

# **LET THE BIBLE SPEAK SERIES**

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## **Five Wonders of the Wonderful Word**

**Psa. 119:89**

The bible is truly a book of wonders. It is the book of all books. The impregnable rock upon which Christianity is built. The Magna Charta of human liberty. The declaration of independence from the oppression of ignorance and superstition. The emancipation proclamation of the souls of men. The bible is beyond other books as the river is beyond a drop of water, As the sun is beyond a candle, And as the mountain is beyond a grain of sand.

A. Campbell said "The Bible is to the intellectual and moral world of men what the sun is to the planets in our system, the foundation and source of light and life, spiritual and eternal. There is not a spiritual idea in the whole human race that is not drawn from the Bible. As soon will the philosophers find an independent sunbeam in nature, as the theologian a spiritual conception in man, independent of the one best Book."

### **I. The Wonder of its Revelation.**

Why a revelation? Man needed it. The universe declares God. Psa. 19:1-3 "The heavens declare the glory of God..." The word declares his attributes, mind and will.

The creation needed to know what the Creator required Micah 6:8 "He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.?"

Man needed to know something about himself, who he was, from whence he came, and where he was going.

How did revelation come?

1. Not by oral transmission, from one generation to another.

2. God spoke Heb. 1:1-2

"Holy men wrote as they were moved by God."

2Tim. 3:16 "All scripture is given by the inspiration of God, that the man of God..."

### **II. The Wonder of its Amazing Unity.**

A. The wonder of the Bible's unity is demonstrated by the unique circumstances under which it was written.

1. Written on at least 2 continents

2. Written in 3 languages

3. Penned by some 40 men, judges, kings, priests, prophets, herdsmen, scribes, soldiers, physicians, and fishermen.

5. written under a variety of conditions. In tents, deserts, cities, palaces, dungeons, in time of danger and in time of joy, and over hundreds of years.

6. Isn't it a wonder that it agrees from beginning to end?

B. The Bible deals with a unified central theme i.e. God's plan to redeem man through Christ.

1. the book of Genesis reveals sin and fall of man, and his need of salvation.
2. the O.T. presents the prophecies and promises of the coming Messiah and his redemptive work. Isa. 53.
3. the gospels set forth the basis of redemption.
4. Acts gives us demonstrations of God's redemptive plan.
5. the epistles declare the precepts by which the redeemed are to live.
6. Revelation pictures the triumphant victory of the redeemed.

There are no discrepancies, because God was the controlling mind behind it all.

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

1Cor. 2:12-13 "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual."

### III. The Wonder of its Scientific Accuracy.

Even though the bible is not a text book on material science, it is nevertheless, scientifically accurate. A close examination of its contents reveal startling scientific facts placed there centuries before they were known to modern scientific minds.

The foes of the bible declare it to be antiquated, out of date and erroneous.

Robert Ingersoll "The inspiration of the bible depends upon the ignorance of the one who reads it."

#### A. From the field of Astronomy

1. In speaking of God, Isaiah said "It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth." Isa. 40:22

"circle" from a word that indicates a sphere that is round, as opposed to something flat, square or rectangular. People for years thought the earth was flat. Columbus thought that. Magellan sailed, in order to prove that the earth was spherical in shape.

Yet the bible contained scientific foreknowledge that was centuries ahead of its time.

2. Men have always been intrigued with the number of stars in the heavens.

In about 150 B.C. an astronomer named Hipparchus, counted 1026

In A.D. 150 Ptolemy counted 1056

In A.D. 1575, Danish Astronomer Tycho Brahe suggested a figure of 777.

In A.D. 1600 German Astronomer Johannes Kepler published the number at 1005

Today we know the figure to be much higher, Carl Sagan of Cornell University once suggested over 25 sex trillion that would be 25 with 21 zeros behind it.

Genesis 15:5 and Jeremiah 33:22 both point out that the stars of the heavens are too numerous to be counted.

How did Moses and Jeremiah know this, long before the telescope was invented?

#### B. From The Field of Medicine.

1. Moses told the Israelites in Lev. 17:11-14 that "the life of the flesh is in the blood."

He was correct. Life is possible because red blood cells carry oxygen (thanks to the hemoglobin found within those cells).

In human red blood cells there are approximately 270,000,000 molecules of hemoglobin per cell. If any less, a person would not have enough residual oxygen to sustain life after an accident that knocks the breath out of them.

