

READY *to* GIVE *an* ANSWER

A Course in Christian Evidences

DAVID R. REID



Developed as a study course by Emmaus Correspondence School, founded in 1942.

Ready to Give an Answer

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My special thanks goes to my wife, Margie, with out whom this course would not have been completed. Margie spent many hours listening to my taped lectures and preparing the text for this course.

Dr. David Reid, a faculty member at Emmaus Bible College for 28 years, is the founder of Growing Christians Ministries. Information about his ministry and his teaching material may be found at www.growingchristians.org.

READY TO GIVE AN ANSWER

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

COURSE COMPONENTS

The course has two parts: this textbook and the exam booklet.

The Study Course

The study course contains the material that you will use in your studies.

The Exam Booklet

The exam booklet includes all the exams for the course.

HOW TO STUDY

Begin by asking God to open your heart to receive the truths He would teach you from His Word. Read each chapter of the course book through at least twice, once to get the general idea of its contents and then again, slowly, looking up all Scripture references and examining all footnotes. Remember, you may use a dictionary for any terms you do not understand.

EXAMS

All the exams are in the Exam Booklet. Before taking each exam, carefully review the relevant chapter material including the Bible references. When you actually come to take the exams, try to do so without reference to the chapter, your Bible or your notebook unless otherwise instructed.

STUDY SCHEDULE

Begin studying immediately, or if you are in a group, as soon as the group begins. We suggest that you allow yourself a maximum of one year to complete this course from the time of enrollment.

READY TO GIVE AN ANSWER

A COURSE IN CHRISTIAN EVIDENCES

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INTRODUCTION

A. WHAT DOES “CHRISTIAN EVIDENCES” MEAN?

What is evidence? We usually think of evidence as things (fingerprints, weapons, stolen articles) or the testimony of people (eyewitnesses) that attorneys present in a court of law in order to convince a judge or jury that their case is true and believable. Christian evidence is just like that: it's evidence which Christians can present in order to convince others that God, the Bible and Christianity are true, and that our faith is reasonable, logical and credible.

When all is said and done, you cannot *prove* Christianity to the point where no faith is needed (see Hebrews 11:6). Becoming a Christian requires faith, no matter how much you know about the evidence for Christianity. But the Christian faith is not a “blind” faith. It's not a “leap out into the dark.” It's a logical and reasonable step of faith—a step of faith based on evidence that is solid and credible.

The best kind of evidence that attorneys present in court is objective, physical, verifiable evidence: the written and oral testimony of eyewitnesses, the written testimony of experts on the subject, and exhibits, such as photographs, fingerprints, DNA, videotape, clothing, weapons, etc. In proving the case for Christianity we want to use objective evidence, too. God has given us overwhelming evidence to convince us and others that the Christian faith is logical and grounded in truth. We have exhibits, the



written and oral testimony of credible eyewitnesses, and the testimony of expert witnesses to back up our case. If we study the evidences and know how to use them, we will be able to present a good defense every time the case for Christianity is tried! That is what this course is all about.

B. WHY STUDY THE EVIDENCE FOR CHRISTIANITY?

1. To show that Christianity is reasonable, logical and credible.

Christianity is based on historical fact. Historical events are central to Christianity. Some religions or faiths are based entirely on the teachings of their founders (such as Mohammed and Islam, or Joseph Smith and Mormonism). In Christianity, however, both the teachings of Jesus Christ *and* the historical events of His life are essential. In fact, Christianity stands or falls based on the truth of the historical events that are recorded in the Bible, such as the life, miracles, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Bible stresses the importance of being able to prove these historical events. After His death and resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples and “presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God” (Acts 1:3). Peter says “we . . . were eyewitnesses” (2 Peter 1:16). Paul stated that many people could testify to the accuracy of his message about Jesus, including King Agrippa: “I . . . speak the words of truth and reason. For the king . . . knows these things; for I am convinced that none of these things escapes his attention, since this thing [the death and resurrection of Christ] was not done in a corner” (Acts 26:25-26).

