into Him and Jesus strikes him dead.”

Or how about the **Acts of John** which states that, “John comes into an Inn and there are bedbugs in the bed and John commands the bedbugs to get out of the bed and they get out of the bed and march in a line out of the room.”

Or how about the **Acts of Paul** which says, “Paul baptizes a lion and later this lion saved him in the amphitheater.”

Or how about the **Protoevangelium of James** which was written to perpetuate the perpetual virginity of Mary and says that, “She was placed in the Temple at the age of three and that angels fed her.”

Uh, yeah right! Somebody’s got bed bugs alright! They got bed bugs on the brain! But as you guys can see, these so-called **lost books** of the Bible were rubbish then and guess what? They’re rubbish today. There is no conspiracy!

But some will still say, “Okay, maybe there weren’t any lost books of the Bible, but what about those other books that people like the Catholics have in their Bible called the **Apocrypha**. Huh? What about those? How come we don’t have those? Well, first of all, the Apocryphal books didn’t make it into the Protestant Bible for the same reasons why the other books didn’t make it into the Bible. They never made it through the logical filter, AND also the Jewish people never had them in their Bible, AND Jesus and the Apostles never once quoted from them in the Bible. AND the reason why the Catholic Church **did** was to not only distinguish themselves from the Protestant Bible, but it was to also **justify** several of their false teachings like **praying for the dead** and even **purgatory** which appears nowhere in the Bible! Shocker!

And for those of you who don’t know purgatory is the false teaching where the Catholic Church says when we die we go to some sort of “holding

pen” where we purge our sins through fire and suffering so we can hopefully make it to heaven, if ever! But if you know your Bible, that’s not only ludicrous, it’s blasphemous. **2 Corinthians 5:8** says, “Absent from the body, is to be present with the Lord.” When we die, praise God, we go straight to be with Jesus! Not some holding pen to suffer for our sins! Purgatory is actually a slap in the face to the atonement of Christ, because it says that His sacrifice on the cross was **not** sufficient payment for **all** our sins. That’s blasphemy!

Besides, I don’t know bout you, but I don’t think I want to trust anybody who can’t even get **The Ten Commandments** right in their so-called Bible. Here’s our Ten Commandments.

1. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything.
3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
5. Honor your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet.

Now here’s the Catholic altered version.

1. You shall have no other gods.
2. You shall not take the Lord’s name in vain.
3. Keep holy the Lord’s day.
4. Honor your father and mother.
5. You shall not kill.

6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

Now did you notice what was missing and added there? The second commandment was missing, "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything." Why? Because figurines and idol worship is big business and big religion in the Catholic Church. But you still have to have a list of "ten" Ten Commandments so they take the last commandment and split it into "two" to make it ten again! A complete mockery of Scripture. And I don't know about you, but I'm not going to trust anything they have to say about the Bible. I'll stick to the Early Church's canonicity of the Bible, how about you? Much more logical and reliable!

But that's still not all. The **3<sup>rd</sup> proof** that history believed that the Bible really did come from God is shown by **Their Creeds** of it. You tell me if history's greatest minds, rulers, and thinkers throughout all of history, give glowing opinions about the Bible really coming from God. Let's take a look.

**W.E. Gladstone:** "I have known ninety-five of the world's great men in my time, and of these eighty-seven were followers of the Bible."

**Napoleon:** "The Bible is no mere book, but a Living Creature, with a power that conquers all that oppose it."

**Queen Victoria:** "That book accounts for the supremacy of England."

**Immanuel Kant:** “The existence of the Bible, as a book for the people, is the greatest benefit which the human race has ever experienced. Every attempt to belittle it is a crime against humanity.”

**Charles Dickens:** “The New Testament is the very best book that ever was or ever will be known in the world.”

**Sir William Herschel:** “All human discoveries seem to be made only for the purpose of confirming more and more strongly the truths contained in the Sacred Scriptures.”

**Sir Isaac Newton:** “There are more sure marks of authenticity in the Bible than in any profane history.”

**Abraham Lincoln:** “I believe the Bible is the best gift God has ever given to man. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this book.”

**George Washington:** “It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible.”

**Daniel Webster:** “If there is anything in my thoughts or style to commend, the credit is due to my parents for instilling in me an early love of the Scriptures. If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering and to prosper; but if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity.”

**W.H. Seward:** “The whole hope of human progress is suspended on the ever growing influence of the Bible.”

**Patrick Henry:** “The Bible is worth all other books which have ever been printed.”

**U.S. Grant:** “The Bible is the sheet-anchor of our liberties.”

**Horace Greeley:** “It is impossible to enslave mentally or socially a Bible-reading people. The principles of the Bible are the groundwork of human freedom.”

