

Can I Trust the Bible to Be True?

September 11, 2016

By: Shaun Brown

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work. (NLT)

I. Truth is its own _____.

II. The Bible has _____.

III. _____.

Matthew 22:29

Jesus replied, “Your mistake is that you don’t know the Scriptures, and you don’t know the power of God. (NLT)

IV. _____ authority.

A. _____ of the gospels.

1 Corinthians 15:3-6

I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. ⁴ He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. ⁵ He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. (NLT)

Luke 1:1-4

Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us. ² They used the eyewitness reports circulating among us from the early disciples. ³ Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write a careful account for you, most honorable Theophilus, ⁴ so you can be certain of the truth of everything you were taught. (NLT)

B. _____.

1 Corinthians 15:7-10

Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him.

⁹ For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I’m not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God’s church. ¹⁰ But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favor on me. (NLT)

1 Thessalonians 2:13

Therefore, we never stop thanking God that when you received his message from us, you didn’t think of our words as mere human ideas. You accepted what we said as the very word of God—which, of course, it is. (NLT)

V. _____ of authority.

VI. _____ authority.

VII. On whose authority?

A. _____ authority.

B. _____ authority?

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The COMMUNITY

1. Where were you on September 11, 2001?
2. What impacted you from this Sunday's worship, sermon, or study?

Into the WORD

Here are some suggested sites in order to dive deeper into God's Word: blueletterbible.org, biblos.com, ccel.org, logos.com, connect.ligonier.org, thegospelcoalition.org/channel/bible-and-theology, and desiringgod.org/articles/all

1. Read 2nd Timothy 3:10-17 out loud in group. With the context in mind, why does the Apostle Paul remind Timothy that the Scripture is breathed out by God? (pay close attention to the verses prior to verses 16 and 17)
2. Pastor Shaun read Luke 1:1-4. How can this passage of Scripture increase our confidence in the reliability of God's Word? How could you use this passage to communicate why you believe the Bible? (for further study, watch the video posted on this week's Approaching Sunday blog)
3. Can you believe some parts of the Bible and reject other parts of the Bible? Why or why not?
4. What are some common objections you hear from critics of the Bible? Discuss how you can lovingly respond to those objections.

The APPLICATION

1. Are you able to identify and defend truth unlike the students in the video who could not? Share an experience of having to defend the truth.
2. What defense of the Bible shared by Shaun was most interesting to you?
3. How does knowing God's Word is true increase your faith?
4. What can you do, specifically, as an individual or small group to identify cultural untruths?