

Bible Prophecy

Why I believe the Bible. (God speaks to us through His Word.)

No book in the world has withstood the scrutiny the Bible has received. I accept the Bible as the Word of God. The evidence is overwhelming but there are those that reject the Bible even though the evidence is plain. There are more old transcripts of the Bible than any other book. There are 25,000 early manuscripts in existence. I took courses on the Bible. If the KJV was good enough for Paul, it is good enough for me.

Billy Graham struggled in this faith early in his ministry. One of the areas he struggled with was the authenticity of the Bible. Charles Templeton tried to get him to quit like he did. Dr. Graham made a decision the Bible is the inerrant Word of God and stuck with that decision until he stepped out into eternity.

Critics have attacked the Bible in many ways. Three examples are: Daniel was not written while Daniel was living. They claim it was written around 165 b.c. Problem: Daniel is in the Septuagint which was translated a hundred or so years prior to the claimed date. Jesus referred to Daniel. [Mat 24:15 KJV] 15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

Critics say Belshazzar never existed. A sixth century B.C tablet was discovered that mentions Belshazzar filling in as king for his father. Finally, The King James Bible was written 300 years before the Isaiah scroll was discovered. The KJV translators did not have access to the Isaiah scroll. The two books are identical except for some spelling differences of words.

Why I believe the Gospel. I believe the evidence presented in the Bible.

Following prodding from his students, Dr. Simon Greenleaf set out to prove the resurrection did not occur. Applying his own set of rules for evidence in reviewing the facts about the resurrection of Jesus, Greenleaf concluded it would have been impossible for the disciples to persist with their conviction that Jesus had risen if they hadn't actually seen the risen Christ. His writing, *The Testimony of the Evangelists* in 1874, is worth reading. Read more at the following links. <http://y-jesus.com/simon-greenleaf-resurrection/>;
http://www.creationstudies.org/Education/simon_greenleaf.html;

Dr. Greenleaf, previously an atheist, helped put Harvard University on the educational institution map. When speaking of the Christian faith in the classroom, Greenleaf told his students he believed the resurrection to be nothing more than a legend and he did not believe in miracles. He was the top dog, the Royal Professor of Law, at Harvard. In the late 1800's, Dr. Simon Greenleaf wrote a legal masterpiece still considered a brilliant work in modern legal minds. The writing is "A Treatise on the Law of Evidence", which is still regarded as "the greatest single authority in the entire literature of legal procedure.

So, what did he do? He sought the truth and found it.

Consider the disciples Personal experience

The disciples were eyewitnesses to the resurrection. They did not believe He was alive at first. They were not part of some scheme. Ten of the eleven died for their faith. They gave their lives for the Gospel. Paul who arrested Christians, died for Christ. Even the betrayer as given the power of God and worked miracles for the kingdom.

[Mat 10:2-8 KJV] 2 Now the names of the twelve apostles are these; The first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James [the son] of Zebedee, and John his brother; 3 Philip, and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the publican; James [the son] of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus, whose surname was Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Canaanite, and Judas Iscariot, who also betrayed him. 5 These twelve Jesus sent forth, and commanded them, saying, Go not into the way of the Gentiles, and into [any] city of the Samaritans enter ye not: 6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

We find Daniel praying in our text.

Adrian Rogers said, "God can work without our prayers, but we cannot work without God, and it is prayer that leads us to depend upon Him. God does not want us to live lives independent of Him. If God simply blessed us without our asking, what would that do? That would teach us to live life independently from God. But Jesus said, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you" (John 15:7). God wants you to abide with Him. That's the reason He has taught us to pray; to invite Him to take control of our lives."

He also said this. "The devil cannot keep God from answering. So, what will he do? He will endeavor to keep you from asking."

Daniel models authentic faith in difficult circumstances. Perhaps his example shines most in his prayerful dependence on the Lord and His Word. Daniel interpreted his circumstances through the lens of Scripture. This allowed him to pray with confidence, joining his prayers with God's revealed will.

1. 70 Weeks of Daniel, We see six purposes of this time period.

[Dan 9:20-27 NLT] 20 I went on praying and confessing my sin and the sin of my people, pleading with the LORD my God for Jerusalem, his holy mountain. 21 As I was praying, Gabriel, whom I had seen in the earlier vision, came swiftly to me at the time of the evening sacrifice. 22 He explained to me, "Daniel, I have come here to give you insight and understanding. 23 The moment you began praying, a command was given. And now I am here to tell you what it was, for you are very precious to God. Listen carefully so that you can understand the meaning of your vision. 24 "A period of seventy sets of seven has been decreed for your people and your holy city to finish their rebellion, to put an end to their sin, to atone for their guilt, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to confirm the prophetic vision, and to anoint the Most Holy Place.

The prophecy of the seventy weeks is the most detailed chronological prophecy in the Old Testament. It indicates the exact amount of time that would pass until the coming of the Messiah. "Weeks" refer to "sevens" (Hebrew, shavuah), or seven-year periods of time, making a total of 490 years. Of the six purposes mentioned (all to be fulfilled through the Messiah), some believe that the last three were not achieved by the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ but await His

further action: the establishment of everlasting righteousness (on earth), the complete fulfillment of vision and prophecy, and the anointing of the most Holy (either “the most holy place” or “the most holy One”).

2. 69 weeks, first seven, then 62 weeks. God told Daniel about the death and resurrection of Jesus.

25 Now listen and understand! **Seven sets of seven plus sixty-two sets of seven will pass from the time the command is given to rebuild Jerusalem until a ruler--the Anointed One--comes.** Jerusalem will be rebuilt with streets and strong defenses, despite the perilous times. 26 "After this period of sixty-two sets of seven, the Anointed One will be killed, appearing to have accomplished nothing, and a ruler will arise whose armies will destroy the city and the Temple. The end will come with a flood, and war and its miseries are decreed from that time to the very end. 27 The ruler will make a treaty with the people for a period of one set of seven, but after half this time, he will put an end to the sacrifices and offerings. And as a climax to all his terrible deeds, he will set up a sacrilegious object that causes desecration, until the fate decreed for this defiler is finally poured out on him."

The seven weeks may refer to the period of the complete restoration of Jerusalem (partially narrated in Ezra and Nehemiah) and the threescore and two weeks (vv. 25-26) to the period between that restoration and the Messiah’s coming to Israel. The final “week,” the Seventieth Week, is not mentioned specifically until verse 27, following the prophecy of the destruction of Jerusalem by the people of the prince that shall come (the Romans, who destroyed the second temple in AD 70; v. 26).

3. So When is the last week going to start? Be ready

[1Co 15:52 KJV] 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

[1Th 4:16 KJV] 16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: