

WHY DO YOU  
**BELIEVE**  
WHAT YOU  
**BELIEVE**



an introduction to apologetics & defending your faith

# Is the Bible authentic?



# The Old Testament



**Its Authenticity**

# The Old Testament: Its Authenticity

The Bible, specifically the NT, has better manuscript credentials than any other ancient writings discovered

Bible manuscripts far outnumber other ancient manuscript

Plato: 7 manuscripts exist

Greek historians Thucydides and Herodotus: 8 copies exist

Roman historian: Livy: 10 copies

Caesar's Gallic Wars: 10 copies

Homer's Iliad: 643 copies

The authenticity of these documents has never been questioned despite their small numbers and the fact that the time lapse between the finding of these documents and the life of the author

Last book of OT, Malachi, was completed 400 years before the birth of Christ

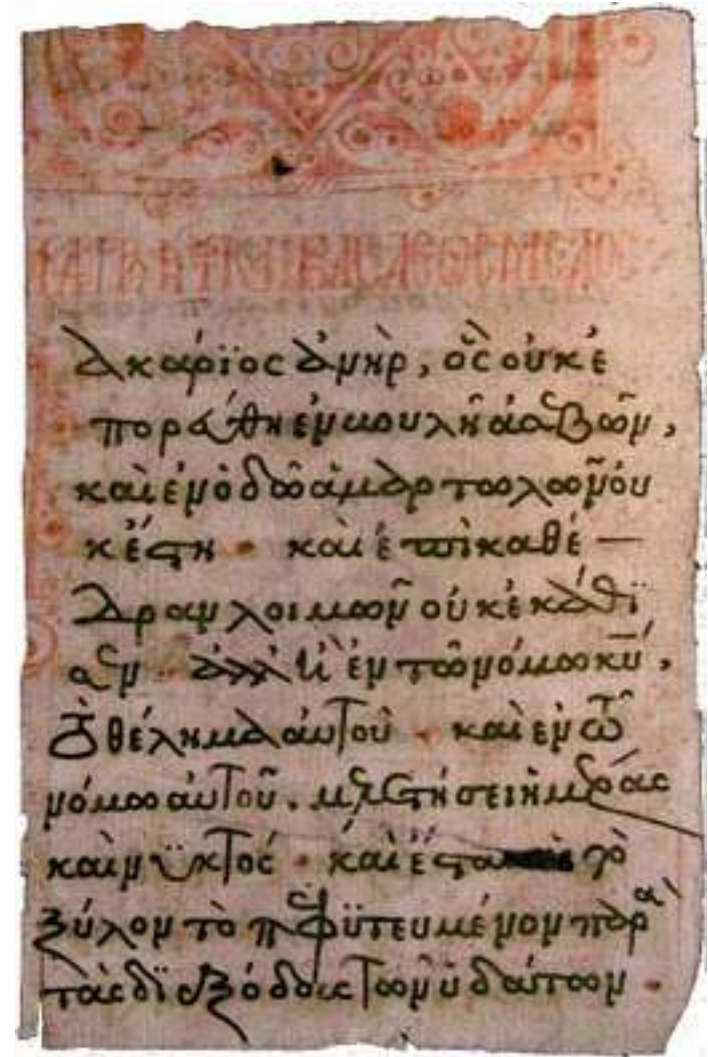
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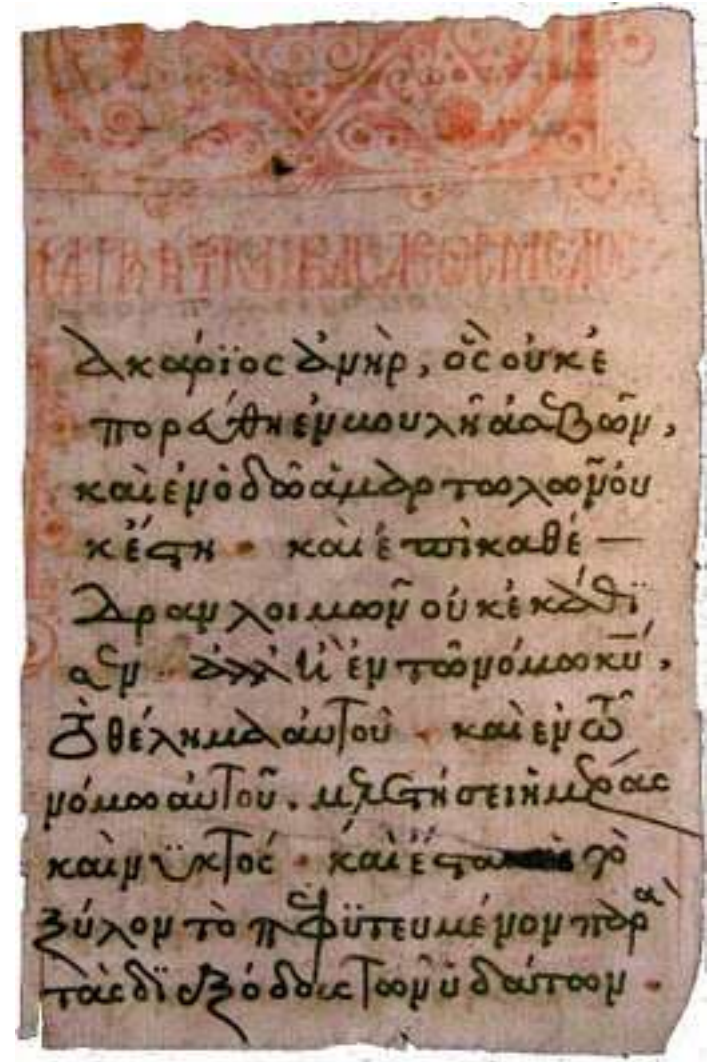
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400 B.C. → A.D. 900