**Andrew Jackson:** “That book, sir, is the rock on which our republic rests.”

**Robert E. Lee:** “In all my perplexities and distresses, the Bible has never failed to give me light and strength.”

**John Quincy Adams:** “So great is my veneration for the Bible that the earlier my children begin to read it the more confident will be my hope that they will prove useful citizens of their country and respectable members of society. I have for many years made it a practice to read through the Bible once every year.”

Folks, it looks to me like the world’s greatest minds, rulers, and thinkers throughout all of history, really believed the Bible came from God, how about you? And if you put all this together, you’ll see what’s ludicrous. Those who doubt the authenticity of the Bible **assume** their doubting position has been commonplace throughout history. But as we just saw, nothing could be further from the truth. The belief that the Bible really came from God was virtually held by nearly everyone for the last 2,000 years of History...in the Church...outside of the Church. Therefore, one who doubts the authority of the Bible is forced to say that their own **private knowledge** of the Bible is greater than all the greatest thinkers and scholars of the Bible for the last 2,000 years, right? Now, this is **totally absurd** when one takes into account that most people who doubt the authority of the Bible have **rarely if ever** even read the Bible, let alone studied it! And yet, you speak with such authority? It’s crazy!

And people, this is why you can't have it both ways. You can't agree with some of History's teaching and what they document and then turn around and deny the authenticity of the Bible. Why? Because the bulk of man's **History clearly presents the Bible as the genuine Word of God.** And anything short of this is hypocrisy.

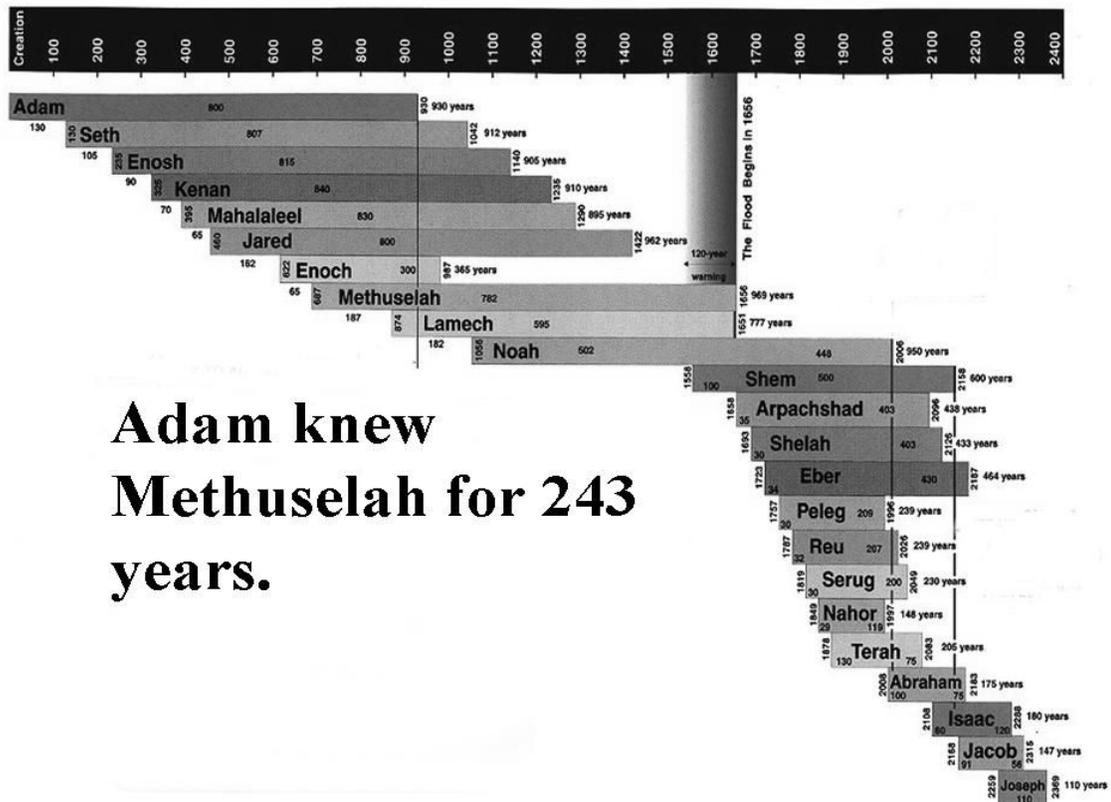
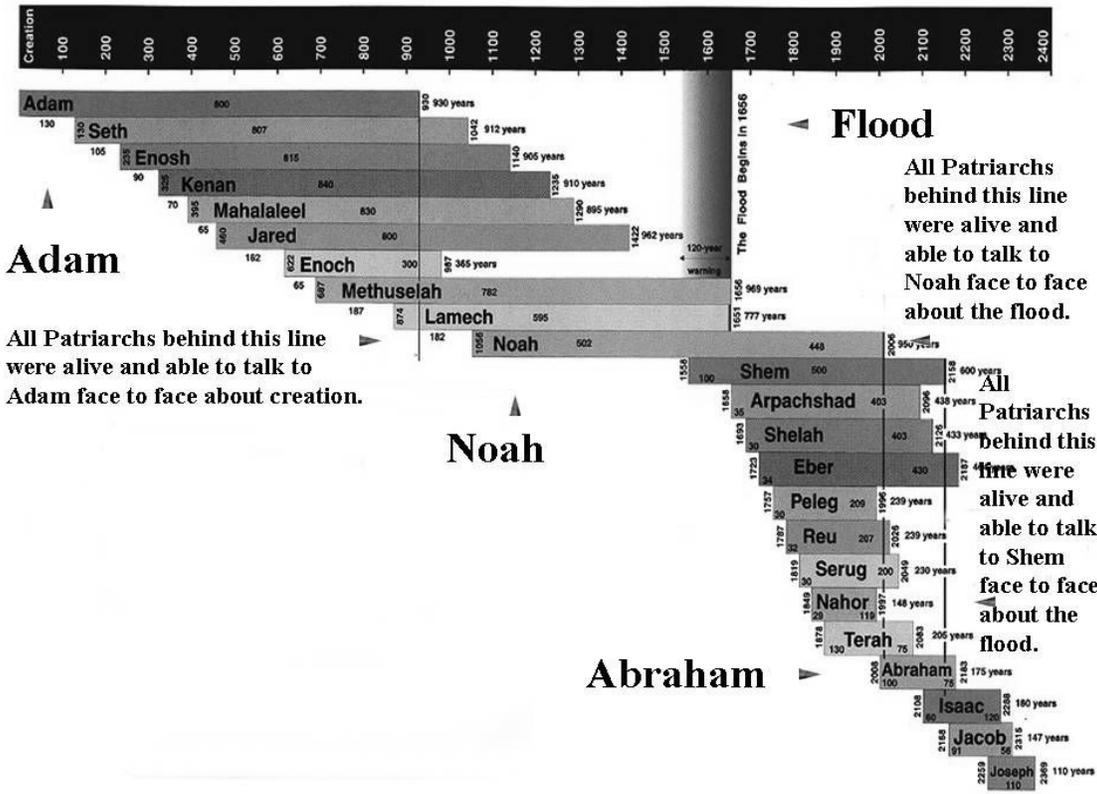
But that's not all. The **5<sup>th</sup> line of evidence** showing us that the Bible really did come from God is that **Transmission Standards say so.**