We today, know that the "life of the flesh" literally is in the blood. Yet this was unknown in George Washington's day. He died of "bloodletting."

Moses knew what George's Dr's did not.

2. God told Abraham in Gen. 17:12 that on the eighth day newborn Hebrew males were to be circumcised. Why the eighth day?

In 1935 professor H. Dam proposed the name Vitamin K for the factor in foods that helped prevent hemorrhaging in baby chicks. We know that Vitamin K is responsible for the production of prothrombin by the liver, and if K is not at proper levels, there will be a prothrombin deficiency and hemorrhaging may occur. However it is only on the 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> day of the newborn male's life that Vit. K begins to be produced (by various bacteria in the intestinal tract) and it is only on the 8<sup>th</sup> day that the percent of prothrombin actually climbs above 100% of normal. The only day in the entire life of a male that the bloodclotting element prothrombin is above 100% is day eight. The best day for circumcision. How did Moses know?

### III. The Wonder of its Prophetic Precision.

#### A. The prophecy concerning Ishmael.

Ishmael is the son of Abraham by his Egyptian concubine, Hagar, when he was 86 years of age. When Isaac was weaned, during the festivities of that occasion Ishmael gave way to some insulting expressions of mockery. Sarah immediately demanded of Abraham "cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, even with Isaac." The beautiful and touching picture of Hagar's departure is recorded in Gen. 21:6-16 "And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread, and a bottle of water, and gave it unto Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, and the child, and sent her away; and she departed and wandered in the wilderness of Beer-sheeba. And the water was spent in the bottle, and she cast the child under one of the shrubs. And she went and sat her down over against him a good way off, as it were a bowshot, for she said, Let me not see the death of the child. And she sat over against him and lifted up her voice and wept." It is not unlikely that this incident had an effect on this young man (14 or 15 at this time). In verse 18 of chapter 21 God promises that "I will make of him a great nation." He was by all accounts a wild and wayward child. "And he shall be a wild man, his hand will be against every man and every man's hand against him." (16:12). An apt description of the Arabs who live by robbery and plunder. The same resentment and hatred possessed by Ishmael for his brethren so characterizes the Arabs relationship to the Jews today. "He shall dwell in the presence of his brethren." For thousands of years they have dwelt in the presence of their brethren, the descendents of Abraham and Lot. The wonder of this precise prophecy is still impressive today, hundreds of years since it was first given by inspiration.

#### B. Moses prophecy concerning the Jews in Deut. 28.

This chapter contains one of the most remarkable prophecies ever given.

A prophecy fulfilled 1500 years after it was given.

The affirmation is that God would bring against the Jews a nation:

1. from afar
2. She would be swift as an eagle
3. possess a fierce countenance
4. and would care for neither young nor old.
5. speak a language the Jews did not understand
6. she would besiege Jerusalem until the high walls come down.
7. the people would suffer untold sorrows
8. they would devour human flesh and
9. a woman would even eat her own child
10. the Jews would be sold to Egypt as slaves, till no purchasers could be found.
11. others scattered through out the nations of the earth
12. become a hiss and a byword
13. find no rest, be oppressed and despoiled for evermore
14. God not utterly abhor nor utterly destroy them.

In AD 70

1. the Romans, speaking a strange language (latin) besieged the city
2. the Roman soldiers were men of battle, the eagle their standard
3. Regarded neither young or old "They did not so much as spare young children, but everyone at that time snatching up many, and cast them down from the citadel." Josephus

4. Mother ate flesh of own child
  5. 1,240,490 slain, 99,200 taken prisoners
  6. these sold to Egypt, till no buyer could be found
  7. Jews now found in every nation
  8. where have they not been oppressed and despoiled?
  9. since they rejected Jesus where have they found rest?
  10. murdered by Russian mobs under the czar, Hitler and the holocaust (3million)
- All living monuments to the inspiration of the bible

#### V. The Wonder of its Power in the Lives of Men.

Heb. 4:14 "for the word of God is living and powerful,..."

It is powerful, discerning, and penetrating.

James 1:21-25 "Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ;for he observes himself, and goes away and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."

The bible when handled aright is God's power to save.

1. It convicts the sinner Acts 2:36-41
2. It leads Eph. 6:10-17

3. It comforts 1Thess. 4:16-17 "For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a shout with the voice of an arch angel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord."

The Bible is truly a book of wonders. It is the Wonderful Word of God.