1300 years

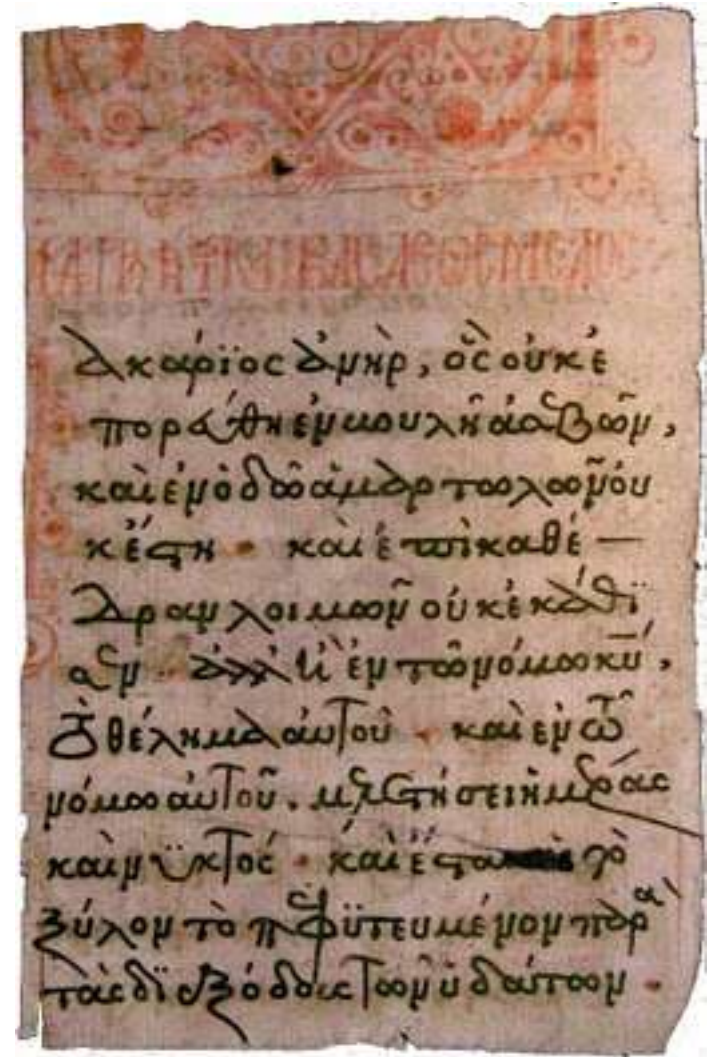


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\*\*Scriptures were copied with  
Incredible care\*\*





Example of the type of care used  
in copying

*“the copyist must sit in full Jewish dress, wash his whole body, not begin to write the name of God with a pen dipped in ink, and should a king address him while writing that name [God], he must take no notice of him.”*

## 1947: Dead Sea Scrolls



Isaiah Scroll (1QIsaa) Written in Hebrew - Qumran, Cave 1. Ca. 120 BCE Parchment  
© Photo: The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

1947: Dead Sea Scrolls



Isaiah Scroll (1QIsaa) Written in Hebrew - C  
© Photo: The Israel Museum

Qumran Caves



1947: Dead Sea Scrolls

Written in 150 B.C.

