

Five Claims The Bible Makes Of Itself

3-29-15 AM

The Bible (meaning “book”) is really a library of 66 books written by 40+ authors over 1500 years. While the word “bible” is not found within, it is usually self-identified as “Scripture” and refers to both the OLD and NEW Covenants (as seen by Paul’s usage of the word in 1 Timothy 5:18). We believe this is the Word of God to man today.

How can we be sure that our faith is right? We believe most people are self-deceived or deceived by others as to the truth. For one thing, we can know there IS a God by the creation (Romans 1:19-20). Secondly, we can know that this book is His message when compared to other books (very few) that claim to be a Message from the divine Creator. So our great debate often comes down to “what did the Creator say”? The Bible is unique among books because it alone has a supernatural nature, and makes five claims about its supernatural nature.

Claim #1 – God Himself Spoke It - 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Verbal Inspiration – each word is precisely from God (Proverbs 30:5)

Plenary Inspiration – all of the words are from God (John 13:20)

Dynamic Inspiration – God moved the writers (II Peter 1:21)

Claim #2 – Manner of Interpretation - II Peter 1:20-21

Not a matter of private interpretation

Indicative that this is a legal system

Claim #3 – It Covers All Things - II Timothy 3:16-17

“complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work”

Therefore we are not to:

Think beyond what is written – I Corinthians 4:6

Add to or take from – Revelation 22:18-19

Claim #4 – You Can Understand It - Ephesians 3:3-5

It may require diligence - II Timothy 2:15

It may not be easy to understand - II Peter 3:16

Claim #5 – It Cannot Be Destroyed - I Peter 1:23-25

It is supernaturally protected

This can be seen in comparison with other ancient texts and survivability

Many have tried to destroy it unsuccessfully

Conclusions:

We ought to have confidence in the Bible, especially after reviewing these claims about the Bible. If we doubt the veracity of these claims, then we doubt God’s ability to reveal and preserve His mind to men. If God lacks the power to reveal His mind to us: What hope is there that He can remove our sins? What hope is there that He can raise us from the dead?