2. To learn how to defend Christianity.

God asks us to defend and confirm the gospel (Philippians 1:7). When the apostle Paul wrote, “I am appointed for the defense of the gospel” (Philippians 1:17), he was a prisoner in Rome, where most of the people were hostile to Christianity. God had placed him in that situation to defend and confirm the gospel in pagan Rome. Jude urged Christians to “contend earnestly for the faith” (Jude 3), and Titus was told to refute the arguments of those who opposed his message (Titus 1:9).

God expects all Christians to be able to defend and confirm the mes-



sage of the Bible. In fact, He commands us to be ready and able to give answers! “Always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you” (1 Peter 3:15), and “redeeming the time [make the most of every opportunity] . . . know how you ought to answer each one” (Colossians 4:5-6). We should study evidences of our Christian faith so that we can give answers.

3. To follow the example of the apostles.

The apostles are tremendous examples of how to live and grow in faith, and of how to evangelize and teach others about Christianity. As they used evidences in their teaching and evangelism, so we should be able to use evidences as well.

The apostle Paul stated that creation gives evidence of God’s “invisible attributes . . . eternal power and Godhead [divine nature]” (Romans 1:20). In his speech to King Agrippa, Paul mentioned fulfilled prophecies from the Old Testament as evidence that Jesus is the Messiah (Acts 26:22-27).

In his sermon on the Day of Pentecost, Peter spoke of “Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs . . . as you yourselves also know” (Acts 2:22). Many of the people to whom he was speaking had personally seen Jesus perform miracles, and at that very moment they were witnessing the amazing signs of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the disciples! Peter used the power of these signs and miracles as evidence for the validity of Jesus as the Christ, and 3,000 people believed!

In 1 Corinthians 15:4-6, Paul stated that more than 500 people had seen the Lord Jesus Christ alive after the resurrection. He went on to say that most of those eyewitnesses were still alive, and that they would confirm the truth of the resurrection of Jesus.

Paul wrote to the Philippian, “The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do [put it into practice!]” (Philippians 4:9). We, too, should follow the pattern set for us by the apostles.

C. WHAT WILL I LEARN IN THIS COURSE?

This brief course will present basic, logical, objective evidences for the existence of God, the deity of Jesus Christ and the reliability of the Bible. It also covers evidence for miracles, Creation, and the world-wide

READY TO GIVE AN ANSWER



Flood. In addition, many of the objections which are raised by critics are stated and shown to be incorrect or erroneous. A “Recommended Reading” list is given if you wish to study the subject of evidences in greater depth.

As you study this course, your personal faith will be strengthened, and you will learn to be “ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you” (1 Peter 3:15, KJV).

CHAPTER ONE



IS THE BIBLE RELIABLE?

Is the Bible the true, inerrant (without error) and reliable Word of God, or is it a mixture of stories, fables, legends, and half-truths, as some people say? Can we really *trust* the Bible? Is the information it contains about the existence and character of God, the Creation and Fall of mankind, and the means of salvation absolutely correct? Since our faith and our eternal destiny depend on the truthfulness of the Bible, we need to know and be able to present good evidence that the Bible which is in our hands today is authentic and unchanged, and that we can rely on all biblical information to be accurate and trustworthy.

The evidence that we will examine in this chapter falls into four categories: **authenticity**, **accuracy**, **agreement**, and **acceptance** of Scripture. We want to find out whether or not the Bible has changed over the years. Does the Bible contain mistakes? Do the authors contradict or disagree with one another? When were the biblical documents accepted as the true and reliable Word of God? As Christians, we believe that the Bible is completely reliable, of course, because we believe it to be the inspired, inerrant Word of God. But remember, we are presenting this evidence to disprove the skeptic's objections. If the Bible passes the authenticity, accuracy, agreement and acceptance tests, then unbelievers must logically conclude that the Bible is a reliable document, regardless of their views of God and inspiration.