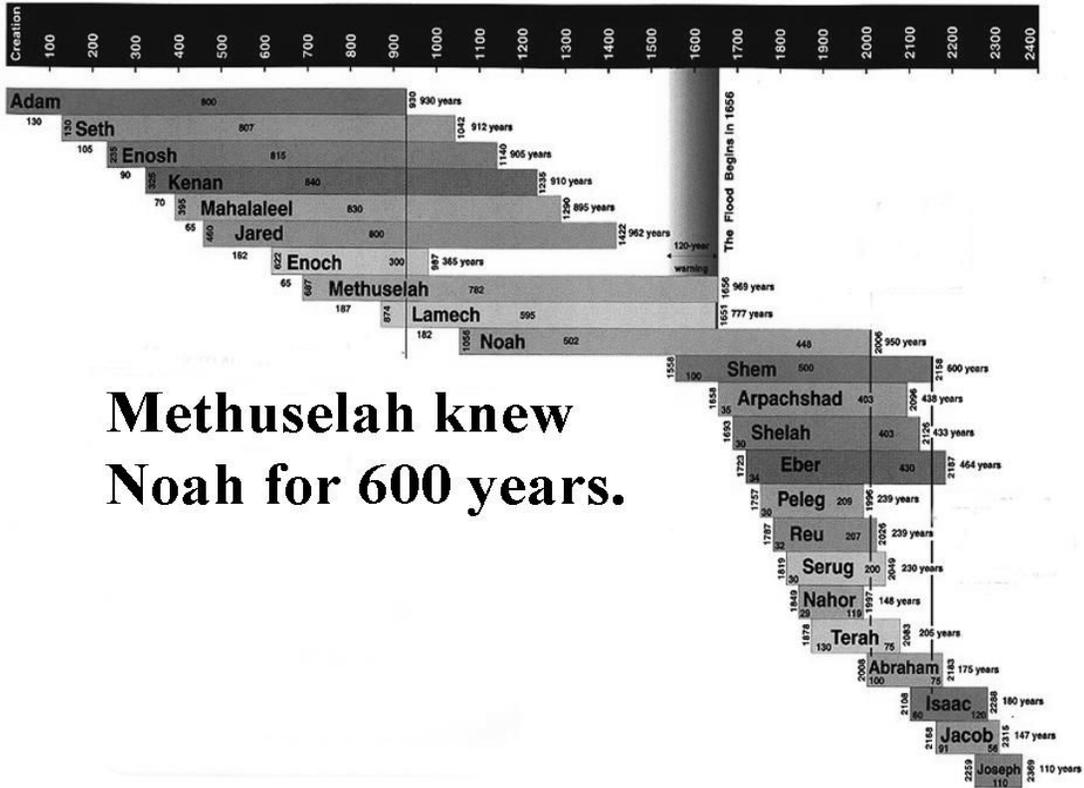
**2 Peter 1:16,18,19,20-21** "We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with Him on the sacred mountain. And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it. Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. 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."

