



**SERMON STUDY GUIDES
& STUDY RESOURCES (below)**

Can't find what you're looking for?

Keep scrolling! Study Guides and resources are listed
in reverse presentation order.

If you still can't find it, please email

office@tabernaclesda.org

with a brief description of what you're looking for.

Overview of “Is the Bible... Historically Accurate?” God’s revelation is not detached from history.

Overview of “Is the Bible... Reliable?” (1) Reliable for God’s purpose (2) Copies (3) Variants (4) Relationship: Trust JESUS!

Overview of “Is the Bible... Closed?” “Is my Bible the *right* Bible?” (1) Authority (2) History & Tests of Canonicity (3) Other writings (4) What closes/completes? Jesus is the center of BOTH the Old and New Testaments. (*Eph 2:20, Heb 1:1-2*).

Overview of “Is the Bible... Sexist?” “Are women in the Bible treated fairly?” Guidelines: (1)Context (2)Historical Grammatical (3)Analogica *In the Kingdom of God, there are NO second-class citizens; only beloved children, asking questions, following Jesus, and proclaiming His Good News!*

ASK THE QUESTION: God isn’t _____ of the answers.

Psalms 111:2 *Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.*

Is the Bible...Scientific? Does the Bible make sense in a _____ world? Can I believe in the Bible and in science?

SCIENCE: The careful study of the _____ world: asking questions, gathering evidence, testing explanations, and _____ conclusions where evidence requires it.

The Bible presents a world that is real, ordered, _____, and created by a rational God—precisely the kind of world in which science can _____.

SURVEY – GEOLOGY: Psalm 95:1-5

Geology invites us to study the earth honestly, while Scripture tells us that earth history is _____ by God’s hand.

BIOLOGY: Psalm 139:1-16 *God _____ life!*

Adventists are the _____ Protestant healthcare provider.

“The more I study nature, the more I stand amazed at the work of the Creator. Science brings men nearer to God.” – Louis Pasteur

Biology can describe the mechanisms of life; Scripture tells us why life is _____.

MATHEMATICS: Psalm 3:19 _____ is Mathematics!
The universality of math concepts discovered across culture lines.
We serve a god of _____, not of chaos.

ASTRONOMY: Job 26:7, Psalm 19:1-4, Matt 2:1-10

The study of stars led to _____.

The heavens do not replace Scripture; they point beyond themselves to the glory of their _____.

MIRACLES: A miracle is an _____-ordinary act of God

- God’s word is His law (Is 1:10, 2:3, 5:24, 8:20)
- God acts through His law (Is 55:10-1; Rom 3:21-31)
- God’s law cannot be completely understood by human minds (Isaiah 55:8-9)
- **It takes a miracle** to create and sustain the laws of nature (Deut 28:45-46, 30:15-19; James 1:25, 2:12; Isaiah 8:18, 29:13-16, 45:7-8 & 22-23)

God, knowing _____ laws best, also knows how to work _____ them to do things that seem impossible to us!

God created both the world and the human mind, Christians should not fear careful investigation. Science studies God’s regular works; Scripture reveals God’s character, purpose, saving acts, and _____ truth.

Further Study:

- Article: Statements on Faith and Science from the Divisions by Angel Rodriguez
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/statements-on-faith-and-science-from-the-divisions>
- Reel: Science and Faith w/ Johnny Chang
<https://youtube.com/shorts/gExKCemA92c?si=NSB6G8O7y1E2-IDq>
- Video: Miracles, Doubt, and Finding Faith w/ Wes Huff
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZGZRleFVns4>
- Article: You Can Trust Science – and the Bible by Paul Priest
<https://atoday.org/why-science-and-scripture-dont-disagree/>

Continued Resources (Science):

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.

