

# WHAT'S THE WORD?

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Truth In An Uncertain World

# What's the Word?

- Our society faces major challenges
- Followers of Jesus are called to be “salt and light” in society, sharing the gospel message
- The culture is talking about many complex topics
- What does the Bible say about these topics?

# Next Week's Topic

## The Value of Life

# The Bible

The Bible is widely considered the best-selling book of all time, with estimated sales and distribution figures of over 5 billion copies, far surpassing any other publication, religious or secular, according to Wikipedia and Guinness World Records. Its massive, long-term sales, spanning centuries, solidify its status as the most printed and distributed book in history.

Bible sales saw substantial jumps in 2024 and continued to rise in 2025, with some reports noting increases of over 20% compared to previous years, according to Circana BookScan data mentioned by Rome Reports and The Christian Science Monitor.

A significant portion of this boom comes from Gen Z and college students looking for comfort and wisdom in uncertain times. Endorsements from public figures and viral social media trends also contribute to increased interest.

# The Bible

The goal for parents is to help their children be comfortable with the Bible—to see it as a source of truth amid a confusing world, a source of comfort and joy.

“Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. **These words**, which I am commanding you today, **shall be on your heart**. You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

# External Evidence that the Bible is God's Word

**The historicity of the Bible...** Because the Bible details historical events, its accuracy is subject to verification like any other historical document. Through archaeological evidence and extrabiblical writings, the historical accounts of the Bible proved time and again to be accurate and true. In fact, all the archaeological and manuscript evidence supporting the Bible makes it the best-documented book from the ancient world. That the Bible accurately records historically verifiable events helps substantiate its claim to be the very Word of God and supports trust concerning other matters the Bible addresses.

**The integrity of its human authors...** In studying the lives of the authors of Scripture, we find them to be honest and sincere. The fact that they were willing to die often excruciating deaths for what they believed testifies that these men truly believed God had spoken to them. The men who wrote the New Testament and many hundreds of other believers (1 Corinthians 15:6) knew the truth of their message because they had spent time with Jesus after He had risen from the dead. Seeing the risen Christ had a tremendous impact on them. They went from hiding in fear to being willing to die for the message God had revealed to them. Their lives and deaths testify to the fact that the Bible truly is God's Word.

**The indestructibility of the Bible...** The Bible has suffered more vicious attacks and attempts to destroy it than any other book in history. From early Roman Emperors like Diocletian, through communist dictators and on to modern-day atheists, the Bible has withstood a constant onslaught from detractors. Yet it endures and is still today the most widely published book in the world.

Throughout history, skeptics have regarded the Bible as mythological, but archaeology has confirmed it as historical. Opponents have attacked its teaching as primitive and outdated, but its moral and legal concepts have had a positive influence on societies throughout the world. It continues to be attacked by pseudo-science, psychology, and political movements, yet it remains just as true and relevant today as it was when it was first written. This should not surprise us. After all, Jesus said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away" (Mark 13:31).

# What does the Bible say about the Bible?

- All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
- Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You. Psalm 119:11
- For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12
- My son, give attention to my words; incline your ear to my sayings. Do not let them depart from your sight; keep them in the midst of your heart. For they are life to those who find them and health to all their body. Proverbs 4:20-22
- Every word of God is tested; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him. Do not add to His words or He will reprove you, and you will be proved a liar. Proverbs 30:5-6
- The law [Torah] of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple. Psalm 19:7

The Old Testament (Tanakh) consists of 39 books written over a thousand-year period of time.

Moses' books were written around 1400 BC while the youngest books of the Bible were written around 450 BC.

It is widely accepted that Job is the oldest book of the Bible, however Job is notoriously difficult to date.

### **The Five Main Divisions of the Old Testament (39 Books)**

- **The Law (Torah, Pentateuch)** – 5 books of Moses (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy)
- **History** – 12 books (Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther)
- **Poetry (Wisdom)** – 5 books (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs)
- **Major Prophets** – 5 books (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel)
- **Minor Prophets** – 12 books (Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi)

The New Testament (Brit Chadashah) consists of 27 books in total and was written by many different authors.