Now folks, this is the passage we saw last week, where Peter says he and the Apostles did not just whoop up some book like the skeptics wants to say, but they were actual eyewitnesses of God and when they went about to preserve this account for us, i.e. **transmit it for us**, it was guided along by the Why? By the Holy Spirit, by God right? Yet, even when you share this with the skeptic, they still say something like this, "Well even if what was **originally spoken** to the people in the Bible really did come from God, there's no guarantee that what we have **today** is totally accurate." Really?

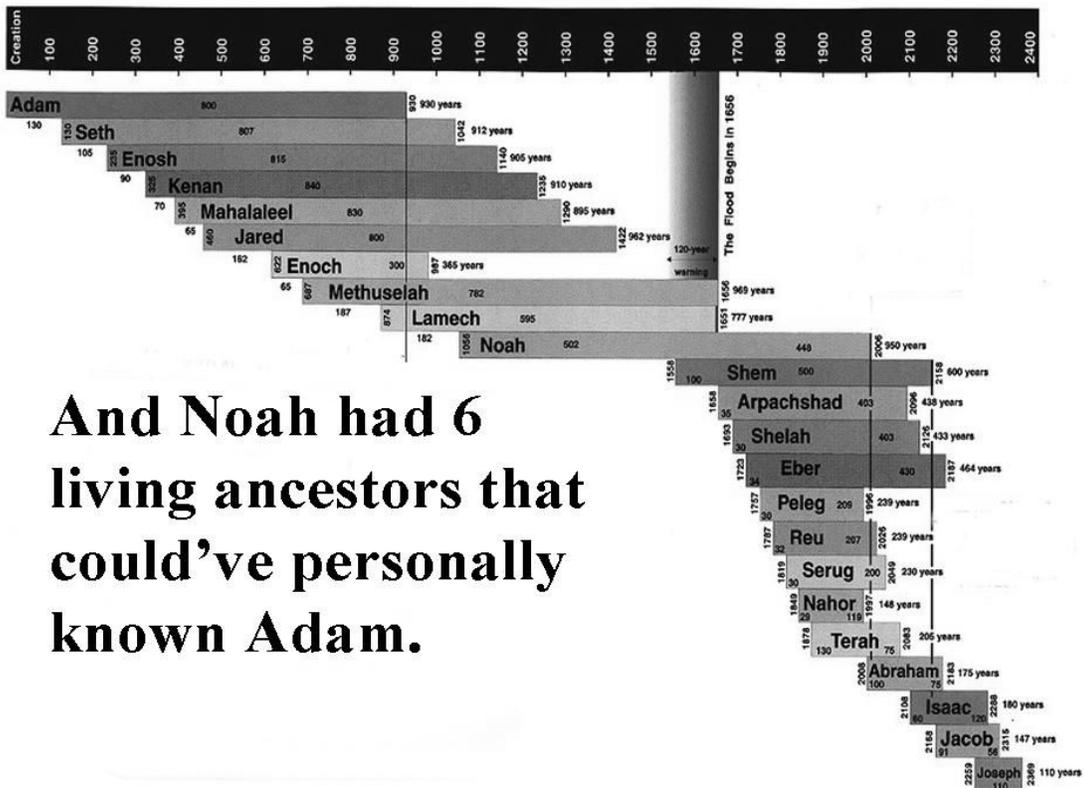
And then they'll usually cite the typical scenario of where people play the game of saying a phrase to one person in a circle who then whispers it to the next person in the circle and so on and so forth, and so finally the last person in the circle shares what they heard and invariably the message is totally different from the original statement. Then they reply that **this is proof** why the Bible could never have maintained its integrity. But people, hello, those who make this ridiculous assumption **are only showing their ignorance** of how the Bible has been preserved for us throughout history. It has amazing transmission standards!

