

Believe

Week 4

How can I know God and His
Will for my life?

The Bible!

2 Peter: 3

What does Peter think about
the Bible based on the way
he opens and closes the
chapter?

I want you to recall the words spoken in the past by the holy prophets and the command given by our Lord and Savior through your apostles.

His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant and unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures, to their own destruction.

Therefore, dear friends, since you have been forewarned, be on your guard so that you may not be carried away by the error of the lawless

What are we being warned
to guard against?

How do we guard against this?

Acts 17: 11

Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

How did the Bereans guard against this?

David's View of the Bible

Psalm 19: 7-10

The law of the Lord is
perfect,
refreshing the soul.

The statutes of the Lord are
trustworthy,
making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are
right,
giving joy to the heart.

The commands of the Lord
are **radiant**,
giving light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is pure,
enduring forever.

The decrees of the Lord are
firm, and
all of them are righteous.

They are more precious
than gold,
than much pure gold;

they are sweeter than
honey,
than honey from the
honeycomb.

Where do the words
that make up the Bible
come from?

2 Timothy 3: 16-17

All Scripture is God-breathed
and is useful for teaching,
rebuking, correcting and training
in righteousness, so that the
man of God may be thoroughly
equipped for every good work.

What is the significance of the phrase
God breathed?

It is the spoken Word of God.

What is the significance of the word
All that begins this passage?

What does this imply for those who
reject all or part of the Bible?

John 8: 31-38

What is the truth Jesus is referring to in this passage?

How does a person know this truth?

What is the slavery from which this truth will set a person free?

Why did the Jews want to kill Jesus?

1 Corinthians 2: 12-14

What is the ultimate reason behind a person's refusal to accept the authority and trustworthiness of the Bible according to this passage?

How should we respond knowing this?

Question

Why is it necessary to be anchored in what the Bible is telling us verses what is written by others?

Question

We don't have the original handwritten text, so how do we know we have the original words written by God's inspiration?

All translations are based on the same ancient manuscripts throughout the centuries.

Thousands over centuries have poured over these manuscripts to affirm accuracy.

The Holy Spirit not only inspired the writing but also has supernaturally preserved the original ancient writings in it's purity through all history.

Since the printing press did not show up until 1440 AD the ancient text was hand copied by those who were so convinced that they were writing the words of God that there are stories of hand copies made by scribes who would write one letter then take a cleansing bath and then write another letter because they were so concerned about the accurate copying of the Word of God.

There are 25,000 ancient manuscripts of the New Testament alone. This makes it possible to reconstruct the original written text with complete accuracy. Nothing in ancient literature even comes close to this to demonstrate uniform consistency of translation across centuries.

There are about 5,600 Greek manuscripts containing some or all of the New Testament that date back to Papyrus 52 which was written in 100 AD and contains parts of the book of John, the Bodmer Papyri containing John and Luke from 175 AD and Chester Beatty Papyri from 200 AD the Gospels and Acts all written within 150 years of the death of the last Apostle.

This is a miracle in itself given the intense persecution of the Church and destruction of all Christian documents by the Roman empire during this period of time.

The early church fathers before 325 AD have so much scripture in their writings that there are 32,000 existing references and quotes from the new testament before 325 AD.

There are so many quotes from the New Testament that you can virtually put the entire New Testament together from their quotations and they match perfectly with our Bible today.

Their letters and writings contain over 19,000 quotations of the gospels alone, for example, and they read exactly the same as the gospels in our Bible today.

In 325 AD the Roman Empire established the Roman Catholic Church and the persecution of Christians ended so there was no more destruction of Christian documents and artifacts.

Because of this all the early transcripts from 325 AD on have been maintained by the Catholic Church because no one is destroying them. For example there are 8,000 copies of a complete Bible translation from 382 AD called Jerome's Vulgate.

Homer's Iliad is the ancient book with the second most number of ancient manuscripts.

The New Testament has 25,000 ancient manuscripts, how many ancient manuscripts containing Homer's Iliad do you think exists, which by the way has been accepted by historians to be accurate?

