

# **The Reliability of Holy Scripture as the Very Word of God**

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*Rev. David L. Adler, Emeritus*

## **Introduction**

- *2 Timothy 2:15*
- *St. John 17:17*
- *2 Timothy 3:16*
- *2 Peter 1:20-21*

## **1. The Claims of Scripture**

### **A. It is DIVINELY-INSPIRED**

- *2 Timothy 3:16*
- *2 Peter 1:21*
- *1 Corinthians 2:13*

#### **1. INFALLIBLE**

- *Psalms 119:2, 86, 138, 160*
- *Psalms 19:7*
- *Romans 7:12*
- *St. Matthew 5:18-19*
- *St. John 10:35*

#### **2. INERRANT - errorless in the parts.**

- *Proverbs 30:5*

### **B. It is AUTHORITATIVE**

- *Isaiah 1:2*
- *Revelation 19:9*
- *Revelation 21:5*
- *James 2:10*

### **C. It is EFFICACIOUS (it is effectual)**

- *Isaiah 55:10-11*
- *Romans 10:17*
- *1 Peter 1:23*

### **D. It is PERFECT (sufficient)**

- *2 Timothy 3:15-17*

E. It is **PERSPICUOUS** (clear)

- *Psalm 119:105*
- *Psalm 119:130*
- *Psalm 19:7-8*

## 2. How do we know it's claims are true?

A. Internal evidence:

1. The testimony of the **WRITERS**

a. An air of infallibility

b. Direct claims to the inspiration of Scripture

- *James 4:5*
- *Acts 1:16*
- *Acts 4:25*
- *Galatians 1:11-12*
- *1 Timothy 5:18 (Deuteronomy 25:4; Luke 10:7)*
- *2 Peter 3:15-16*
- *2 Peter 3:2*
- *Jude 17-18*
- *Revelation 1:1, 9, 10:4*

2. The testimony of **CHRIST** Himself

- *St. John 10:35*
- *St. John 5:39*
- *St. Matthew 5:17*
- *St. Matthew 26:53-54*
- *St. Luke 16:16-17*
- *Psalm 22*
- *St. Matthew 19:4*
- *St. Mark 12:24*

3. The testimony of the **HOLY SPIRIT**

- *1 Corinthians 2:7-14*
- *Genesis 3:1*

B. External evidence:

1. The testimony of **EXPERIENCE**

2. The testimony of **SCIENCE** (e.g., Hydrology, Astronomy, Geology, Gravity, Meteorology, Physiology)
  - *Job 36:27ff; Job 26:8; Psalm 135:7; Job 28:10; Psalm 33:7; Isaiah 55:9; Jeremiah 31:35,37; Jeremiah 33:22; Jeremiah 31:35; Psalm 19:4b-6; Isaiah 40:12; Isaiah 40:22; Job 38:14; Luke 17; Job 26:7; Job 28:25, Leviticus 17:11*
3. The testimony of **PROPHECY**
  - *Ezekiel 26-28 & 30; Nahum 1:8-10; Isaiah 13*
4. The testimony of **BIBLIOGRAPHIC** tests (see chart below)

## The New Testament Compared to Other Works of Antiquity

Author/ Work	When Written	Earliest Copy	Time Span	# Copies
Plato	427-347 BC	AD 900	1200 yrs.	7
Tacitus	AD 100	AD 1100	1000 yrs.	20
Sophocles	496-406 BC	AD 1000	1400 yrs.	193
Aristotle	384-322 BC	AD 1100	1400 yrs.	49
Homer (Iliad)	900 BC	400 BC	500 yrs.	643
New Testament	AD 40-100	AD 125	25 yrs.	24,000+