For instance, many people will look at the Old Testament, especially the first five books of the Bible, which were written by Moses and ask, "How in the world could Moses know what went on in the Genesis account, the Garden of Eden, the flood, etc. when he is so far removed from the actual events? How can we trust what he wrote?" Well people, it's simple. That's why you need to pay attention to the **genealogical record in the Book of Genesis**. You know, that part in the Bible that most people skip over that says so and so begot so and so? Well, there's an interesting thing that happens when you do your homework. You see, if you **add up the years** and chart them out, you discover that the lifespan of many of those people **overlap each other**.

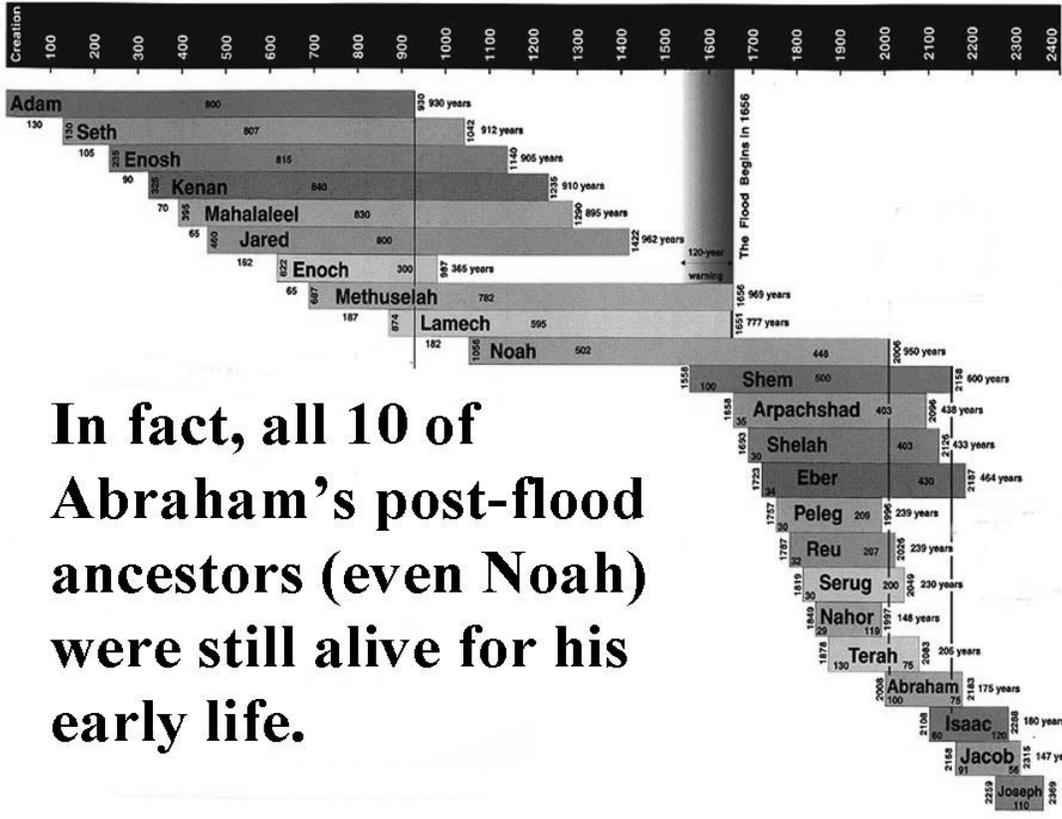




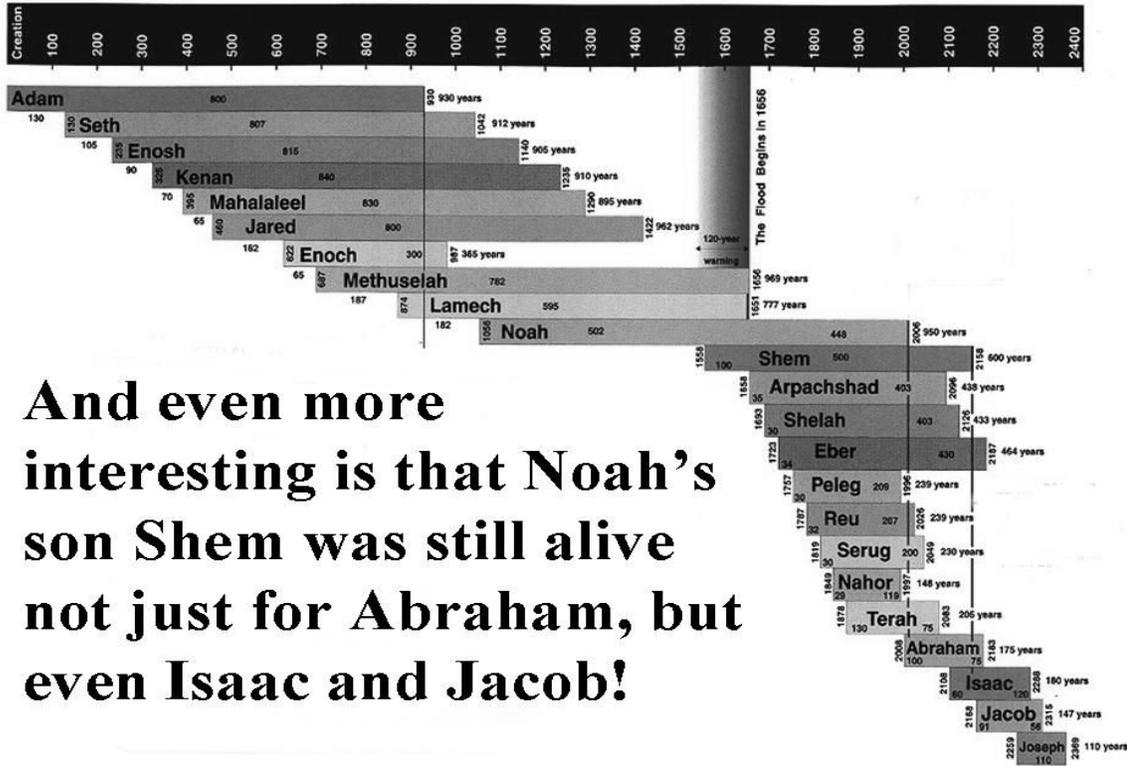
**Methuselah knew Noah for 600 years.**



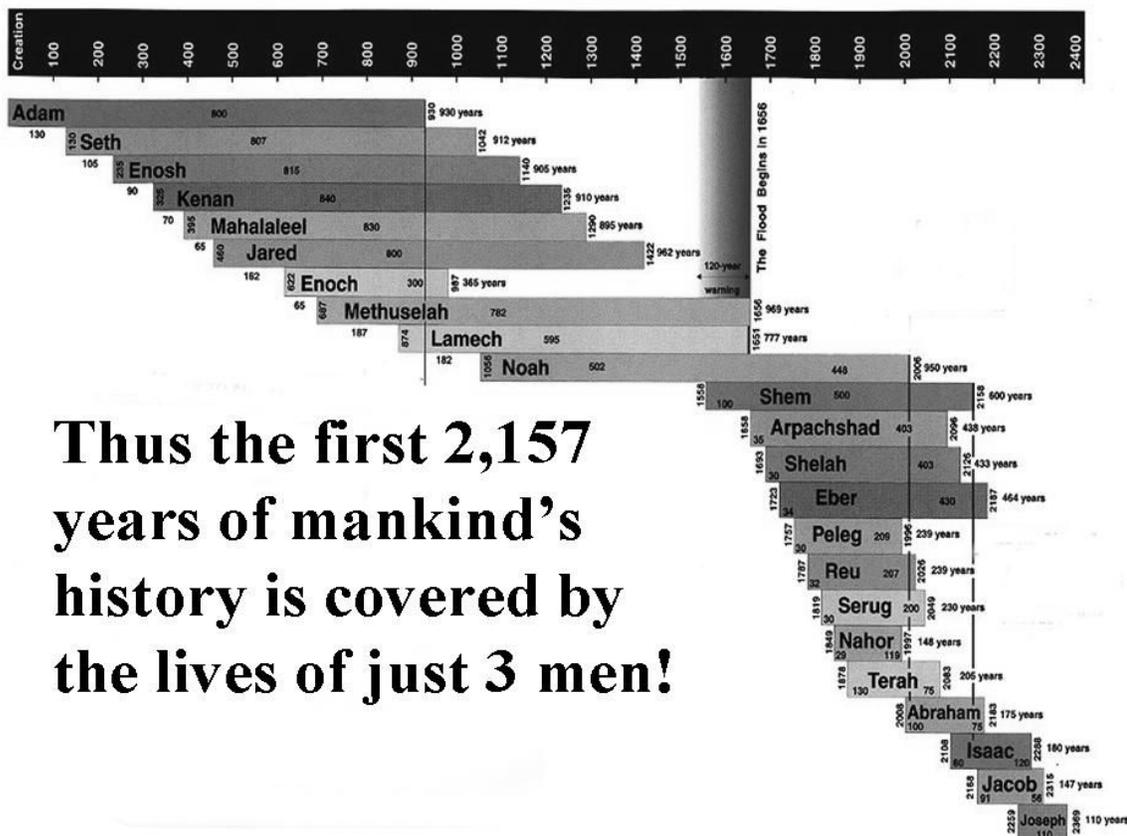
**And Noah had 6 living ancestors that could've personally known Adam.**



**In fact, all 10 of Abraham's post-flood ancestors (even Noah) were still alive for his early life.**



**And even more interesting is that Noah's son Shem was still alive not just for Abraham, but even Isaac and Jacob!**



That's a far cry from some guys talking around a circle hoping to get it right! Moses **did not** just whoop up some story. The transmission of data from the beginning of man's history is **not only possible** accurately but it could've been retrieved **from firsthand accounts**. Furthermore, we need to keep in mind that the authors of the Old Testament didn't just **arbitrarily** write down some message and hopefully somebody got it right, copied it, with no errors. No! If you study Jewish history you'll see that they followed strict copying methods **for the specific reason** of having an accurate transmission of the data. Let me show you what I mean. There's nothing willy nilly here!