A. AUTHENTICITY: *Has the Bible changed over the years?*

AUTHENTICITY
ACCURACY
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ACCEPTANCE

Authenticity is the necessary first step in establishing the reliability of the Bible. When we say a document is “authentic,” we mean that the document is **the same** as the original written text—nothing has been added, nothing has been deleted, and nothing has been changed. The original written documents of the Bible (called “autographs”) are no longer in existence, and there are no “Xerox copies” available! Have the biblical writings been preserved carefully over the years? How do we find out if the

text we have today is a good, accurate, authentic copy of the original text? To look for evidence, we must find out if the available ancient copies of the biblical documents are the same as the biblical text we have today. We need to get as close to the original documents as possible.

1. Authenticity of the Old Testament text

The Old Testament was written primarily in Hebrew. Extremely careful handwritten copies (manuscripts) of the original writings were made by Jewish scribes. Jewish scribes followed very strict rules to ensure authentic copies of the biblical documents, with nothing added or deleted from the original text. For example, to be sure no mistakes were made, no word could be copied from memory—they copied the text one letter at a time! When a scribe finished a copy he counted the words and the letters to be sure none had been omitted, and made sure that the middle word and the middle letter of the copy were exactly the same as the middle word and letter of the original document. Now that’s a good and authentic copy—even before the day of photocopy machines!

The Dead Sea Scrolls are the oldest existing copies of the Old Testament documents. In 1947, in a cave near the Dead Sea, a shepherd boy discovered an ancient scroll of the book of Isaiah in a clay jar. Other caves were soon discovered, which contained more scrolls of biblical documents and commentaries (written explanations of the biblical text). The biblical scrolls consisted of handwritten copies of all the books of the Old Testament, except Esther. When compared to the Hebrew text of the Old Testament used today there were only a few minor differences. The oldest of the scrolls may have been made before 200 B.C. All indications are that the Old Testament Hebrew text had not changed between the time the



original books were written and the time of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The Septuagint is a translation of the Old Testament from Hebrew into Greek, which was made in about 250 B.C. by Jewish scholars in Alexandria, Egypt. There are many copies of the Septuagint, and when we compare these ancient Greek manuscripts with the Hebrew text, the text is amazingly close to what was found in the Hebrew texts of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

We have other ancient Hebrew manuscripts (the Talmud, Midrash and Targums) that contain Scripture. We also have the Samaritan version of the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible), and various archaeological artifacts that contain Hebrew Scripture. All these sources provide good evidence to back up the authenticity of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament. When we check the biblical texts of the Dead Sea Scrolls, Septuagint, and these other ancient sources with the Old Testament we have in our Bibles today, we find that the texts are in substantial agreement. The few differences, which are fairly easy to detect, are very minor scribal copying mistakes, not affecting the doctrine of the Scripture. We can be confident that the Old Testament in our Bibles today is an authentic copy of the original documents.

2. Authenticity of the New Testament text

The New Testament was written in Greek. The oldest manuscript of the entire New Testament, found at St. Catherine's Monastery at Mt. Sinai, dates to about 350 A.D. However, there are many portions of the New Testament on manuscripts which are dated earlier (and thus closer to the original documents). One of the oldest existing manuscripts of the New Testament is a small portion of the Gospel of John, which was copied in about 125 A.D., only 30-40 years after the original text of the gospel was written by the Apostle John.

There are over 20,000 ancient handwritten manuscripts (more than 5,000 in the Greek language) of the New Testament in existence today, plus more than 86,000 New Testament quotations in early Christian writings. The "Patristic Writings" (commentaries and instructional books written by early Christian leaders, which date back to the 2nd century A.D.) and "lectionaries" (early church service manuals) quote many passages from the New Testament. In fact, so much Scripture is quoted in these early commentaries and lectionaries that, even if all Bibles were lost, we could reconstruct almost the entire New Testament just from the quotations in these very early Christian writings!



