



# BANNER of *Love* MINISTRIES

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## **The Authority of the Bible**

There are many convincing proofs regarding the divine inspiration of the Bible; however, our faith is not based on these but on the statements of God Himself, which are recorded within its pages. Jesus put His stamp of approval upon the Old Testament which was used by the Jews and is exactly the same as that used today (Mt. 5:17-19, 15:6, Luke 16:17, John 5:39-40). (Note: The Apocryphal books that are in Catholic versions were not considered inspired Scriptures by the Jews.)\* He also made it clear that the apostles He had chosen spoke on behalf of Him (Mt. 10:40, John 15:20). Paul stated that all scripture was inspired by God (2 Tim 3:16-17), and Peter considered the writings of Paul to be inspired Scripture (2 Pet. 3:16).

### **The Unity of the Bible**

The Bible was written over a period of approximately 1600 years and 60 generations. Over 40 different people were involved in its composition from all walks of life (kings to fishermen). It was written in three major languages, Hebrew, Chaldee, and Greek. It covers hundreds of controversial subjects and includes a variety of literary styles. Yet, the unity of its message is astounding.

### **The Transforming Power of the Bible**

There are numerous accounts of outstanding miracles over many generations. The lives of countless thousands were radically transformed from prisoners of sin to saints of Christ. Many millions have laid down their lives in defence of the Bible.

### **Historical Accuracy**

Not one single piece of archaeological evidence has ever contradicted a Biblical reference. In fact, all have verified its accuracy (i.e. over 2000 years before men discovered that the earth was round, the Bible said so. Is. 40:22-vault or circle, Job 26:10).

### **Accuracy of Manuscripts**

There are over 24,000 manuscript copies or portions of the New Testament in existence today. There is more manuscript evidence supporting the reliability of the Bible than any other piece of ancient literature. The Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered in 1947 (dated between 200 BC and 68 AD), overwhelmingly substantiate the accuracy of the oldest Hebrew manuscripts of the Old Testament (500-900 AD.) known before that time.

### **Fulfilment of Prophecy**

The Bible is full of specific prophecies concerning individuals and nations which have been fulfilled in the most minute detail. That portion of Biblical prophecy which has not been fulfilled pertains to the future conclusion of this age. Consider, for example, the prophecies concerning the city of Tyre (Ez.26) in the 6th century BC, which were fulfilled in great detail in the 4th century BC. The Old Testament contains at least 332 specific prophecies concerning the Messiah which were all literally fulfilled in great detail by Jesus Christ.

There are many other convincing proofs for the authority of Scripture; however, our faith must be in the person and testimony of Christ Himself.

"Thy word is very pure, therefore Thy servant loves it." Psalms 119:140

"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." Jesus Christ-John 6:63

"If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also." Jesus Christ-John 15:20

"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work." Paul the apostle-2 Tim. 3:16-17