

3. The Bible is unreliable and not to be trusted.

Even more popular than questioning God’s existence, is undermining the integrity of the Bible. If people can convince themselves the Bible is NOT God’s word, then they don’t have to let it guide their lives.

So, people will say that it was not God’s word written down for us. And even if it was, that was 2000 years ago, there is no way it could be accurate and relied upon today.

Some quick points to help debunk this myth. This attack on the credibility of God’s revealed plan for us.

The Scriptures most absolutely CLAIM to be inspired of God: II Pet. 1:16. *This is important a) because Peter knew Paul who knew Matthew and John. They all spoke of one another. So when Peter claims this letter is from God, he is claiming, by association, that all of these N.T. books are from God. b) it means one can only look at the Bible as worthy to live by or a complete pack of lies, there is no middle ground.*

- **Writers have Utmost Credibility** - Luke 1:1-4. Had it been written hundreds of years later, then maybe I could see doubt. But these men stood with Jesus and saw the things of which they write. ALL NT Writers either eye witnesses or got information from eye witnesses.

- **Prophecy is still Amazingly Powerful** - giving pin point accurate accounts of what would happen is proof beyond any reasonable, logical doubt.

- a) **Daniel 2:36-40,44; 8:20-22** – Specific kingdom prophecies and coming of Christ’s Power!
- b) **Matthew 1:23; 2:6; 2:15; 2:18; 2:24; 3:3; 4:12-16** – The story of Jesus from the OT!

But some will say, “maybe it WAS God’s word, but certainly it would be tainted over the past 2000 years.

- NOPE. There have been found over **5,600 written copies** of part or all of the N.T. all over the world, dating back to the 2nd century. Translators match all of those up in translating the book that sits in your lap. Unreliability is IMPOSSIBLE.

(Homer’s Illiad – 643 (written 720 b.c.)

5. Science is in conflict with Christian Faith.

I was watching a movie recently and one man asked another, “Do you believe in God?” He answered, “No, I believe in Science.” Ultimately, this myth is an attack against both *God and His revealed Word.* For what is really being said is that the revealed truth about God conflicts with Science.

So, we can use this revealed truth to show there is nothing further from the truth.

Gen. 1:1 – This teaches us two things about God, when it comes to Science:

- A) God made science. He is over it, set it in motion, and is in control of its parameters.
- B) God hence is above Science, (the laws of nature), and can show us such power to prove Him.

B) Since God is above science, hence not governed by it, he can alter its laws to prove His pre-eminence.

(John 20:30-31 – That is exactly what miracles were performed to prove. To say, “the Bible has miracles in it that violate Science, hence cannot be true, is uneducated and misses the point of the miracle itself.”)

Explore A) – God revealed things to us in the Old Testament about nature and science and this universe that men did not find through “science” until centuries later

- 1) (The Bible teaches the earth is round, 3000 years before man “discovered it.” -- Job 26:10, Prov 8:27, **Isaiah 40:22**, Amos 9:6--

- 2) The Bible reveals the scientific truth about water cycles, 1600 years before man determined it. – Job 36:27-28; Eccl 1:6-7; 11:3; Job 26:8; **Amos 9:6**
- 3) (The Bible reveals that there are more stars than can be numbered, like the sand on the seashore, and that each star has a different glory than every other star, unique. Thousands of years later, man determined this to be scientific fact –Gen. 22:17; **Jer. 33:22; I Co. 15:41**)
- 4) Leviticus reveals that the life of a person is in their blood, and dependant on such blood. – **Lev. 17:11** Early Americans had not developed this knowledge, as our first president was bled to death.

Here's the point. God made this universe. He constructed Science from His thought, and has revealed time and time again things about Science men would not know for hundreds of years. He is not against Science, His is it's designer, and has left historical information in the Old Testament to prove it.

Remember, God didn't put us here to convince us we are alone. He put us here to show us He is alive and worthy to be served! In Science and in His ability to control and manipulate it as his will, He proves that.

5. All the evil and suffering in the world proves there is no God.

--If people who support this argument know any verses from the Bible at all, they will know *I John 4:8* – "God is Love." *And then reason, "If God is love, why is there so much pain and suffering—that is not love" "Hence, there is no God."*

Well pain and suffering do NOT negate the existence of God. Pain and suffering falls into three categories, all of which God has defined for us:

- 1) Punishment on earth for sin (**Gen. 3:16-19**) – We suffer loss as a form of discipline.
--**Suffering teaches us that God demands to be honored**
- 2) Natural evil, as we fight the effects of aging and the laws of nature (**Eccl 3:2; 12:1**)
--**Pain in the natural world teaches us that this life is temporary by design**
- 3) Moral evil, as the sins of others continue to cause people pain (**Ac 12:1-2** – James died, not because God wanted it, but because of the evil heart of Herod) (Moral evil is a natural side effect of free choice)
--**Moral evil teaches us that sin hurts people and makes us long for someplace better**

To say that Pain and Suffering of people demands that they have no Father loving them makes no sense. *Imagine a young boy who has a father who loves him. At the age of 7, the boy burns the rug and is spanked and sent to his room (pain and suffering). At the age of 10, the boy falls off his bike and breaks his arm (pain and suffering). At the age of 14, a bully at school chooses to steal his lunch and punch him in the eye (pain and suffering). – Are we to assume that the boy does not have a Father who loves him. Of course he does: it was that father who sent him to his room, who took him to get his cast, and who gave him a supportive hug when he came home from school)*

Pain and suffering on this earth don't negate God's existence, but serve as teachers and instructors about God's plan for our future, our eternal future. (**Ecclesiastes 12:6-8, 13-14**)

Conclusion: NOTE 5 TRUTHS about CHRISTIANITY

- **Jesus is Liar, Lunatic or LORD**
- **Jesus was Raised – Proving He is LORD**
- **Scripture is Proven to be Divine**
- **Science Proves what God has Revealed**
- **Trials Emphasize our Need for God**

II Peter 3:8-10 – One day EVERYONE will know the Truth! Who is read to admit it today when you still have time to act in faith?!