When we compare all these manuscripts, we find some minor differences or variations (called variants), but the vast majority of verses are identical. And in the relatively few variants, no doctrine is involved. In fact, the New Testament manuscripts are considered to be 98.3% in agreement with each other—a literary miracle! Do these documents agree with the New Testament we have today? Yes, they do! We can be confident of the authenticity of the New Testament in our Bibles today.

Conclusion: No one doubts the existence of Julius Caesar or the historical information in his book, *Gallic Wars*, even though only 10 manuscripts remain and there is a 900 year gap between the writing of the book and the oldest manuscript copy. The manuscript evidence for the events recorded in the New Testament for the life of Christ is far superior to the evidence for the events in the life of Julius Caesar. And manuscript evidence is essentially the only kind of evidence that can be used to establish the historicity of these events. Although skeptics attempt to describe the Bible as a book that has been exaggerated or changed over the years, we have the evidence—the Bible is an authentic document!

B. ACCURACY: *Are there mistakes in the Bible?*

Having established that the Bible we have today is an authentic copy of the original documents, and has not been changed since the time it was written, we need to go further and look at evidence to show that what the authors originally wrote was correct and accurate. The Bible claims to be the Word of God and therefore, as Christians, we accept its accuracy. But in this course we want to learn how to show the skeptic that the Bible does not contain errors. Luke, for example, has been demonstrated to be an accurate historian. Luke stated that his specific purpose in writing his books was “to write to you an orderly account . . . that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed” (Luke 1:3-4). We will look at several areas of biblical accuracy.

AUTHENTICITY
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 AGREEMENT
 ACCEPTANCE

1. Scientific Accuracy

Some critics of the Bible claim that the Bible has many scientific inaccuracies. Much of the criticism arises from the fact that the Bible is written in the language and from the viewpoint of common, ordinary people,



using popular expressions. For example, a critic might say that the phrase “the sun rises and the sun sets” in Ecclesiastes 1:5 (NASB) is a scientific error, because the sun doesn’t move around the earth—the earth rotates! They also allege that the phrase “the four corners of the earth” in Isaiah 11:12 is a scientific mistake made by an author who thought the world was flat. But it’s quite obvious that “the sun rises and sets” is simply the common phrase used then (and today!) to describe the day from dawn to dusk, and the “four corners of the earth” is just a descriptive phrase for “the whole world.” After all, the purpose of the Bible is not to teach science, and the language of the Bible is not **meant** to be scientific!

When the meaning of words and phrases in the original language are examined more carefully, other alleged “scientific mistakes” are often found not to be mistakes at all. In fact, there are certain Scriptures in which the inspired writers may go “beyond the knowledge of their time” and use language that is **more** scientifically accurate than they ever realized! For example, the fact that the earth is a sphere may be included in Isaiah 40:22, which was written hundreds of years before the earth was proved to be a sphere. The great wind circuits that circle the earth and the earth’s hydraulic cycle that are mentioned in Ecclesiastes 1:6-7 were probably beyond the scientific knowledge of Solomon’s day.

Although the purpose of the Bible is not to teach science, where the Bible touches on science there are **no mistakes!** God’s Word is scientifically accurate!

2. Medical Accuracy

The medical advice and information given in ancient literature is filled with gruesome myths and ridiculous therapies, but the Bible is different. Where the Bible mentions medical matters, it does not make mistakes. Many of the rules of God’s Law in the Old Testament were given to protect the health of His people, even though the people then didn’t know the medical principles behind the regulations.

