# What is life's most important question?

Whatever answer we give to this question is as valid as the source we use to answer it is accurate.

#### Is the Bible from God?



#### The best evidence that the Bible is from God?

## Jesus

Following Jesus' attitude toward scripture

The Prophets
Joshua, Judges,
Samuel, Kings, Isaiah,
Jeremiah, Ezekiel,
12 minor prophets

The Scriptures
Luke 4:21

The Psalms
Psalms, Proverbs
Job, S of S, Ruth, Lam.,
Ecc., Esther, Daniel,
Ezra, Nehemiah,
1-2 Chronicles
Luke 24:44

Jesus accepted as Scripture a book...

Frequently copied and translated

14 And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through all the surrounding district. 15 And He began teaching in their synagogues and was praised by all. 16 And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. 17 And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written,

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, 19 to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.

20 And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Luke 4:14-21

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Isaiah was a prophet (Luke 4:21; Deuteronomy 18:20)
Isaiah wrote his prophecies 740 years prior to Jesus (Isaiah 6:1)
Jesus read from an old scroll that had been <u>copied</u> for over 700+ years
Jesus read from an old scroll that had been <u>translated</u> from Hebrew to Greek 200 years B.C.
Jesus called this reading scripture

God's will that copies be made of originals These copies to be made in presence of qualified witnesses

The king was to treasure his copy He was to read his copy always

His copy was called "law" and "statutes" From his copy the king would learn to fear God

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Jesus accepted as Scripture a book...

**Containing miraculous historical events** 

OT Events	Jesus' reference
Creation Gen. 1-2	Mk. 13:19
Ark and flood Gen. 6-8	Matt. 24:37-39
Sodom/Gomorrah Gen. 19	Lk. 17:29
Lot's wife Gen. 19	Lk. 17:32
Manna Ex. 16	Jo. 6:31-32

Jo. 3:14

Matt. 12:39-41

**Brazen serpent Num. 21** 

Jonah and fish Jonah 1-2

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Jesus accepted as Scripture a book...

Filled with prophecies

<u>Prophet</u>	<u>Fulfillment</u>	Date B.C.
David Psalms 41:9	Jo. 13:18	1,000
<u>Isaiah</u> 61:1 6:9-10	Lk. 4:16-21 Matt. 13:14-15	750
Daniel 9:27; 11:31; 12:11	Matt. 24:15	605-530
Zechariah 13:7	Matt. 26:31	520
Malachi 3:1	Matt. 11:10	445-432

<u>605</u>	<u>549</u>	<u>547</u>	<u>536</u>	
2:36	7:4			<b>Babylon</b> 626-539 BC
2:39	7:5	8:3,4,20	11:1-2	Media-Persia 539-330
2:39	7:6	8:5,21-22	11:3-4	<u>Greece</u> 330-63
				Alexander the Great
			11:5	Egypt 323
			11:6	Syria 204
		8:23-25	11:21-35	Antiochus Epiphanes 175
			11:32b-35	Maccabees 168
2:40	7:7-8,		11:36-45	<b>Rome</b> 27
	24-25			
2:44				God's kingdom 33 AD

Daniel's 1<sup>st</sup> prophecy of <u>Media-Persia</u> 605 BC Media-Persia ascended to prominence 539 BC

• 605-539 = 66 years prior to fulfillment

Daniel's 1st prophecy of <u>Greece</u> 605 BC Greece ascended to prominence 330 BC

• 605-330 = 275 years prior to fulfillment

Daniel's prophecy of <u>Alexander the Great</u> 547 BC

Alexander the Great rose to power 330 BC

• 547-330 = 217 years prior to fulfillment

Daniel's 1st prophecy of Rome 605 BC Rome ascended to prominence 27 BC

• 605-27 = 578 years prior to fulfillment

Over a period of 70 years, Daniel foretold the rise and fall of numerous nations and their leaders.

From 66 years before their occurrence to 578 years before, Daniel knew what was going to happen and when it was going to happen.

How did he know these things?



[Cyrus] gathered all their [former] inhabitants and returned [to them] their habitations



Isa 44:28-45:1

It is I who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd! And he will perform all My desire.' And he declares of Jerusalem, 'She will be built,' And of the temple, 'Your foundation will be laid.' Thus says the Lord to Cyrus His anointed, Whom I have taken by the right hand, To subdue nations before him And to loose the loins of kings; To open doors before him so that gates will not be shut:

[Cyrus] gathered all their [former] inhabitants and returned [to them] their habitations



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Isaiah's prophecy of Cyrus was 150 years before Cyrus' birth.

How could Isaiah have known this?

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Jesus accepted as Scripture a book...

Claiming a Divine origin

1 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz concerning Judah and Jerusalem, which he saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. 2 Listen, O heavens, and hear, O earth; For the Lord speaks, "Sons I have reared and brought up, But they have revolted against Me...10 Hear the word of the Lord, You rulers of Sodom; Give ear to the instruction of our God, You people of Gomorrah. Isaiah 1:1-2, 10

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Jesus accepted as Scripture a book...

1-Accurately copied, translated over many centuries
2-Containing miraculous historical events
3-Filled with prophecies
4-Claiming a Divine origin

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Did Jesus accept this book <u>knowing</u> these four points were <u>untrue</u>?

He was a liar!

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Did Jesus accept this book <u>thinking</u> these four points were <u>true</u>?

<u>He was a fool!</u>

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Jesus accepted as Scripture a book...

1-Accurately copied, translated over many centuries
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4-Claiming a Divine origin

But if Jesus accepted this book <u>knowing</u> these four points were <u>true</u>?

The Bible is vindicated as God's word!