Yielded copies of every OT Book except for Esther

Isaiah, which is despised by liberals because of its prophetic and accurate writings concerning Jesus, was extremely accurate despite the fact that this version was 1000 years older than the previously known translation.

Qumran Caves

Isaiah Scroll (1QIsaa) Written in Hebrew - C  
at Qumran - The scroll is

τοῦ ἀγγελοῦ σου πορεύου πρὸ σου πρὸ  
σου· ὅς κατασκάψῃ τὴν ὁδὸν  
σου ἐκ πρὸ οὐρανό σου· φωνή γὰρ  
οὐρανός ἐστι τῆς ἑρήνης· ἐτοίμα  
σατὸ τῆς ὁδοῦ κυ· ἀλλήλας ποι  
εἶτε τὰς τρίμοισ αὐτοῦ· ἀλλήλα  
τοῖ σαρρηνε καλαί θωρεμτῆ  
ρκίλω· καὶ κηρίω καὶ κηρίω καὶ  
μπαροίως ἕως ἀφ' ἑσπέρης τῆ  
ωμ· καὶ ὅς ἐπορεύσθε πρὸς αὐτό·  
πᾶσαι ἡ ἰουδαῖα ἁγῶρα· καὶ οἱ  
βροσολύμνται· καὶ ἐπιπνί  
ζοντο πᾶς τὰ ἐρταῖ ὀρδαμ  
ποταμῶ ὑπ' αὐτοῦ· ὅς οὐ μελο  
μέροι πᾶς ἀμδρ τῆ αὐτοῦ· ἡ  
δὲ οἱ σαρρηνε· ἐκ τῆς ἑρήνης  
χαὸ καμῆλου καὶ τῆς κηρίω  
τήρημ πρὸ τῆς ὁδοῦ αὐτοῦ· ὅ  
ἐσθί σαρρηνε δασ καμῆλι ἄριστον·  
ὅ ἐκίρω σαρρηνε· ἐκ χιδαοῖ οἱ οὐ  
ρὸ πρὸς μου ὅ πρὸς μου· οὐ  
οὐκ ἐστὶ ἰκαμος· κηρίω σαρρηνε

# The New Testament Its Authenticity

ἡμεῖς ἐσμὲν· καὶ οὐκ ἐσμὲν οὐδὲ ἑσθί· ἐσμὲν οὐκ ἐσμὲν  
ἀπομαρτυροῦμαι

τοῦ ἰσραήλ τὰ ἐν ὑποδμηλαίτων  
αὐτοῦ· ἐγὼ μὲν· ἐπιπνί σαρρηνε  
βρὺ δατῆ· αὐτὸς δὲ καλαί σαρρηνε  
πρὸ τῆς ἑρήνης· καὶ ἐβρέτο ἐρε  
μας τὰς ἡμέρας· ἡλθε  
οἱ ἀπομαρτυροῦμαι τῆς γαλιλαί  
ας· καὶ ἐπιπνί σαρρηνε σαρρηνε  
καὶ ἐβρέτο σαρρηνε καὶ ἐβρέτο  
καὶ ἐβρέτο σαρρηνε τῆς ἑρήνης  
εἶδε σαρρηνε τῆς ἑρήνης ὅσ  
ὅς τῆς ἑρήνης πρὸ τῆς ἑρήνης  
καὶ ἐβρέτο σαρρηνε καὶ ἐβρέτο  
μετὰ τῆς ἑρήνης ὅσ ὅσ ὅσ  
μου ὅσ ὅσ τῆς ἑρήνης εὐδοκίω  
καὶ ἐβρέτο τῆς ἑρήνης τῆς ἑρήνης  
καὶ ἐβρέτο τῆς ἑρήνης καὶ ἐβρέτο  
σαρρηνε τῆς ἑρήνης πρὸ τῆς ἑρήνης  
πρὸ τῆς ἑρήνης καὶ ἐβρέτο  
θαρρηνε καὶ οἱ ἄλλοι δὲ κηρίω  
αὐτοῦ· μετὰ δὲ τῆς ἑρήνης ὅσ  
τοῦ ἰσραήλ· ἡλθε οἱ σαρρηνε

# The New Testament: Its Authenticity

Philosophy and religion professor **Winfried Corduan** states, *“no other ancient document equals the New Testament when it comes to preservation of manuscripts both in terms of number and closeness to the original autographs.”*

English scholar **F.F. Bruce** intimates, *“if the New Testament had been a collection of secular writings, their authenticity would generally be regarded as beyond all doubt.”*

# The New Testament: Its Authenticity

More than 24,000 manuscripts of the NT exist today!