When we compare those rules with the medical knowledge of today, we see that the “clean and unclean” laws were very important for preventing contagious diseases and promoting good health. One amazing example is found in Leviticus 12:3, which required Jewish baby boys to be circumcised on the 8th day after birth. We now know that Vitamin K, a substance which is necessary for blood to clot, naturally reaches its peak in an infant’s body when the baby is 8 days old! There are similar examples throughout



the Bible. Paul’s advice to Timothy to “. . . use a little wine for your stomach’s sake and your frequent infirmities” (1 Timothy 5:23) is not an outdated “old wives’ tale.” Medical research has found that drinking a little wine with meals is helpful in combating intestinal illnesses carried by food and water—and it may help to prevent heart attacks as well! (Incidentally, 1 Timothy 5:23 is not making a statement on social drinking—it is medical advice.) These are just a couple of examples of biblical health regulations or therapies that have been “re-discovered” and validated by current medical research and knowledge. God’s Word is medically accurate!

3. Historical, Geographical and Prophetic Accuracy

A study of Bible geography, history and prophecy will show that the Bible is accurate down to the smallest details. This evidence will be discussed in more detail in Chapters 2 and 3.

C. AGREEMENT: *Do the human authors of the Bible agree?*

The Bible is composed of 66 books, written over a period of about 1,500 years by more than 40 authors of different ages, from different backgrounds and walks of life, using different literary forms, and yet there is amazing harmony among the authors of Scripture! While critics attempt to point out small details that seem to disagree, generally these are only **apparent** or surface “contradictions.” With careful examination, the criticisms of all these alleged contradictions can be resolved.

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A few very brief examples are as follows:

1. **Criticism:** Genesis 1:26-27 and Genesis 2:7, 21-22 are contradictory accounts of the creation of man and woman.

Answer: Genesis 1 is a summary statement of the creation of humans, and Genesis 2 gives a more detailed account—how God did it.

2. **Criticism:** The genealogies (family records) of the Old Testament are not always in agreement.

Answer: Sometimes biblical chronologies are shortened or con-



densed. This was not unusual in ancient times, and does not make the genealogy untrue.

3. **Criticism:** John’s account of Jesus “cleansing the Temple” comes at the **beginning** of Jesus’ public ministry, while Matthew, Mark and Luke give a “Temple cleansing” account at the end of Jesus’ ministry.

Answer: Jesus cleansed the Temple on two different occasions. Read the accounts, and you will see some significant differences in the descriptions of the two cleansings.

4. **Criticism:** The number of men and the location are different in the account of the healing of the blind man/men near Jericho in the three gospels that record it. In Luke 18:35, **one** blind man was healed as Jesus was **entering** Jericho. In Mark 10:46 a blind man named Bartimaeus was healed as Jesus **left** Jericho. In Matthew 20:30, **two** blind men were healed as Jesus **left** Jericho.

Answer: No problem!

a. **The number of men**—there were two blind men who were healed, but Mark and Luke chose to mention only one of them, probably the one who did the talking. Mark even gives his name: Bartimaeus.

b. **The location**—One possible solution is that the healings took place between the two locations of Jericho. There was more than one Jericho—an Old Testament location, which was conquered by Joshua, and a New Testament location, where Herod had a palace. Matthew and Mark, who were Jewish writers and raised in the Hebrew tradition, wrote that the healings took place as Jesus was leaving the locale of the Old Testament Jericho. Luke, the Gentile writer, wrote that the man was healed as Jesus was approaching New Testament Jericho. One other possibility: The request for healing came as He was entering New Testament Jericho, and the actual healing took place as He left New Testament Jericho.

5. **Criticism:** The accounts of the resurrection of Jesus differ in the different Gospels.

Answer: Each writer gives his own account of the events from his own perspective, so that each includes different details of informa-



tion. All the information can be harmonized, and a complete account of the resurrection presented. The fact that there are differences in their accounts is actually a strong indication that the authors did not collaborate, or get together to concoct a fictitious resurrection story!

D. ACCEPTANCE: *When, and by whom, was the text accepted as true?*

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If it can be shown that a document was accepted as a true and reliable account from the time of the recorded events, this is a powerful argument for the reliability of the record. For example, just try to get people today to believe a reconstructed history of World War II—including the United States General Dwight Eisenhower miraculously healing the injured, or the British Prime Minister Winston Churchill parting the waters of the English Channel to bring troops across to France—and see if your document is accepted by many! This is one of the best ways to demonstrate that the criticism of the Bible by the skeptics is far-fetched.