The Bible

25,000 ancient manuscripts

Homer's Iliad

643 ancient manuscripts

Also, Homer's Iliad was written in 800 BC and the earliest we have is 1300 AD with nothing in between.

A.T. Robertson *“The vast array of manuscripts has enabled textual scholars to accurately reconstruct the original text with more than 99.9% accuracy.”*

Textual Integrity

<u>Work</u>	<u>When Written</u>	<u>Earliest Copy</u>	<u>Time Span</u>	<u>No. of copies</u>
Caesar (Gallic Wars)	100-44 B.C.	A.D. 900	1000 yrs	10
Aristotle	384-322 B.C.	A.D. 1100	1,400 yrs	49
Sophocles	496-406 B.C.	A.D. 1000	1,400 yrs	193
Homer (Iliad)	900 B.C.	A.D. 1300	2,000 yrs	643
New Testament	A.D. 40-100	A.D. 125	25 yrs	25,000

“There is no body of ancient literature in the world which enjoys such a wealth of good textual attestation as the New Testament” - Scholar F.F. Bruce

What about the different translations?

Is there a specific translation you like?

There are different forms of translations:

1. Interlinear
2. Word for Word
3. Thought for Thought
4. Paraphrase

Original Greek:

το κοτόπουλο που μετακινούνται
πολύ γρήγορα πόδια να
διασχίζουν δρόμο

Interlinear Translation:

The chicken moving very fast
feet to cross the road

Original Greek:

το κοτόπουλο που μετακινούνται
πολύ γρήγορα πόδια να
διασχίζουν δρόμο

Word for Word Translation:

The chicken moved feet very fast
to cross the road

Original Greek:

το κοτόπουλο που μετακινούνται
πολύ γρήγορα πόδια να
διασχίζουν δρόμο

Thought for Thought:

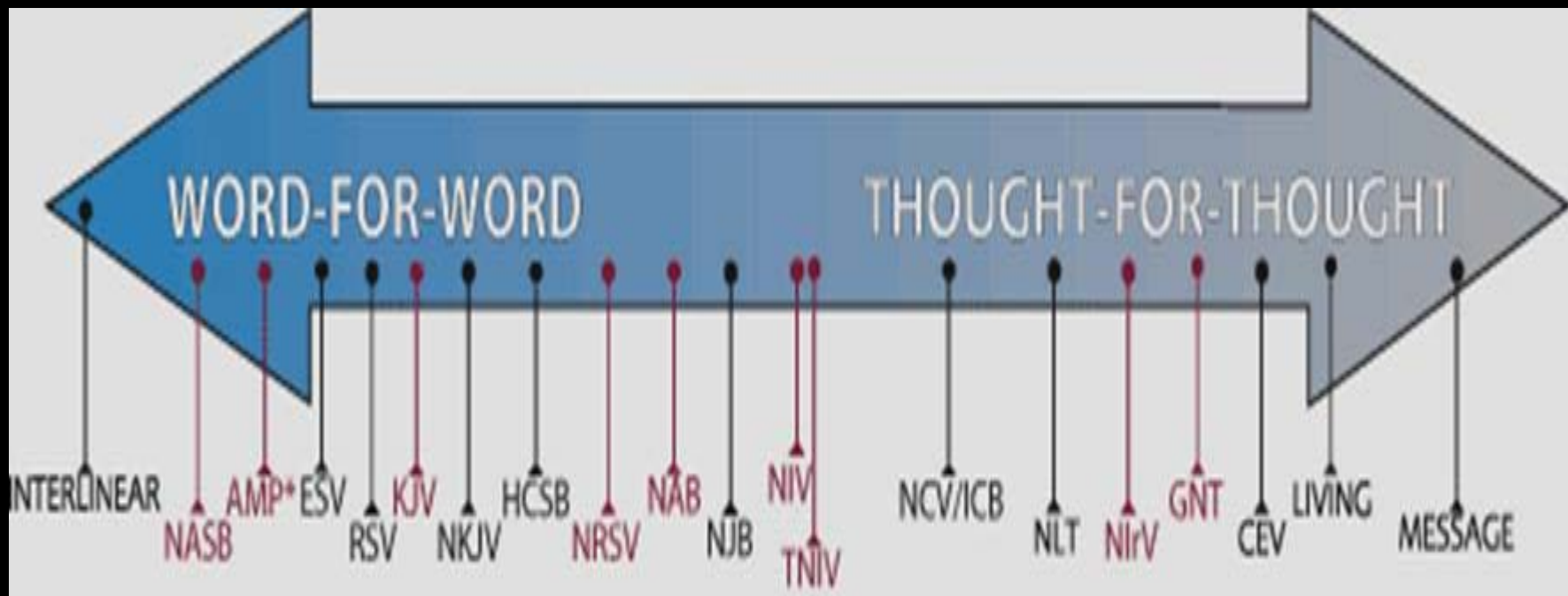
The chicken ran across the road

Original Greek:

το κοτόπουλο που μετακινούνται
πολύ γρήγορα πόδια να
διασχίζουν δρόμο

Paraphrase:

The chicken wanted to get to the
other side of the road quickly so
he ran as fast as he could



English Bible Translation Comparison

Word for Word

Thought for Thought

Paraphrase



Genesis 2: 22-25

Matthew 19: 3-6

What does this suggest about
Jesus' view of the words
spoken by Moses?

Luke 4: 16-21

John 13: 18-19

Mark 14: 26-28

Luke 22: 36-37

Luke 24: 25-27

What do these passages tell
us about the Bible?

What is Prophecy?

Prophecy – the future told in advance by God through a prophet

The reliability of the Bible is confirmed by the accuracy of its prophecies

Cannot be said of any other “sacred writings”

Other writings make great claims but contain no prophecy unique to them that establishes “truth”

Joseph Smith (Mormonism) - "My unborn child shall be called David, and will be Church President and King over Israel."

Prophecy of the Fifth Karmapa, Doshin Shekpa (Buddhist scripture): "At that time happiness, like beholding the sun, in this Tibet will occur, I think"

Errors in the Quaran

Quran 7: 54 Your gurdian-Lord is Allah who created the heavens and earth in Six Days

Quran 10: 3 Verily your Lord is Allah, who created the heavens and earth in Six Days

Quran 11:7 He it is Who created the heavens and earth in Six Days

Quran-25:29: He Who created the heavens and earth and all that is between, in Six Days

Errors in the Quaran

Quran 41: 9 Is it that ye deny Him who created the earth in Two Days ?

Quran 41: 10 He set on the (earth) Mountains standing firm high above it, and bestowed blessing on the earth, and measured therein all things to give them nourishment in due proportion, in FOUR DAYS...

Quran 41: 12 So He completed them (heavens) as seven firmaments in Two days and

What is the test of a true prophet?

Deuteronomy 18: 22

True Prophet – prophecy is fulfilled

Why Did God Use Prophecy?

Isaiah 48: 3-5

Isaiah 46: 9-10

Approximately 2,500 prophecies appear in the pages of the Bible, about 2,000 of which already have been fulfilled to the letter—no errors.

The odds for all these prophecies having been fulfilled by chance without error is statistically proven impossible, because of this it is accurate to say that statistical science has proven that it is impossible for the Bible to have been written by man therefore the Bible must be divinely inspired!

Ever wonder why an ancient book is so hated nearly 2000 years after the last chapter was written?

Ever wonder how an ancient book written over a span of more than 2000 years by multiple authors is in total agreement and flows seamlessly as if it was written by one author?

Ever wonder how an ancient book could be reproduced so accurately by hand that the ancient dead sea scrolls read exactly as the Bible you now hold after being copied numerous times by hand prior to the printing press?

Ever wonder how an ancient book could predict the future with 100% accuracy and after thousands of years no man has ever been able to find any errors?

Want proof of God?
Just look to the Bible