- Book: *Miracles* by CS Lewis
- Book: *Miracles* by Eric Metaxas
- Book: *The Insanity of God* by Nik Ripken
- Book: *Case for Miracles for Kids* by Lee Strobel
- Book: *Dirty Genes* by Ben Lynch
- Book: *The Mystery of the Aleph* by Amir Aczel
- Book: *Galileo's Daughter* by Dava Sobel
- Book: *The Body Keeps the Score* by Bessel van der Kolk
- Podcast: Miracle, Manuscripts, Mission
<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/ep-71-wesley-huff-miracle-manuscripts-mission/id1675376784?i=1000737828428&l=ko>
- Article: Ellen White and Creationism by Frank Hasel
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1124&context=pd>
- Article: Miracles Then Miracles Now by Delbert Baker
<https://adventistreview.org/perspectives/columnists/miracles-then-miracles-now/>
- Article: The Faith and Science Debate in the Adventist Church by Angel Rodriguez
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/the-faith-and-science-debate-in-the-adventist-church>
- Article: Is Science Incompatible with Christianity by Derek Rishmawy <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/science-incompatible-christianity/>
- Articles about Noah's Ark project:
<https://www.newsweek.com/noahs-ark-hunters-say-they-havent-found-ancient-wood-yet-12494934>
- <https://wng.org/sift/founder-of-ark-park-voices-skepticism-over-claims-of-noahs-ark-discovery-1790713222>
- <https://www.dailymail.com/sciencetech/article-16148499/noahs-ark-durupinar-mount-ararat.html>
- <https://www.noahsarkscans.com/>

Biblical foundation for doing science:

- **Psalm 111:2** - “The works of the LORD are great, studied by all who have pleasure in them.”
- **Proverbs 25:2** - “It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, but the glory of kings is to search out a matter.”
- **Isaiah 40:26** - “Lift up your eyes on high, and see who has created these things.”
- **Genesis 1:28** – “fill the earth and subdue it”

The Bible assumes an orderly creation that **can** be investigated:

- “The heavens declare...” — Psalm 19
- “Search out a matter...” — Proverbs 25
- “Study His works...” — Psalm 111

Verses that touch on Geology:

- **Psalm 95:4–5** - “In His hand are the deep places of the earth...”
- **Psalm 104:5–9** - Mountains, waters, boundaries of the sea.
- **Genesis 6–9** - The Flood gives us a biblical account involving geology, sediment, water, topography, and catastrophic change.

God values life:

- Gen 1:27; James 3:9 – God's own image
- Gen 2:7 – God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul
- Job 33:4 – the breath of the Almighty hath given me life
- Acts 17:25-28 – in Him we live, and move, and have our being
- Matt 6:26; 10:29-31 – a person's value

Verses that touch on Biology/medicine:

- **Psalm 139:14** - “I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”
- **Psalm 139:16** - “Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed.”
- **Gen 1:24-27** – Humans are created uniquely bearing God's image
- **Luke 10:33-35** – The Good Samaritan uses practical care and available remedies.

Verses that touch on Mathematics:

- **John 1:1-3** – “All things were made by him; without him was not any thing made that was made”
- **2 Chron 4:2; 1 Kings 7:23-26** – use of pi in measurements of temple impliments

- **Colossians 1:16–17** - “All things were created through Him and for Him... and in Him all things consist.”
- **Prov 8:27-29** - geometry/order associated with God’s creative work
- **Isaiah 40:12** – measurement, weight, and proportion
- **Psalms 104:19** – regularity/ mathematical predictability in nature’s cycles
- **Ps 147:4-5** – God knows the numbers of the stars
- **Matt 10:30** – God numbers our hairs
- **Heb 1:3** – “ Christ is “upholding all things”

Verses that touch on Astronomy:

- Job 26:7 – God suspends the earth over nothing
- **Isaiah 40:26** - “He brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name.”
- **Psalms 19:1** - “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.”
- **Matthew 2:1–2** - The Magi studied the heavens.

The Bible teaches that:

- God’s word is His law (Is 1:10, 2:3, 5:24, 8:20)
 - EGW affirms (GC 268, MR 18:136; UL 156)
- God acts through His law (Is 55:10-1; Rom 3:21-31)
 - “The righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed being witnessed by the law . . . even the righteousness of God which is by faith. . . . **Do we make void the law through faith? Certainly not. On the contrary, we establish the law**” (Rom 3:21-22, 31).
- God’s law cannot be completely understood by human minds (Isaiah 55:8-9)
 - EGW PP, 114
- It **takes a miracle** to create and sustain the laws of nature (Deut 28:45-46, 30:15-19; James 1:25, 2:12; Isaiah 8:18, 29:13-16, 45:7-8 & 22-23)
 - “By the word of the Lord were the heavens made and all the hosts of them by the breath of his mouth. . . . For he spoke and it was done. He commanded and it stood fast” (Ps 33:6, 9).

"Is the Bible...Sexist?" Sermon Study Guide 26 Sept 2026

ASK THE QUESTION: God isn't _____ of the answers.

Overview of "Is the Bible... Historically Accurate?" "Did the events and people (in the Bible) belong to the real world of history?"

God's revelation is not _____ from history.

Overview of "Is the Bible... Reliable?" "Can I trust the Bible I read to deliver God's message as He gave it?" (*John 17:14-19*)

4 Reasons: (1) Reliable for God's purpose (2) Copies (3) Variants
(4) Relationship: I'm asking you to _____ Jesus!

Overview of "Is the Bible... Closed?" "Is my Bible the *right* Bible?"
"Could there be books that should be added to the Bible?"

(1) Authority – intrinsic **(2)** How We Got 66 books: History & Tests of Canonicity **(3)** Other writings – why they're NOT the Bible

(4) What closes/completes? → JESUS!

Jesus is the _____ of BOTH the Old and New Testaments. (*Eph 2:20*)

A closed Canon doesn't mean a _____ God. (*Heb 1:1-2*)

CREATED: Gen 1:26-28 ²⁶ *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion ..."* ²⁷ *So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; **male and female** He created them.* ²⁸ *Then God blessed them, ...*
_____ of male-female relationships (Gen 3:16-20)

WOMEN IN THE OT: The Bible is _____ enough to show the sins of its cultures; it is _____ enough to challenge them.

Stories of women (list w/ verses on website): _____

God _____ women! (Gen 16:1-6)

WOMEN IN THE CHURCH: Priesthood of all believers (1 Peter 2:9)

The positives (*Notes on Timeline*): _____

- Philip's four daughters - prophets (Acts 21:8-9)
- Lydia (Acts 16:13-60) & Nympha (Colossians 4:15) host churches
- Deacon Phoebe (Romans 16:1-2), Apostle Junia (Rom 16:7)
- Priscilla "fellow worker" (Rom 16:3-4; 1 Cor 16:19; Acts 18:24-26)

God _____ all people.

There should be _____ divisions

Galatians 3:26-28 (NKJV)²⁶ *So in Christ Jesus **you are all children of God through faith**,...* ²⁸ *There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, **nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*** ²⁹ *If you belong to Christ, then you are ... heirs according to the promise.*

PROBLEM PASSAGES:

- Eph 5:21-33 - *Wives, submit: the husband is head of the wife*
- 1 Cor 11:3-12 – *The head of woman is man: head covering*
- 1 Cor 14:34-35 – *Women keep silent: shameful for women to speak in church*
- 1 Tim 2:9-15 – *Women learn in silence w/ submission: I do not permit a woman to teach/have authority over a man:*

3 Bible Study Guidelines: (1) **Context** – don't read ____ verse and _____
(2) **Historical Grammatical** – Setting/_____, Grammar/_____
(3) **Analogica** – Scripture _____ itself

JESUS & WOMEN:

Early Interactions: _____

Jesus _____ women in settings that normally _____ them.

Women at the Cross (Matt 27:55; Mark 15:40; Luke 23:49; John 19: 25)

Women at the Tomb (Matt 27:57-61; Mark 15:42-47; Luke 23:50-56)

Jesus instructs the women to _____ others (John 20:11-18; Luke 24:1-11)

→ **The first to proclaim Christ and Him _____ are WOMEN.**

There should be _____ as to whether women are "allowed"
declare the good news of Jesus' resurrection:

In the Kingdom of God, there are NO _____ -class citizens.

There are only _____ children, asking questions,
following Jesus and proclaiming His good news.

He is _____!

Further Study:

- Book: *Tell Her Story* by Nijay K Gupta
- **Reel: Is the Bible Misogynistic?
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/998987172908721>
- ** Reel: Johnny Chang on Eph 5:22
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1014534544407072>
- Article: First SDA Woman Elder Speaks
<https://spectrummagazine.org/post-archives/churchs-first-woman-elder-talks-about-her-calling/>

Continued Resources (Sexism):

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.