- A synagogue roll must be written only by a Jewish person and on the skins of clean animals.
- The scrolls must be fastened together with strings taken from clean animals.
- Every skin must contain a certain number of lines and columns, equal throughout the entire codex.
- The ink should be black, neither red, green, nor any other color, and be prepared according to a definite recipe.
- No word or letter, not even a *yod*, can be written from memory. You must look at the codex before you.
- The copyist must sit in full Jewish dress, wash his whole body, not write the Name of God without a pen newly dipped in ink, and even if a king should address him while writing that Name, he must take no notice of him.

In fact, their manuscripts were checked within 30 days and **even if it had one mistake**, it was destroyed by burning it, and even the ashes were buried just to make sure no one would ever find the remains. Therefore, as you can see, this again, is a far cry from the common scenario of just “talking around a circle” don’t you think?

**But what about the New Testament?** Just how was it transmitted to us? Is what’s recorded for us there reliable? Well let’s take a look at some of the common practices of the student of a Rabbi, back in the days of Jesus. For instance, a good student back in those days was one who **did not lose one drop** of the rabbi’s teaching. And the way they did that was by **memorizing literally word for word** what they were taught. Also, a Rabbi back in those days would purposely teach in parables and other poetic forms

making his teachings even easier to memorize. And guess what method of teaching **Rabbi Jesus** used? The exact same thing! Therefore, He purposely made it easy for His disciples to memorize **all His teachings** so they would not lose a drop!

But that's still not all. The Apostles also had the promise of Jesus sending of the Holy Spirit to **remind them** of what He's taught them to insure the accuracy of what they recorded down for us.

**John 14:25-26** "All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My Name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

And folks, what you've got to keep in mind is that these **strict and reliable forms of transmission standards** is unique to the Bible alone. Most of the books of antiquity that the skeptics assume are reliable don't even come close to following these kinds of standards, let alone have any, yet they believe they're true! In fact, let me give you some examples.

For instance, how about the reliability of the so-called transmission standards of the Jehovah's Witnesses? Should we trust their version of the Bible? I don't think so but let's look at the facts. Let's see how they transmitted their version.

### Jehovah's Witnesses and the New World Mistranslation

The bible produced by the Jehovah's Witness called "The New World Translation" has caused quite a stir. We are prepared to document the

Charles Russell believed he was the sole channel of communication between God and men. He even referred to himself as God's mouthpiece.

Lorri MacGregor: I was surprised to find out that many strange things about Pastor Russell when I did independent research on him. Here, in "The Finished Mystery" book, he taught that the churches of Christendom were started by bald headed men with smoke on their brains. He thought that if a dog's head were shaped like a man's, the dog could think like a man.

Johannes Greber, was a former Roman Catholic priest and after getting married to a woman who was herself a medium, he got the idea that he could translate the New Testament in a more accurate way if he would have some help from a spirit medium.

When the occult background of Greber was exposed by those outside the society, they stopped referring to him as a scholar. Interestingly the evidence is that they knew about his occult involvement for nearly 30 years. This kind of deliberate cover-up is found throughout their history.

Joan Cetnar (former headquarters member): My late husband Bill Cetnar was at the Watchtower headquarters during the work on the New World Translation. Former president Fred Franz was mainly responsible for the translation work. He was neither a Hebrew nor a Greek scholar and only had two years of college. There were no scholars. I know because I knew them all personally. The so-called translation, was written to reflect their own peculiar doctrines.

It's a sham kind of scholarship. This could be called, not a separate version of the bible, in this respect it's a perversion of the bible.

Dave Riccaboni (former headquarter's member): The only original Greek I knew was George Gangas of the secretive translation committee and he was no scholar that's for sure. Because he himself told me that before he came to Bethel, he was a short order cook in Columbus, Ohio."

And once again, that music is very appropriate! But folks, I don't know about you but I'm kind of thinking I'm going to stick to our version of the Bible with its strict and reliable transmission standards, over that one

that was inspired by a guy involved in the occult, who believed in bald headed men with smoke coming off their brains, not to mention talking dogs, and was compiled by a short order cook and others who knew nothing about Biblical languages! Hello! But that's not all. Jehovah's witnesses go on to literally delete, chop out, and **insert** passages in Bible that are not there just to prop up their false teachings to make them sound palatable. That's not an accurate transmission.

