

Defend the Faith

Week One

1 Peter 3:14-16 (ESV)

*“14 Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, 15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a **defense** to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, 16 having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.”*

People notice hope in you by how you live your life. *‘A saint is someone whose life makes it easier to believe in God.’*

TODAY’S QUESTION:

“Can the Bible be trusted & is it relevant to today?”

WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

The Bible is a collection of 66 books or documents broken into two sections (The Old Testament & the New Testament). These 66 books were written over a span of 1,600 years in three different continents.

WHO WROTE THE BIBLE?

“1,600 years, 60 generations, 40 authors different walks of life, different places, different times, different moods, different continents, three languages, writing on hundreds of controversial subjects and yet when they are brought together, there is absolute harmony from beginning to end. There is no other book in history to even compare to the uniqueness of this continuity found in the Bible.” (Josh McDowell)

IS IT ACCURATE & CREDIBLE?

What we are finding is that the more we advance in the timeline of history the more we are actually confirming that what we have in our modern Bible is accurate compared to the early manuscripts.

John 5:2 (ESV)

*“2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called **Bethesda**, which has five roofed colonnades.”*

In the book of Acts in the new testament, Luke the author names 32 countries, 54 cities, & 9 islands & all have been located by archaeologist & confirmed Luke was 100% accurate without error in his explanations of where these geographical locations were.

RECOMMENDED RESOURCE:

“Cold-Case Christianity” by J. Warner Wallace

IS IT TRULY THE WORD OF THE ONE TRUE GOD & WHY WOULD HE WRITE A BOOK?

Ephesians 2:1-10 (ESV)

“1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”