

QUOTE #1 The oneness or unity of the Bible is a miracle. It is a library of 66 books, written by over 35 different authors, in a period of approximately 1,500 years. Represented in the authors is a cross section of humanity, educated and uneducated, including kings, fishermen, public officials, farmers, teachers and physicians. Included in the subjects are religion, history, law, science, poetry, drama, biography and prophecy. Yet its various parts are as harmoniously united as the parts that make up the human body.

For 35 authors, with such varied backgrounds, to write on so many subjects, over such a long time span in absolute harmony is a virtual mathematical impossibility. It just plain couldn't happen. Then how do we account for the unity of the Bible? The only adequate explanation is that "men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

1. The Bible is God's word.

2Ti. 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

2Pt. 1:20-21 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Ac. 27:15 The ship was caught by the storm and could not head into the wind; so we gave way to it and were driven along.

The Bible is infallible.

Jn. 10:35 [Jesus speaking] – and the Scripture cannot be broken –

Mt. 5:17-18 [Jesus speaking] "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

Nu. 23:19 God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?

1Sa. 15:29 [Samuel is speaking] He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a man, that he should change his mind."

Pr. 30:5 Every word of God is flawless; he is a shield to those who take refuge in him.

Ps. 12:6 And the words of the LORD are flawless, like silver refined in a furnace of clay, purified seven times.

Am. 3:7 Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.

The Bible is God's revelation about himself.

Ro. 16:25-27 Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery hidden for long ages past, but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him – to the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Dt. 29:29 The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law.

QUOTE #2 The Bible is not a book of philosophy – even though it is philosophical.
The Bible is not a book of history – even though it is historical.
The Bible is not a book of science – even though it is scientific.
The Bible is God's message to us. It reveals Jesus Christ to us. It speaks to our greatest need.
If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent us an educator.
If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist.
If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist.
If our greatest need had been pleasure, God would have sent us an entertainer.
But our greatest need was forgiveness, so God sent us a Savior.

The Bible is not to be altered.

Dt. 4:2 Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you.

Dt. 12:32 See that you do all I command you; do not add to it or take away from it.

Rev. 22:18-19 I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

Ps. 119:18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

Ps. 14:1a The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

2Ti. 2:15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

2. The Bible is Powerful.

Mt. 4:1-11 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread."

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: 'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me."

Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Jer. 20:9 But if I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name," his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.

Jer. 23:29 "Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?"

Heb. 4:12 For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Eph. 6:17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

1Pt. 1:23-25a For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. For, "All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.

Ps. 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Heb. 13:4 Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

Jn. 8:31-32 To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Heb. 5:12-14 In fact, though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you the elementary truths of God's word all over again. You need milk, not solid food! Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

Ro. 10:17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

2Ti. 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.

Ps. 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

Eph. 5:3 But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people.

Ps. 119:99-100 I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes. I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts.

Jn. 15:7 [Jesus speaking] If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.

Is. 55:11 [God speaking] so is my word that goes out from my mouth; It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Mt. 22:29 [Jesus speaking to the Sadducees] Jesus replied, "You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God.

Jn. 17:17 [Jesus praying] Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

Ps. 19:7-11 The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving 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 ordinances of the LORD are sure and altogether righteous. They are more precious than gold, than much pure gold; they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the comb. By keeping them there is great reward.

1Jn. 5:3 This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,

3. We must absorb the message of the Bible

Jer. 15:16 When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God Almighty.

Mt. 4:4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Job 23:12 I have not departed from the commands of his lips; I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread.

reading it

Eph. 5:10 and find out what pleases the Lord.

Eph. 5:17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.

QUOTE "The vigor of our spiritual life will be in exact proportion to the place held by the Bible in our life and thoughts... I have read the Bible through 100 times, and always with increasing delight. Each time it seems like a new book to me. Great has been the blessing from

consecutive, diligent, daily study. I look upon it as a lost day when I have not had a good time over the Word of God.”
- George Müller

believing it

Jn. 20:31 But these [things Jesus did] are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Lk. 24:25-27 He [Jesus] said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

meditating on it

Jsh. 1:8 [God speaking to Joshua] Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

Ps. 1:1-3 Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.

Ps. 119:48 I lift up my hands to your commands, which I love, and I meditate on your decrees.

studying it

Ezr. 7:10 For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel.

2Ti. 3:14-15 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

memorizing it

Ps. 119:11 I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Mt. 4:4 Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

verse 7 Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

verse 10 Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

Ac. 2:15-21 [Peter preaching] These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the

morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Ac. 2:24-28 [Peter preaching] But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. David said about him: 'I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope, because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.'

Ac. 2:34-35 [Peter preaching] For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, 'The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet."'

Ac. 7:42-43 [Stephen speaking before the Sanhedrin] But God turned away and gave them over to the worship of the heavenly bodies. This agrees with what is written in the book of the prophets: 'Did you bring me sacrifices and offerings forty years in the desert, O house of Israel? You have lifted up the shrine of Molech and the star of your god Rephan, the idols you made to worship. Therefore I will send you into exile' beyond Babylon.

Ac. 7:48-50 [Stephen speaking before the Sanhedrin] "However, the Most High does not live in houses made by men. As the prophet says: 'Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me?' says the Lord. Or where will my resting place be? Has not my hand made all these things?'

Ac. 13:32-41 [Paul preaching] "We tell you the good news: What God promised our fathers he has fulfilled for us, their children, by raising up Jesus. As it is written in the second Psalm:

"'You are my Son; today I have become your Father'

The fact that God raised him from the dead, never to decay, is stated in these words:

"'I will give you the holy and sure blessings promised to David.'

So it is stated elsewhere:

"'You will not set your Holy One see decay.'

"For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his fathers and his body decayed. But the one whom God raised from the dead did not see decay.

"Therefore, my brothers, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. Through him everyone who believes is justified from everything you could not be justified from by the law of Moses. Take care that what the prophets have said does not happen to you:

"'Look, you scoffers, wonder and perish, for I am going to do something in your days that you would never believe, even if someone told you.'"

obeying it

Mt. 7:24-27 [Jesus speaking] “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

Jas. 1:23-25 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it – he will be blessed in what he does.

Ps. 119:4 You have laid down precepts that are to be fully obeyed.

Ps. 119:57 You are my portion, O LORD; I have promised to obey your words.

Ps. 119:60 I will hasten and not delay to obey your commands.