## **The Five Major Divisions of the New Testament (27 Books)**

- **The Gospels** – 4 books (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John)
- **Apostolic History** – 1 book (Acts)
- **Epistles of Paul** – 13 books (Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon)
- **General Epistles (non-Pauline)** – 8 books (Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude)
- **Apocalypse** – 1 book (Revelation)

# Books of the Bible



It is accurate to say that God wrote the Bible. According to 2 Timothy 3:16, Scripture is “breathed out” by God. Throughout the Bible, it is obvious that God is being quoted: over 400 times in the Bible, we find the words “thus says the Lord.” The Bible refers to itself as the Word of God dozens of times (Psalm 119; Proverbs 30:5; Isaiah 40:8; 55:11; Jeremiah 23:29; John 17:17; Romans 10:17; Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12). The Bible is said to proceed from the mouth of God (Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4).

However, saying that God wrote the Bible does not mean He took pen in hand, grabbed some parchment, and physically wrote the text of Scripture. His “writing” of Scripture was not a physical action on His part. Rather, God’s authorship was accomplished through the process of inspiration, as human writers wrote God’s message.

- <https://www.gotquestions.org/who-wrote-the-Bible.html>

It is also accurate to say that inspired men of God wrote the Bible. The doctrine of the inspiration of Scripture essentially teaches that God “superintended” the human authors of the Bible so that their individual styles were preserved but the end result was precisely what God wanted. When Matthew, for example, sat down to write an account of Jesus’ ministry, he relied on his memory (he was an eyewitness to the events he recorded) with help from the Holy Spirit (John 14:26), keeping his intended readership in mind (Matthew wrote for a Jewish audience). The result was the Gospel of Matthew—a narrative full of Matthew’s vocabulary, Matthew’s grammar, Matthew’s syntax, and Matthew’s style. Yet it was God’s Word. The Spirit had so guided Matthew’s writing that everything God wanted to say was said, and nothing was included that God did not intend to say.

Peter described the process of inspiration this way: “Prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit” (2 Peter 1:21). The prophet Jeremiah spoke of inspiration almost as a compulsion to write God’s message: “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” (Jeremiah 20:9). There was no escaping it; God wanted to communicate, and so Jeremiah *had* to write.

- <https://www.gotquestions.org/who-wrote-the-Bible.html>

# Famous “Bible Verses” that are not in the Bible

- God helps those who help themselves
- Cleanliness is next to Godliness
- God works in mysterious ways
- To thine own self be true
- Follow your heart
- Let Go and Let God
- The road to hell is paved with good intentions
- All good things come to those who wait
- This too shall pass
- Everything happens for a reason
- God never gives us more than we can handle
- Neither a borrower nor a lender be
- If God closes a door, He'll open a window

# The Bible Changes People

Acts 8:25-40

So, when they [Peter, John, Philip] had solemnly testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they started back to Jerusalem, and were preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans. Acts 8:25

\*Philip, during the persecution of the church in Jerusalem had gone to the city of Samaria, and was engaged in revival meetings that were accompanied with signs and wonders. - Jim Cole-Rous

But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying,  
“Get up and go south to the road that descends  
from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a desert road.)

Acts 8:26

\*What if you were serving God faithfully and telling the story of Jesus in a powerful way in a certain place and God then told you it was time to move on?

\*Would we be obedient enough and courageous enough to make the change?

So he [Philip] got up and went; and there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians [whose kingdom stretched north along the River Nile into what is now northern Sudan], who was in charge of all her treasure; and he had come to Jerusalem to worship, Acts 8:27

\*Candace – not a personal name, but the title of the queens of the Kingdom of Kush in what is now the Sudan

\* Eunuch - the Hebrew word *saris* refers to a man in some sort of service to a ruler, castration isn't always the case. He was probably a Gentile proselyte to Judaism.

\*Amantitere ruled as Queen of Kush approx. 25-41 AD.

and he [the Ethiopian man] was returning and sitting in his chariot, and was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go up and join this chariot.” Acts 8:28-29

- One man was spiritually curious and seeking
  - The Ethiopian governmental official
- One man knew God and was called to share God
  - Philip, one of the original 7 deacons
- Are we ready to start Bible conversations?