- **Book: *Tell Her Story* by Nijay K Gupta
- **Reel: Why People Say Women Can't Preach
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/3563914010447702>
- Book: *Jesus and Women* by Kristi Mclelland
- Article: “The Role and Status of Women in the Church” by Leona Running
<https://www.adventistarchives.org/the-role-and-status-of-women-in-the-sda-church.pdf>
- Podcast: Ephesians 5 w/ John McVay
<https://www.goodword.com/2023/08/husbands-wives-together-at-the-cross/>
- Paper: Ephesians 5 & the Trauma of Slavery by John McVay
<https://papers.aarweb.org/attached-paper/107967-pauls-advice-wives-and-husbands-ephesians-521-33-and-trauma-slavery>
- Video: Why Women Swarmed to Jesus (Wes Huff)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7c0bc4kH5E>
- Video: Wes Huff Responds to “Women Should Keep Silent”
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-cbzdlr1ips>
- Reel: Should Women Preach?
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/945433408300204>
- Article: Biblical Research Institute “The Roles of Women” by Hyde
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/the-roles-of-women>
- Book: *From Genesis to Junia* by Preston Sprinkle
- Book: *Twelve Extraordinary Women* by John MacArthur
- Bible Study Guide: *Ten Women of the Bible; One by One They Changed the World* by Max Lucado
- Article: “Women’s Status and Ordination” by Gerard Damsteegt
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1094&context=church-history-pubs>
- Adventist Statement on Women’s Issues:
<https://gc.adventist.org/official-statements/womens-issues/>
- <https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2775&context=pubs>

- Article: EGW’s Ministry by Denis Fortin
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/ellen-g-whites-ministry-in-the-seventh-day-adventist-church>
- Video: EGW & Ordination <https://equalordination.com/egw-and-ordination/>
- SDA Belief Statements: www.adventist.org – see 7 (humanity) and 23 (Marriage and the Family)
- Reel: Does Scripture have many interpretations?
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1398114625547078>
- Reel: Bible Supports Polygamy?
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/4050904698569496>

The Stories of Women in the Church (modern; hard reads!)

Tip: check Libby for FREE audiobook versions

- Book: *Pure* by Linda Kay Klein
- Book: *A Well-Trained Wife* by Tia Levings
- Book: *Breaking Free* by Rachel Jeffs
- Book: *Defying Jihad* by Esther Ahmad
- Book: *Growing up Saved* by Kristen LaValley
- Book: *Galileo’s Daughter* by Dava Sobel

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE: Old Testament– The “model woman” (Proverbs 31) is not passive, but a woman with power, agency, and dignity. Her role is necessary & important.

- Matriarchs
 - Sarai/Sarah – Genesis 11-23
 - Rebekah/Rebecca – Genesis 24-29
 - Rachel & Leah - Genesis 29:1–35; 30:17–24
- Leaders & Prophets
 - Miriam - Ex 15:20-21; Num 12:1-15; Micah 6:4
 - Deborah - Judges 4:4–5:31
 - Jael - Judges 4:17-22; 5:24-27
 - Huldah - 2 Kings 22:14–20; 2 Chronicles 34:22–28
- Women who pray, save, and rescue God’s men
 - Zipporah – Ex 2:16-22; 4:24-26
 - Jochebed – Ex 2:1-10; 6:20
 - Pharaoh’s Daughter - Exodus 2:5-10
 - Hannah - 1 Samuel 1:1–2:21
 - Abigail - 1 Samuel 25:2-42
 - Michel – 1 Sam 18:20-28; 19:11-17; 2 Sam 6:16-23

- Jehosheba – 2 Kings 11:2; 2 Chronicles 22-23
 - Esther – Esther 2:1-8:17
 - Shunammite Woman – 2 Kings 4:8-37; 8:1-6
- Foreign women who God redeems/praises
 - Ruth – Ruth 1:1-4:22; Matt 1:5
 - Rahab – Joshua 2:1-21; 6:22-25; Matt 1:5
 - Shiphrah & Puah – Exodus 1:15-21
- Inheritors & laws to protect women
 - Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, Tirzah (Zelophehad's daughters) - Numbers 27:1-7; 36:1-12
 - Job's daughters - Job 42:13-15
 - Divorce Law – Deut 24:1-4; Ex 21:10-11
 - False Accusations – Deut 22:13-19
 - Sexual Violence – Deut 22:25-27; 21:10-14
 - Widows – Ex 22:22-24; Deut 27:19
- Oppressed who God uplifts & protects
 - Hagar - Genesis 16:1-16; 21:8-21
 - Dinah - Genesis 30:21; 34:1-31
 - Tamar - Genesis 38:1-30; Matt 1:3 & Tamar - 2 Sam 13:1-22 (*different women/times/stories – same name*)
 - Bathsheba - 2 Sam 11:1-12:25; 1 Kings 1:11-31; Matt 1:6
 - Widow of Zarephath – 1 Kings 17:8-24
- The “Unnamed” -
 - Wise woman — City defender — 2 Samuel 20:15-22
 - Wise woman of Abel — Negotiator- 2 Sam 20:16-22
 - Woman of Tekoa — David's advocate -2 Sam 14:1-20
 - Woman of Thebez — Abimelech's killer -Jud 9:50-54
 - Woman of En-rogel — Informant — 2 Sam 17:17-20
 - Unnamed widow — Elisha's miracle — 2 Kings 4:1-7
 - Unnamed woman — Prophet's widow - 2 Kings 4:1-7

New Testament: Women are named as holding titles/roles and as being trusted in the Early Church. Their inclusion is routine!

(*This list does NOT include women mentioned in the Gospels*)

- Philip's 4 prophet daughters – Acts 21:8-9
- Lydia – church host – Acts 16:13-60
- Nympha – church host – Colossians 4:15
- Phoebe – deacon, letter holder – Romans 16:1-2

- Priscilla – worker, host, teacher Romans 16:3-4; 1 Cor 16:19; Acts 18:24-26 (*Some scholars posit that Priscilla is the unnamed author of Hebrews. I don't agree, but it's intriguing!*)
- Junia – imprisoned apostle – Romans 16:7
- Romans 16 names 8 women who Paul commends
- Euodia and Syntyche – Gospel workers – Phil 4:2-3
- Chloe – Household leader – 1 Cor 1:11
- Tabitha/Dorcas – Acts 9:36-43
- Rhoda – servant – Acts 12:12-15
- Damaris – Acts 17:34
- Tryphaena, Tryphosa, Persis – worker – Romans 16:12
- Apphia – Philemon 1:2
- Lois & Eunice – faithful grand/mother – 2 Tim 1:5
- Elect Lady – 2 John 1:1-5

Women in the Church:

- 2026: 6 women pastors to be ordained
<https://spectrummagazine.org/current-share/six-oregon-women-approved-for-ordination-by-north-pacific-union>
- 1970s: Women ordained as elders
<https://www.adventistfaith.com/media/pacific-union-equal-ordination-resources/a-timeline-of-ordination-study-and-policy/>
- 1860s: Sarah Lindsay, Ellen Edmonds Lane, and others serve as licensed pastors <https://encyclopedia.adventist.org/>
- 1300-155: Women led Double-monasteries
- 800-1100: Women participated in Christian intellectual life (Book: *Galileo's Daughter* by Dava Sobel)
- 5th Century Ireland: Abbesses operating as bishops (Book: *How the Irish Saved Civilization* by Thomas Cahill)
- 451 AD: Council of Chalcedon mentions women in formal ministry
<https://www.womendeacons.org/minwest-council-of-calcedon-451ad/>
- 203 AD: *The Passion of Perpetua and Felicitas*. Full text here:
<https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/0324.htm>

"Is the Bible...Closed?" Sermon Study Guide 19 Sept 2026

ASK THE QUESTION: God isn't _____ of the answers.

Overview of "Is the Bible... Historically Accurate?" "Did the events and people (in the Bible) belong to the real world of history?"

The Bible _____ us to look deeper! (2Pet 1:16, Heb 1:1-2, Luke 24:44+)

God's _____ is not detached from history.

Overview of "Is the Bible... Reliable?" "Can I trust the Bible I read to deliver God's message as He gave it?" (John 17:14-19)

4 Reasons: (1) Reliable for God's purpose – manner of inspiration
(2) _____ – quality & quantity of documents (3) Variants – no essential doctrine affected: no window for corruption (4) Relationship
I'm not asking you to trust a book, I'm asking you to _____ Jesus!

The Bible contains:

- The 39 books in the Old Testament – written by about 30 authors between 1400-_____ BC
- Along with _____ books in the New Testament – written by 9 authors between 45-90 AD

Is the Bible...Closed?

Vocab: Canon – the Books/collection that is considered divinely inspired, _____, and authoritative

Closed – complete or _____

Matthew 5: 17-18, NKJV ¹⁷*Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.* ¹⁸*For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law...*

Authority: What writings carry God's _____?

We believe in the _____ authority of Scripture

You do not alter the Bible to fit your traditions, you alter your _____ to fit the Bible.

