

# TALK 5

## • Can We Really Trust the Bible?

2 Peter 1:16–21

### Seven Reasons We Can Trust the Bible

#### 1. The God Reason

- 2 Timothy 3:16 - "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness."
- 2 Peter 1:20-21 - "Knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophesying was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

#### 2. The Testimony Reason

- 2 Peter 1:16 - "For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty."
- 1 John 1:1-2 "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life [Jesus] – the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it."

#### 3. The History Reason

- "It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a biblical reference. Scores of archaeological findings have been made which confirm in clear outline or exact detail historical statements in the Bible."<sup>6</sup> – Archeologist Nelson Glueck

#### 4. The Manuscript Reason

- "In the variety and fullness of the evidence on which it rests, the text of the New Testament stands absolutely and unapproachably alone among ancient prose writings."<sup>7</sup> – F.J.A. Hort

#### 5. The Science Reason

#### 6. The Prophecy Reason

#### 7. The Personal Reason

- Hebrews 4:12 - "The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."

### A few tips to help you make it personal

- Read the passage.
- Ask yourself questions: What does the passage say? What does it mean? How does it apply?
- Put into practice what you hear from God.
- Matthew 7:24 - "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock."

### Discussion Starters

- What did you think about this message?
- Which of the reasons listed did you find most helpful? Why?
- Have you read much of the Bible? What has been your experience?
- Do you think science and the Bible are friends or enemies?
- What do you think about the idea that the Bible is the 'Word of God'?

### Book Recommendation

- *ESV Study Bible*
- *The Case for Christ*, Lee Strobel
- *New Testament Documents: Are they reliable?* F.F. Bruce