

Discipleship 201

“Well, What About the Bible?”

2 Timothy 3:16-17

June 28, 2020 - Bob Hightchew

Introduction:

- Why do people get so angry at the principles of Christianity?
 - Consider what has been introduced to the world because of the influence of Jesus:
 - Hospitals
 - Medical Advances
 - Universities
 - Literacy and Education
 - Representative Government
 - The separation of Political Powers and Civil Liberties
 - Abolition of Slavery
 - The discovery of the New World by Columbus
 - Benevolence and Charities
 - Higher standards of Justice
 - Elevation of the Common Man
 - Learning World Languages
 - The greater development of Music and Art
 - Lives and Countries Changed
 - Souls Changed
 - **Acts 4:25-26**
 - **Matthew 16:18**
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1. The Bible's Amazing Textual Consistency:

- a. The “Wicked Bible” was destroyed because the writers accidentally left out one word in the whole Bible. The word they left out was the word, **NOT**.
- b. The place they left it our ... “Thou shall **NOT** commit adultery.”
- c. Textual consistency matters very much. The Bible is the only book that was:
 - i. Written over a 1500-year time span:
 - ii. Written by more than 40 people:
 - iii. Written in different places:
 - iv. Written at different times:
 - v. Written in different moods:
 - vi. Written on three different continents:
 - vii. Written in three different languages:
 - viii. Written in different literary Styles:
- d. There is only ONE author ... that is God Himself – **2nd Timothy 3:16-17**
- e. Five Steps of Literary Critique:
 - i. Read the literary piece you are critiquing:
 - ii. Examine the components of the literature:
 - iii. Form your criticism taking all components into consideration:
 - iv. Summarized your interpretation into a concise thesis statement:
 - v. Prove your interpretation:

2. Archeological/Historical Evidence:

a. **Genesis 1-11**

b. The Ebla Tablets: Ex Nihilo – “Out of nothing.”

c. Tower of Babel – **Genesis 11:8-9** ... Ur-Nammu, King of Ur.

d. Secular Historians who wrote about Jesus:

- i. Tacitus ... Suetonius ... Josephus ... Pliny the Younger ... Thallus ... Lucian ... Emperor Trajan.

3. Perfect Prophetic Predictions Fulfilled:

a. There are 61 major detailed prophecies about Jesus that were fulfilled in Him that critics say could not have been tampered with.

b. I want you to consider eight, that not only could not be tampered with, BUT could only happen by the Hand of God.

i. Place of Birth – **Micah 5:2**

ii. Time of Birth – **Daniel 9:25 ... Genesis 49:10**

iii. Manner of His Birth – **Isaiah 7:14**

iv. Betrayal – **Psalms 41:9**

v. Manner of Death – **Psalms 22:16**

vi. Peoples Reaction to Him – **Psalms 22:7-8**

vii. Piercing His Side – **Zachariah 12:10**

viii. His Burial – **Isaiah 53:9**

4. Just Plain Simple Logic:

a. In a Court of Law, the most important evidence there is as to who the author of a will is, actually comes from the will itself.

i. The Old Testament – Several hundred times uses the expression, “Thus, says the Lord.”

ii. The New Testament – Over and over again, the Apostles say that the Word comes from the Holy Spirit. – **2nd Timothy 3:16-17**

b. The unanimous testimony of the Bible is that God Himself is the Soul author, written down by the hand of men, BUT ... from the inspiration of His Holy Spirit.

5. Science – (Wait, do what?)

a. The basic laws of science have a uniformity to them. Constant uniformity can only come from constant source. There is only ONE constant source in all creation ... and that is God ... The Creator of all laws.

b. The evidence demands a verdict ... So, what will you do with the evidence?