Philip ran up and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet [in Hebrew], and said, “Do you understand what you are reading?” Acts 8:30

- The rules and regulations of the Temple Worship had perplexed him, but he procured a copy of the holy writings upon which so much of the religion was based. It was a copy of the book of the Prophet Isaiah, a book that would have taken a scribe a year to write. There were many detailed rules that were required of a scribe, to ensure that the book was perfectly copied from a master copy. It must have cost the eunuch an enormous sum of money. Having invested a small fortune in this book, he commenced to read it as he traveled homewards. - Jim Cole-Rous

And he said, “Well, how could I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. Acts 8:31

- Philip, of a lower cultural rank, needed permission to join him.
- The Ethiopian man had spent time in Jerusalem among the leading scholars and yet did not have answers to his spiritual questions.
- People seeking spiritual truth need someone to explain how to find salvation by faith in Jesus.
- Many people are open to authentic Bible conversations.

Now the passage of Scripture which he was reading was this: “He was led as a sheep to slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so He does not open His mouth. In humiliation His judgment was taken away; who will relate His generation? For His life is removed from the earth.” [Isaiah 53:7-8] The eunuch answered Philip and said, “Please tell me, of whom does the prophet [Isaiah] say this? Of himself or of someone else?” Acts 8:32-34

# Did You Know?

Jesus often spoke of Himself in connection with Isaiah 53

- This was to fulfill what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet: “He Himself took our infirmities and carried away our diseases.” Matthew 8:17 (referencing Isaiah 53:4)
- This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet which he spoke: “Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” John 12:38 (referencing Isaiah 53:1)
- Jesus said, “For I tell you that this which is written must be fulfilled in Me, ‘And He was numbered with transgressors’; for that which refers to Me has its fulfillment.” Luke 22:37 (referencing Isaiah 53:12)

Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture [Isaiah 53] he preached Jesus to him. Acts 8:35

- Did you know that Messiah Jesus appears in the writings of the Old Testament prophets like Isaiah?
- Are you prepared to explain the true meaning of salvation to those who are curious?
- Are you preaching Jesus or something else? Or nothing?

As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?” And Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” Acts 8:36-37

\*The Ethiopian man wanted to know if Messiah Jesus would accept him, a non-Jew, into His faith family.

\*What does the Bible teach about Jesus and salvation?

And he [the Ethiopian man] ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; and the eunuch no longer saw him, but went on his way rejoicing.

Acts 8:38-39

- The Greek word for “snatch” is *harpadzo*, which means to grasp and remove something violently, what a purse-snatcher does. It is also used in 2 Corinthians 12:2,4 and in 1 Thessalonians 4:17, translated as “caught up” in both places.
- The event described in both passages is commonly referred to as the “Rapture.” True to the differences in dispensation, Philip was “raptured” to an earthly destination in keeping with God’s promises to Israel of a kingdom on earth, while we will be “raptured” to our eternal home in heaven.

The Bible is God's Word,  
explaining the gift of salvation  
to people who place faith in  
Messiah Jesus

# The Bible Changes Nations

2 Kings 22-23

2 Chronicles 34-35

Josiah was eight years old when he became king [of Judah], and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem (640-609 BC); and his mother's name was Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath. **He did right in the sight of the Lord** and walked in all the way of his father David, nor did he turn aside to the right or to the left. 2 Kings 22:1-2

- During his reign world power passed from Assyrian to Babylonian leadership. Nineveh, the capital of Assyria, was destroyed in 612 BC, and the Assyrian Empire fell in 609 BC. (BKC)
- Josiah was the fourth and final reformer among Judah's kings, following Asa, Jehoshaphat, and Hezekiah. But Josiah's reforms were more extensive than those of any of his predecessors. (BKC)

For in the eighth year of his reign while he was still a youth, he [Josiah] began to seek the God of his father David; and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the Asherim, the carved images and the molten images. They tore down the altars of the Baals in his presence, and the incense altars that were high above them he chopped down; also the Asherim, the carved images and the molten images he broke in pieces and ground to powder and scattered it on the graves of those who had sacrificed to them. Then he burned the bones of the priests on their altars and purged Judah and Jerusalem. In the cities of Manasseh, Ephraim, Simeon, even as far as Naphtali, in their surrounding ruins, he also tore down the altars and beat the Asherim and the carved images into powder, and chopped down all the incense altars throughout the land of Israel. Then he returned to Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 34:3-7

WHAT'S THE  
WORD?