How We Got 66 Books: Jesus had a _____: "Have you not read?" (Luke 24:44-45, 11:51; Matt 23:35, 26:56)

_____ of Canonicity: (1) Author: _____

(2) Consistent: _____

(3) Authentic: _____

Other Writings: There are _____ books – outside of the _____ books of the Old and New Testaments – that _____ all the tests of canonicity.

- The Gospel of Thomas: _____
- The Book of Enoch: _____

What "Closes" the Canon? : The short answer: _____

- Old Testament: written by _____ over 1,000 years: tells the history of the world, God's family, points to the _____.
 - Ends in expectation, _____ by Jesus
- New Testament: written by _____ of Jesus' life over 50 years/1 generation: tells story of the Rescuer & His _____

Jesus is the _____ of _____ the Old & New Testaments!

The Christian faith is "...built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone" **Eph 2:20**

Any post apostolic prophet must be submitted to the _____.

Gal 1:8-9, NKJV ⁸*But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.* (also see 2 Cor 11:2-4)

Hebrews 1:1-2, NKJV *God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ²has in these last days spoken to us by His Son...*

The Canon _____ closed. A closed canon doesn't mean a _____ God.

Further Study:

- Book: *The Case for the Real Jesus* by Lee Strobel
- Article: Do We Have the Right Bible by John Peckham
<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/archive/2008/06/the-biblical-canon-do-we-have-the-right-bible.html>
- Video: Why Do Catholics & Protestants Have Different Bibles?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7umE5uqpxPs>
- Video SERIES: Can I Trust the Bible?: Episode 1 – The Right Books? (w/ Wes Huff)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhVPBNBAGY0>

Continued Resources (Canonicity):

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.

- Book: *Canonical Theology* by John Peckham
- Book: *How We Got the Bible* by Neil Lightfoot
- Book: *The Bible Jesus Read* by Philip Yancey
- SDA Belief Statement:
<https://adventist.org/beliefs/official/holy-scriptures>
- Article: “Intrinsic Canonicity and the Inadequacy of the Community Approach” by John Peckham
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1020&context=theology-christian-philosophy-pubs>
- Video: Biblical Training – Lesson 8 – Why We Have the Books We Do w/ Bill Mounce
<https://www.biblicaltraining.org/learn/foundations/nt119-why-i-trust-my-bible/nt119-08-canonicity-why-we-have-the-books-we-do>
- Article: Interpreting Scripture by Richard Davidson
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/interpreting-scripture-according-to-the-scriptures-toward-an-understanding-of-seventh-day-adventist-hermeneutics>
- Article: Adventists & Sola Scriptura
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/here-we-stand-luther-the-reformation-and-seventh-day-adventism>
- Article: The Muratorian Fragment
<https://thegomezfamily.info/blog/muratoria-fragment/>
- Athanasius’ Letter (#39)
https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/2806039.htm?utm_source
- Article: What About the Apocrypha by Angel Rodriguez
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/what-about-the-apocrypha>
- Video: Enoch & the Ethiopian Bible w/ Wes Huff
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QZp7TH5RRuI>
- Article: The Gospel of Thomas
<https://www.bartehrman.com/gospel-of-thomas/>
- Article: Why Shouldn’t We Trust Non-Canonical Gospels
<https://coldcasechristianity.com/writings/why-shouldnt-we-trust-the-non-canonical-gospels-attributed-to-thomas/>
- Book: Reading Ellen White by George Knight
- Article: The Authority of the Ellen G White Writings by Gerhard Pfandl
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/the-authority-of-the-ellen-g-white-writings>
- Video: Ellen White vs the Bible w/ George Knight
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjOc_xbXX_I
- Article: The Relationship Between Ellen White’s Authority and the Authority of the Bible in Adventism by George Knight
<https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1026&context=ewcis>
- Statement: Authority of EGW
<https://whiteestate.org/about/issues1/basic-principles/authority/sda/exhibit-one/>

Overview of “Is the Bible... Historically Accurate?” “Did the events and people (in the Bible) belong to the real world of history?”

The Bible *encourages* us to look deeper! (2 Peter 1:16, Heb 1:1-2, Luke 24:44-45)

Evidence for the Historicity of the Bible: Eyewitnesses, Historical References, Archaeological Evidence, Jesus! (Extrabiblical sources corroborate), Criteria of Authenticity, Testimony of the OT

God’s revelation is not _____ from history.

