



## Lesson #2: Is this God's Word?

We hold in our possession a most valuable communication. This book contains the inspired writings of \_\_\_\_\_ different authors. It has been passed down for \_\_\_\_\_ different generations. The first volume was written almost \_\_\_\_\_ years ago. This book is the most widely translated, frequently published, intensely persecuted book in the history of the world. In John 10:35 Jesus makes an almost off-handed statement about this book. He makes it as if almost everyone knows it to be true – “The Scriptures cannot be \_\_\_\_\_.”

Obviously, the Bible seems to have the impression about itself that it is indeed God's Word. It claims to be the Word of God.

1. **It is “\_\_\_\_\_”** (2 Timothy 3:16)  
The Greek word *theopneustos* literally means “God breathed.” That is that God breathed out the words that are in the Bible.
2. **The \_\_\_\_\_ didn't think it up** (2 Peter 1:20)  
That is to say that these human authors didn't just make it all up.
3. **The Spirit of God pushed them along as they wrote** (2 Peter 1:21)  
The authors were under the direction, or \_\_\_\_\_, of God Himself as they wrote.
4. **The authors \_\_\_\_\_ they weren't making it up** (1 Thessalonians 4:15)  
The authors were aware (or self-conscious) of the fact that they were writing the very words of God.
5. **They knew \_\_\_\_\_ weren't making it up**  
In 1 Timothy 5:17-28 Paul quotes from both Deuteronomy 25:4 and the Gospel of \_\_\_\_\_ (10:7).

## THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM – THIS IS AN \_\_\_\_\_ CLAIM.

This book claims to be, unlike any other in the world, the Word of God. Isn't it reasonable that such an extraordinary claim would be greeted with a polite request for evidence? God knows that His Book makes a big claim, and He invites us to \_\_\_\_\_ His claims closely.

## THE MILLION-DOLLAR QUESTION – “Is there evidence that the Bible is God's Word?”

### THE MILLION-DOLLAR ANSWER ...

1. **Literary \_\_\_\_\_** - This Bible is a complex book, but it tells one story, and it tells it coherently, and without \_\_\_\_\_.
2. **Transmission** – The Bible's purity and perseverance throughout the centuries is nothing short of miraculous.

Ancient Writings	Extant Manuscripts
Homer's <i>Iliad</i>	643
Sophocles (Combined Writings)	100-193
Aristotle (Combined Writings)	49
Plato (428-425 BC)	7
NT Greek MSS	
NT Latin MSS	

3. **Fulfilled \_\_\_\_\_** - The fact is that the Bible makes predictions that are verifiable. An example of that would be Jeremiah's 70 years (25:11-12; 29:10)
  - 606: First Deportation
  - 597: Second Deportation
  - 586: Third Deportation & Destruction of Temple
  - 539: Fall of Babylon
  - 536: First Return
  - 520: Haggai's exhortation to rebuild the temple
  - 516: Second Temple dedicated
 From 606 which is the first deportation to 536 which is the first return is exactly \_\_\_\_\_ years! From 586 which is the destruction of the temple to 516 which is the reconstruction and rededication of the temple is exactly \_\_\_\_\_ years! That means Jeremiah was right \_\_\_\_\_ with the same prophecy!

### CONCLUSIONS WE MUST MAKE

1. The Bible \_\_\_\_\_ to be the Word of God.
2. There is solid evidence to back up that \_\_\_\_\_.

You can trust the Bible! It will rebuke you, it will challenge you, it will convict you, but it will never let you down and it will never disappoint you!