But they're not the only ones! So are the 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventists. They do the exact same thing with their perversion of the Bible called the "Clear Word Bible." And the only thing "clear" about it is its not trustworthy at all. Don't believe me? Check it out for yourself!

Ellen G White and Seventh Day Adventists:

"During the mid 1800's within a few years of each other-Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Christian Scientists and 7th Day Adventists were all presenting doctrines contrary to those held by traditional bible believers.

The central Adventists doctrine, which states that the judgment of believers works will determine their salvation is blatantly unbiblical and is not taught by any legitimate Christian denomination. Other heretical Adventist doctrines include the teaching that Christ's atonement for sins on the cross was incomplete, that Jesus Christ is Michael the Archangel and that there is no hell.

The late 7th Day Adventist founder Ellen G. White. Born on November 26th, 1827 in Gorham, Maine. Ellen was hit in the head with a rock at the age of 9. She remained unconscious for three weeks. Unable to attend school following the incident. Ellen's education ceased at the third grade level. Both her health and her emotions remained fragile as she grew older.

So we came upon White upon her marriage to another former Millorite believer, James White in 1846. Because she claimed to have the spirit of prophecy. She came to be the visible absolute authority figure for the initially small group of Adventist believers. Her writings grew to be seventeen times as large as the entire Bible. Her followers were to reference these 5,000 articles, 49 books, plus 55,000 manuscript pages she claimed to write and regard them as being as inspired as the Bible. They have however made her more embarrassing writings unavailable, locking them securely away in the White Estate vault.

Mrs. White, in a vision, also claimed to have traveled complete with wings to various planets, which were full of inhabitants. She reported meeting Enoch on a distant planet during one of her journeys. Other times, she saw angels using golden gate passes to go in and out of heaven.

Some of her so-called visions reflected her own racist views. For example, she believed certain races of people were the result of sexual relations between man and animal, which she referred to as an amalgamation.

Despite the unbiblical nature of her visions her followers continued to accept her as God's messenger, and her writings as inspired as the Bible. They have their own version of the Bible known as the Clear Word Bible, which insert the words and ideas of Ellen G. White directly into the biblical text.

One can see the extent to which Seventh Day Adventists are prepared to go to support their "prophetess" even to the manipulation of scripture."

Now folks again, maybe it's just me, but I think I'll stick to our version of the Bible with it's strict and reliable transmission standards over that one that what? Came from a false prophetess who denied orthodox Christian doctrine, taught false teachings, and believed that certain races today are a result of breeding done with animals, and then insert that into your so-called Bible! **No thanks! I'll stick to ours!**

And people, this is why you can't have it both ways. You can't accept some books of antiquity that have little or no standard of reliable transmission, **like those**, and then turn around and deny the authenticity of the Bible. Why? Because the Bible's unique and amazing and reliable **transmission standards** clearly present it as the **genuine Word of God**. And anything short of this is called hypocrisy. And **so it is with the skeptics of the Bible!** They spout off bold claims that the Bible cannot be trusted, that the Bible is full of errors. Yet **it is they** who refuse to look at the evidence. People be encouraged today! You don't have to give into the **attacks of the skeptic**. You don't have to give into **doubt**. You don't have to give into **one iota** of criticism! What we hold in our hands is the genuine Word of God!

And that's why, more than ever, we've got to wake up and realize the golden opportunity that God is giving us. Our world is in a frantic search for purpose and direction and meaning to life. They realize the world is messed up and it's getting worse! And so they're full of questions like, "Why do I exist? Where did I come from? Where is all this evil coming from? Is there life after death? And **is there any hope?**" And it's high time that we the Church get busy not just **saying** the Bible came from God, but **showing** the

world that it really did come from God, and the way we do that is by treating it just as good as our cell phones.

“What if our Bible was just as important as our cell phone?

We treated it like we couldn't live without it.

When we got it, went back to get it.

We had lots of gadgets to keep us connected to it.

We always had it close by in case of an emergency.

We carried it around in our purses and pockets.

We checked it throughout the day for new messages.

We were constantly going over our minutes every month.

We made sure our battery never ran low.

What if our Bible was just as important as our cell phone?”

What if? I think we'd not only experience revival ourselves, but I think our world would take us much more seriously when we tell them about Jesus, and His Words of Truth in the Bible, how about you? That's what our world needs to see. Let's be that kind of Church this year. Amen?

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To find the way to God, to understand the *truth* of God's Word, and to received the gift of eternal *life*, begin by repentance and faith through a prayer like this:

“Dear God, I understand that I have broken Your Law and sinned against You. Please forgive my sins. Thank You that Jesus suffered on the cross in my place. I now place my trust in Him as My Savior and Lord. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.”

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