John 17, NKJV ¹⁴ *I have given them Your word; ...* ¹⁷ *Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.* ¹⁸ *As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.* ¹⁹ *And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.*

Ask the _____. God isn’t afraid of the answers!

Is the Bible... Reliable? Can I trust the Bible I _____ to deliver God’s message as He gave it?

Reason 1: Define “Reliable”

- Reliable ≠ _____ by human hands

2 Peter 1:21 ²¹ *for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*

- Reliable = trustworthy for God’s _____

2 Timothy 3:16 ¹⁶ *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

Reason 2: Copies

- 5,800+ _____ manuscripts of the New Testament
- Including those in Latin, Syriac, Coptic, & Armenian:
_____ +

By the standards of ancient literature, the New Testament is *embarrassingly* _____ - _____.

Reason 3: Variants

The _____ majority of textual variants are simple scribal errors which do not affect the meaning of the text in _____ material way.

Of the 400,000 variants, only about _____ are meaningful.

The scholarly consensus is that _____ essential doctrine of the Christian faith is _____ by any viable variant.

Questions for claimants of corruption:

- How was it corrupted?
- Where is the _____?

John 1:1-14, NKJV *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. ...¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

Bible Claims: Heb 4:12, Rom 15:3, Rev 14:12, John 5:39, 2 Tim 3:15

Reason 4: Relationship

All you need is _____ and God’s _____.

I’m not asking you to trust a _____, I’m asking you to trust _____.

Further Study:

- Book: *The Case for the Real Jesus* by Lee Strobel
- SDA Belief Statement:
<https://adventist.org/beliefs/official/holy-scriptures>
- ***Reel: Wes Huff, Closer to the Original:
<https://www.facebook.com/reel/982523508092708>
- REEL: Video: Wesley Huff –Evidence for the historicity of the Bible <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYsBvzmdxQY>

Continued Resources (Reliability):

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: *Inspiration-Basic Issues in the Current Debate* by Frank Hasel
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/inspiration-basic-issues-in-the-current-debate>
- Video SERIES: Can I Trust the Bible? (with Wes Huff)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QhVPBNBAGY0>
- The Dead Sea Scrolls (Museum of the Bible and Wes Huff)
<https://youtu.be/5UyVRScx6Bs?si=NnfEzaoGCwAPVkdh>
- Book: *Leaving Buddha* by Tenzin Lakpa
- Book: *Unveiled* by Esther Ahmad
- Video SERIES: Textual Variants:
https://www.biblicaltraining.org/learn/institute/nt605-textual-criticism/nt605-04-weighing-the-discrepancies?utm_source=chatgpt.com
- Article: Copying of Old Testament
<https://mainstreamapologetics.org/evidences/BIB-EV06.html>
- Article: Ekkehardt Mueller
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/is-the-bible-trustworthy-and-reliable>
- Adventist Review Special Issue on Faithfulness to Scripture (Jan 2020): *Imagining a Sola Scriptura Church* by Oliver Glanz (pg 28-31) and *Listen to the Word* by Gerhard Pfandl (pgs 42-45)
<https://documents.adventistarchives.org/Periodicals/RH/RH20200101-V197-01.pdf>
- Blog: *Do Variants Matter?* <https://ehrmanblog.org/do-textual-variants-really-matter-for-anything/>
- Article:
<https://www.ministrymagazine.org/archive/2021/12/The-Bible-in-the-Seventh-day-Adventist-Church>

- Article: Methods of Bible Study
<https://adventistbiblicalresearch.org/articles/methods-of-bible-study>
- Article: The Reliability of the Bible
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/the-reliability-of-the-old-testament/>
- Article: *Early Manuscripts*
<https://biblearchaeologyreport.com/2019/02/15/the-earliest-new-testament-manuscripts/>
- Article: Meeting Claims of Corruption
<https://examiningislam.org/foundations/islamic-dilemma/>

	Greek manuscripts	Earliest copy
Homer's Iliad	~1,800	4th–5th century BC (fragments); complete text: 10th c. AD
New Testament	~5,800–5,900	early 2nd century (P ⁵²); complete NT: 4th c.

- Iliad Data: <https://godwords.org/comparing-the-new-testament-with-other-ancient-books/>
- Iliad Fragment:
https://exhibitions.library.columbia.edu/exhibits/show/lit_hu_m/homer/papyrus

"Is the Bible...Historically Accurate?" 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 (Historicity):

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