

“Is the Bible...?” Sermon Study Guide

5 Sept 2026

Is the Bible... _____?”

God gave us minds. He _____ ask us to turn them _____ when we open His Word.

ASK THE QUESTION: God _____ of the answers. We shouldn’t be either. *There’s NO question that will get in the way of God’s love for YOU.*

“Did the events and people (recorded in the Bible) belong to the _____ of history?”

2 Peter 1:16, NKJV ¹⁶ *For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.*

Eyewitnesses: 1 Cor 15:3-8, John 19:35, Acts 10:39-41

Historical References: Luke 1:1-4, 2:1-2, 3:1-2; Daniel 1:1, 5:1, 6:1; Isaiah 1:1, 6:1; Jeremiah 1:2-3, 25:1; Ezekiel 1:1-2; Nehemiah 1:1, 2:1; Haggai 1:1, 2:1, 2:10; Acts 11:28, 12:1, 18:2, 24:27, 25:1, 25:11-13; Matthew 2:1, 27:2; John 18:13, 18:24

The Biblical story is anchored in _____ (Time/calendar, people, rulers & governments, places, events, witnesses).

Archaeological evidence: _____

Archaeology _____.

What is the foundation of our faith? _____!

Hebrews 1:1-2, NKJV *God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;*

Jesus’ death & resurrection are the _____ historical claim on which Christian faith stands.

We have more evidence for the existence of Jesus than for _____ or _____.

From sources outside of the Gospels, historians can establish that Jesus _____ was called _____, had a brother named James, was executed by crucifixion under Pontius Pilate, and gathered followers among Jews and Gentiles.

“Criteria of Authenticity”: The life of Jesus meet _____ of these criteria.

Prophecies & Predictions: Jesus fulfills between _____ Old Testament prophecies. If you include typologies, themes, etc., that number jumps to over _____.

Luke 24:44-45, NKJV ⁴⁴ *Then He said to them, “These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.”* ⁴⁵ *And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.*

God’s revelation is not _____ from history.

Further Study:

- Article: Michael G. Hasel, “Recent Discoveries in Biblical Archaeology”
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/recent-discoveries-in-biblical-archaeology>
- Book: Lee Strobel *The Case for the Real Jesus*
- Website: <https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/>
- Video: Wesley Huff – Is there any evidence for the historicity of the Bible?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYsBvzmdxQY>

Continued Resources:

There is always more to be said about a topic than can be covered in a single sermon! This list is a START to exploring the questions “Is the Bible...?”. I encourage you to read widely, note the faith traditions of those writing, and (above all) be guided by Scripture!

- Article: Ellen White and Biblical Chronology
<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/archive/1984/04/ellen-g.-white-and-biblical-chronology>
- Article: Methods of Bible Study
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/methods-of-bible-study>
- Video SERIES: Can I Trust the Bible? (with Wes Huff)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhVPBNBAGY0>
- Article: “Goliath in New Inscription”
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/goliath-in-a-new-inscription-found-at-gath>
- Article: The Historicity of the Bible
<https://www.eldersdigest.org/en/2004/1/the-historicity-of-the-bible>
- Article: Ted Wilson, The Bible
<https://adventistreview.org/my-church/the-bible/>
- The Dead Sea Scrolls (Museum of the Bible and Wes Huff)
<https://youtu.be/5UyVRScx6Bs?si=NnfEzaoGCwAPVkdh>
- Blog: Bart Ehrman on Gospel Evidence
<https://ehrmanblog.org/gospel-evidence-that-jesus-existed/>
- Blog: Bart Ehrman on Historicity of Jesus
<https://www.bartehrman.com/historicity-of-jesus/>
- Article: The Reliability of the Bible
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/the-reliability-of-the-old-testament/>
- Article: SDA and reliability of Bible
<https://ted.adventist.org/news/what-actually-happened-at-gc-session-voting-on-statements-on-the-holy-bible-and-ellen-g-white/>

- Information about Siegfried Horn:
https://www.andrews.edu/services/research/faculty_research/horn_award/siegfried-horn.html
- Horn Archaeological Museum info:
<https://andrewsarchaeology.org/>

Some of the Old Testament Prophecies that Jesus fulfills:

Old Testament	Prophecy/theme	Gospel fulfillment
Micah 5:2	Messiah born in Bethlehem	Matthew 2:1–6
Isaiah 7:14	Immanuel / virgin conception	Matthew 1:22–23
Isaiah 9:1–2	Ministry begins in Galilee	Matthew 4:13–16
Isaiah 40:3	Voice preparing the way	Matthew 3:1–3
Zechariah 9:9	King enters Jerusalem on a donkey	Matthew 21:4–9
Psalms 41:9	Betrayed by a close companion	John 13:18
Zechariah 11:12–13	Thirty pieces of silver	Matthew 26:14–15; 27:9–10
Isaiah 50:6	Beaten and mocked	Matthew 26:67; 27:30
Isaiah 53	Suffering servant bears sins	Matthew 27; 1 Peter 2:24
Psalms 22	Details resembling crucifixion	Matthew 27:35–46
Psalms 22:18	Lots cast for clothing	John 19:23–24
Psalms 34:20	None of His bones broken	John 19:33–36
Zechariah 12:10	“They will look on me, the one they have pierced”	John 19:34–37
Isaiah 53:9	Buried with the rich	Matthew 27:57–60
Psalms 16:10	Not abandoned to the grave / decay	Acts 2:25–32