Majority of these manuscripts were written within 40 – 80 years after Christ's life here on earth

# Authenticity and



ARCHEOLOGY

# Authenticity & Archeological Discoveries

## Old Testament Discoveries:

City of Jericho

City of Nineveh

Ur

Babylon

Megiddo

King Jehoiachin sites

Sanballat and Tobiah

City of Tyre

## New Testament Discoveries:

Bethany

Bethlehem

Bethesda

Caesarea

Cana

Capernaum

Emmaus

Gennesaret

Jericho

Jerusalem

Nain

Nazareth

Sychar

# Fulfilled Prophecy and Authenticity



# Fulfilled Prophecy and Authenticity

The issue of fulfilled biblical prophecy is inexhaustible

**300+** prophecies alone were fulfilled by Jesus Christ's first coming.

**48** major OT prophecies concerning Christ were observed

**8** OT prophecies were considered in the final analysis



Christ being born in Bethlehem, His persecution, and the attempts on His life



**Peter Stoner**  
mathematician,  
astronomer  
and Bible skeptic

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Christ being born in Bethlehem, His  
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These prophecies established the  
most severe parameters for who the  
Messiah would be for they were most difficult to fulfill

# Fulfilled Prophecy and Authenticity

## Peter Stoner's Conclusions

The chance that any man could fulfill all 8 prophecies is 1 in  $10^{17}$  and the chance one man could fulfill all 48 is 1 in  $10^{157}$ .

Peter Stoner is no longer a skeptic!



**Peter Stoner  
mathematician,  
astronomer  
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Prophecy	Old Testament Reference	New Testament Fulfillment
Jesus' virgin birth	Isaiah 7:14	Matt 1:20; Luke 1:30-35
Jesus' birthplace in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Luke 2:4-7
Jesus' forerunner, John the Baptist	Isaiah 40:3	John 1:6-8; 19-23
Jesus' triumphal entry	Zechariah 9:9-10	John 12:12-19
Jesus' side pierced at Calvary	Zechariah 12:10	John 19:34
Jesus' cry, "my God, my God why hast thou forsaken me."	Psalms 22:1 (crucifixion was not known form of punishment at the time of David)	Matt 27:46
Darkness at time of Jesus' death	Psalms 22:2	Matt 27:45
Mocking at Jesus' death	Psalms 22:6-8	Matt 27:39-43
Jesus' hands and feet pierced	Psalms 22:16	John 20:24-29
Casting lots for Jesus' vestures	Psalms 22:18	Matt 27:35
Jesus' unbroken bones	Psalms 34:20	John 19:36
Given vinegar to drink	Psalms 69:21	Matt 27:34, 48
Buried in a rich man's grave	Isaiah 53:9	Matt 27:57-60
Christ's resurrection	Psalms 16:10; Hosea 6:2	Luke 24:1-7
Christ's ascension	Psalms 110:1; Psalm 24:3-10	Acts 1:8-11

A blue-tinted photograph of a microscope. The microscope is the central focus, with its objective lenses and eyepiece clearly visible. The background is a solid blue color. The text "Scientific Accuracy" is overlaid in the upper left, and "and Authenticity" is overlaid in the lower right.

Scientific Accuracy

and Authenticity

# Scientific Accuracy and Authenticity

The Bible does not go into great detail about these things or about the world He created, but what He states is accurate, true and related to the main point of God's Word...our salvation.

# Scientific Accuracy and Authenticity

Most scientists now concede that the universe was formed from nothing

**Hebrews 11:3**, *“Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”*

**Psalms 33:6**, *“By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth.”*

# Scientific Accuracy and Authenticity

Moisture in the atmosphere goes through the evaporation/ condensation cycle

**Psalm 135:7**, *“He causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings for the rain.”*

**Ecc 1:7**, *“All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea [is] not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.”*