1. Old Testament

The Old Testament text, miracles and all, was accepted as the true and reliable and authoritative Word of God as far back as we can trace the documents or the people.

a. By the Jewish people

- i. The Jewish people accepted the Old Testament documents in their entirety from the time they were written.
- ii. If the written information had been completely false, the Jewish people would have rejected the documents immediately—but they did not reject them.
- iii. If the documents had been only partially true, with some historical or numerical errors, for example, the Jewish people would have revised and corrected them—but there is absolutely no shred of evidence that this ever happened. If the documents were not entirely reliable, the Jewish people would have simply denied that they were truly Scripture. For example, the Jewish people never accepted the intertestamental books called the “Apocrypha” as Scripture.



iv. Even when the Jewish people didn't like the contents of a book (such as the many messages of judgment on the Jewish people themselves), they still accepted the documents as the true Word of God.

b. By Jesus Christ

i. Jesus accepted and quoted the Old Testament as reliable and true. For example, Jesus referred to the Genesis accounts of Creation (Matthew 19:4-6), the worldwide Flood (Matthew 24:37-39), and the story of Jonah (Matthew 12:40-41). He obviously considered these accounts to be true, even though many people today dismiss them as mere fables or Jewish mythology.

ii. If Jesus accepted the Old Testament as true, and it is **not** true, then either Jesus was ignorant and didn't know the stories were only legends, or else He knowingly "went along" with the legends and was thus a deliberate deceiver.

2. New Testament

The New Testament text, including the miracles and the resurrection of Jesus Christ, was accepted as the true Word of God by the early Christians.

a. In a short time

i. Even while the New Testament was still being written, Christians believed that the information in the documents was true and reliable, and accepted the documents as **Scripture**. (See 2 Peter 3:15-16). Other books written around this time, called New Testament apocryphal and pseudepigraphal writings, were **not** accepted as true and reliable by the early Christians.

ii. The time gap between the events and the time when the records were written is short—it is certainly too short for gross exaggerations or obvious errors to have been inserted. (See Acts 26:25-26.)

iii. Eyewitnesses to the events recorded in the Gospels and Acts were still alive when the documents were written (see 1 Corinthians 15:6), and these witnesses would have certainly denied any exaggerated or falsified account. Furthermore, they would have corrected any of the documents that were only partially true. But there is no evidence that any documents were ever revised.



b. In spite of persecution

Some of the early Christians were imprisoned and even executed for their faith. Is it possible that so many people would be willing to suffer persecution, torture and death for a lie, when they **knew** it was a lie? (See Acts 4:1-3; 5:17-18; 7:57-60; 12:1-4 for a few examples.)

CONCLUSION

**AUTHENTICITY
ACCURACY
AGREEMENT
ACCEPTANCE**

The Bible is unique. It is a book with the stamp of its supernatural Authorship clearly upon it. Despite the fact that it consists of 66 books, written by a wide variety of human authors over a period of at least 1,500 years, the Bible is a unified book. The writers tell one story: the message of God, who loves people enough to personally provide a plan of salvation for them.

Compared to other ancient documents, the Bible is **incredibly** reliable. And if it is accurate in every area that we can check, we can be confident that the Bible tells the truth about areas we can't check. It speaks with authority on otherwise unknowable subjects, such as heaven, hell, angels, demons, the character of God, and eternity past and future, thus displaying its supernatural origin.

The fact that the Bible is still in existence today is further evidence that it is a supernatural book. Over the centuries it's been hated, banished, suppressed, and burned, but the Bible is still here and by far the "best seller" book the world has ever known. And its message is still changing lives!

