Can We Trust The Bible? Part 2

Canonicity of the New Testament

* Read statements of the Davinei Code

This section is discussing why our Bible contains the 27 NT books that it does and not others. How did it get decided that only these 27 books are "The Word of God" and not others?

1. How many other books have been proposed by some as Scripture? (pg. 10)

OVER 300 books

2. What were the criteria for accepting a book as canonical (or as scripture)? (pg. 10)

1. written by an apostle

2. written by a close associate of an apostle

3. What four things made a writing by an apostle considered as Scripture? (pg. 10)

1. Read publically 2. Circulated widly

3. copies of it were collected 4. often quoted in other writings

Let's look at what the Bible says about some of these writings."

4. Look up Acts 2:42. Who's teaching did the early church devote themselves to?

The apostles' teachings

5. Read 1 Thessalonians 2:13. What is Paul thanking God for as he writes to the Thessalonians?

that they accepted the word of God from the apostles as the word of God, not as the word of man

6. Read 2 Peter 3:15-16. According to Peter, who gave Paul his wisdom?

God did.

In verse 16, what does Peter compare Paul's writings to?

other scriptures

- 7. The Pseudepigrapha (suda pig rafa) is a collection of writings that were never considered scripture. Name 2 reasons why they were rejected as Scripture. (Pg. 11)
 - 1. produced mainly by heretical groups
 - 2. Contains exaggerated and mythical religious folklore

8. The New Testament Apocrypha is a collection of books written after Jesus's time. Name 2 reasons why they were rejected as Scripture. (Pg. 10-11)
1. Never more than local or temporary recognition
2. No major church connail or N.T. collection considered

Is the Bible actually God's very words?

Let's start by looking at what the Bible says about itself.

them as inspired books.

1. Read 2 Timothy 3:16. What does this say about the Bible (Scripture)?

All Scripture is God-breathed; useful for teaching, Rebuking, correcting, training in righteousness

2. Read 2 Peter 1:20-21. What does this say about Scripture?

no Scripture came by the prophet's own interpretation.

Dolon't originate in the will of man, but these spoke from God by the Holy Spirit.

Now let's look at some other reasons the Bible is considered the very words of God.

The first reason the Bible is the Word of God is its <u>UNITY</u>. There are no contradicting ideas or statements throughout the whole Bible. It is as if one person wrote it all because it is so consistent in what it says.

3. Fill in these sentences: (pg. 13-14)

The Bible contains <u>lefe</u> books that were written over a <u>lfe00 year</u> span, over a period of <u>40</u>
generations, by approximately <u>40 anthors</u> from every walk of life. Some of these authors
include a man who was a <u>fisherman</u> , another who was a <u>prime ministor</u>
and another who was a <u>tax collector</u> . It was written in different places such as
in the wilderness in a palace, and
the isle of Patmos. It was written at _ times
(times of war and peace), during different $\mu \rho o d S$ (in joy and sorrow), on 3 continents,
and in <u>3</u> languages. And the subject matter of the Bible includes many <u>Controversial</u>
topics such as the origin of man and the universe,
the nature of God, and
the nature of sin and man's redemption.

Yet there is still harmony and continuity throughout the entire book!!

* what do your peers and friends think of God?

The second reason the Bible is the Word of God is the <u>SCIENTIFIC CLAIMS IT MAKES YEARS BEFORE THEY</u> <u>WERE DISCOVERED</u>. There is no way the writers of the Bible could have known what they did without God telling them. The rest of the world didn't discover these things until much later.

4. What does Isaiah 40 tell us about the shape of the earth (written at 700 BC)?

it is a circle *Hebrew word means sphere

5. What does Job 26:7 tell us about the earth (written around 2000 BC)?

it is suspended in space

6. What does Psalm 8:8 tell us about the seas? What is in the seas for the fish to swim in (written between 1400 BC and 586 BC)?

paths of the seas (currents)

7. What does Job 38:16 tell us is in the sea (written around 2000 BC)?

there are springs in the sea

The third reason the Bible is the Word of God is the <u>FULFILLED PROPHECIES</u> in the Bible. The Bible has a 100% accuracy rate when it comes to predictions. Everything that has been predicted so far has come true as the Bible has said it would. There are still some prophecies that have yet to take place. * No other book has this accuracy Rafe

8. How many prophecies were made about Jesus in the Old Testament? (pg. 15)

332 prophecies

* offer hand out of Christ's prophecies

9. How likely is it that 1 man would be able to fulfill all of those prophecies? Write out the probability in number form. (pg. 15) , /

10. Name 2 other things that were predicted in the Bible and came true. (pg. 15)

1. the fall of Babylon

2. the fall of Egypt

* If the Bible is the word of Good, what does that mean for our lives?

Conclusion:

- 1. We can trust that the 27 books contained in the New Testament are the right books to be included because they were written by the apostles or close associates of the apostles and showed evidence that they were inspired by God
- 2. We can trust the Bible is actually the Word of God because of its unity, its foreknowledge of scientific facts, its fulfilled prophecies, and its own claims to be the Word of God.