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EXAM BOOKLET AK '03 (3 UNITS) RTGA

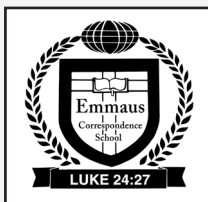
STUDENT NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

COURSE GRADE: _____

INSTRUCTOR



Exam developed by Emmaus Correspondence School, founded in 1942.

A NOTE ON THE EXAMS

The exams are designed to check your knowledge of the course material and the Scriptures. After you have studied a chapter, review the exam questions for that lesson. If you have difficulty in answering the questions, re-read the material. If questions contain a Scripture reference, you may use your Bible to help you answer them. If your instructor has provided a single page Answer Sheet, record your answer on that sheet. This exam contains the following types of questions:

MULTIPLE CHOICE

You will be asked to write in the letter of the correct answer at the space on the right. Here is an example:

The color of grass is

- A. blue C. yellow
B. green D. orange

 B

TRUE / FALSE

For these questions, circle the correct answer.

T F

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

Questions headed this way are designed to help you express your ideas and feelings. You may freely state your own opinions in answer to such questions.

RETURNING THE EXAM

See the back of this exam booklet for instructions on returning your exam for grading.

DO NOT PHOTOCOPY THESE EXAM PAGES

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CHAPTER 1 EXAM

IS THE BIBLE RELIABLE?

EXAM GRADE

Before starting this exam, write your name and address on the front of this Exam Booklet.

Directions: Read each question carefully and write the letter of the correct answer in the blank space on the right. Use the separate answer sheet if provided.

1. What are the four categories of evidence that we have examined?
 - A. authenticity, accuracy, agreement and academic
 - B. authenticity, accuracy, agreement and acceptance
 - C. authenticity, argument, agreement and accuracy
 - D. authenticity, agreement, argument and acceptance _____

2. When the copy of a document is said to be authentic, it means the copy is
 - A. old
 - B. in the same language as the original
 - C. the same as the original written text
 - D. written in Latin _____

3. The Old Testament is primarily written in what language?

A. Hebrew	C. Aramaic
B. Greek	D. Latin

4. The Septuagint is
 - A. a translation of the New Testament from Hebrew into Greek
 - B. a Jewish scholar from Alexandria, Egypt
 - C. the first five books of the Old Testament
 - D. a translation of the Old Testament from Hebrew into Greek _____

5. The oldest existing copies of Old Testament Scripture are

A. the Targums	C. the Patristic Writings
B. the Apocrypha	D. the Dead Sea Scrolls

6. New Testament manuscripts are said to be in agreement with each other.
- | | | |
|----------|----------|-------|
| A. 93.8% | C. 100% | _____ |
| B. 98.3% | D. 99.9% | _____ |
7. The New Testament was written in what language?
- | | | |
|----------|------------|-------|
| A. Greek | C. Aramaic | _____ |
| B. Latin | D. Hebrew | _____ |
8. The Bible is composed of 66 books written by at least 40 different authors over about
- | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-------|
| A. 400 years | C. 1000 years | _____ |
| B. 1500 years | D. 4000 years | _____ |
9. Some critics of the Bible claim that it contains scientific inaccuracies. What is one answer you could give?
- | | |
|--|-------|
| A. The people in those days didn't know as much as we do today. | _____ |
| B. It was written a long time ago. | _____ |
| C. The Bible is written in everyday language, not scientific language. | _____ |
| D. The scientific information in the Bible is inaccurate. | _____ |
10. The details of the accounts of the resurrection of Jesus do not contradict but differ in the four Gospels. This can be explained by the fact that
- | | |
|---|-------|
| A. each writer gave his account from his own perspective | _____ |
| B. there is more than one author for each Gospel | _____ |
| C. the Gospel accounts were edited after they were written | _____ |
| D. the writers collaborated to ensure they did not contradict | _____ |

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

Which of the arguments presented in the lesson would you use to convince people that the Bible is reliable? Explain your choice.