Now in the eighteenth year of King Josiah (age 26), the king sent Shaphan, the son of Azaliah the son of Meshullam the scribe, to the house of the Lord saying, “Go up to Hilkiah the high priest that he may count the money brought in to the house of the Lord which the doorkeepers have gathered from the people. Let them deliver it into the hand of the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the Lord, and let them give it to the workmen who are in the house of the Lord to repair the damages of the house, to the carpenters and the builders and the masons and for buying timber and hewn stone to repair the house. Only no accounting shall be made with them for the money delivered into their hands, for they deal faithfully.” 2 Kings 22:3-7

# What happened to the Jewish Temple?

- He [King Manasseh, Josiah's grandfather] built altars in the house of the Lord, of which the Lord had said, "In Jerusalem I will put My name." For he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord. He made his son pass through the fire, practiced witchcraft and used divination, and dealt with mediums and spiritists. **He did much evil in the sight of the Lord provoking Him to anger.** Then he set the carved image of Asherah that he had made, in the house of which the Lord said to David and to his son Solomon, "In this house and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen from all the tribes of Israel, I will put My name forever. 2 Kings 21:4-7
- Amon [Josiah's father] was twenty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Meshullemeth the daughter of Haruz of Jotbah. **He did evil in the sight of the Lord, as Manasseh his father had done.** For he walked in all the way that his father had walked, and served the idols that his father had served and worshiped them. 2 Kings 21:19-21

Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he [King Josiah] had purged the land and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah an official of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the house of the Lord his God. They came to Hilkiah the high priest and delivered the money that was brought into the house of God, which the Levites, the doorkeepers, had collected from Manasseh and Ephraim, and from all the remnant of Israel, and from all Judah and Benjamin and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Then they gave it into the hands of the workmen who had the oversight of the house of the Lord, and the workmen who were working in the house of the Lord used it to restore and repair the house. They in turn gave it to the carpenters and to the builders to buy quarried stone and timber for couplings and to make beams for the houses which the kings of Judah had let go to ruin. The men did the work faithfully with foremen over them to supervise: Jahath and Obadiah, the Levites of the sons of Merari, Zechariah and Meshullam of the sons of the Kohathites, and the Levites, all who were skillful with musical instruments. They were also over the burden bearers, and supervised all the workmen from job to job; and some of the Levites were scribes and officials and gatekeepers. 2 Chronicles 34:8-13

Then Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, “I have found the book of the law [probably the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible] in the house of the Lord.”

And Hilkiah gave the book to Shaphan who read it. Shaphan the scribe came to the king and brought back word to the king and said, “Your servants have emptied out the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the Lord.” Moreover, Shaphan the scribe told the king saying, “Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.” And Shaphan read it in the presence of the king. 2 Kings 22:8-10

# When the king [Josiah] heard the words of the book of the law [Torah], he tore his clothes. 2 Kings 22:11

- So Jacob tore his clothes, and put sackcloth on his loins and mourned for his son many days. Genesis 37:34
- Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the Lord until the evening, both he and the elders of Israel; and they put dust on their heads. Joshua 7:6
- Then David took hold of his clothes and tore them, and so also did all the men who were with him. They mourned and wept and fasted until evening for Saul and his son Jonathan and for the people of the Lord and the house of Israel, because they had fallen by the sword. 2 Samuel 1:11-12
- When Mordecai learned all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the midst of the city and wailed loudly and bitterly. Esther 4:1
- Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head, and he fell to the ground and worshiped. Job 1:20
- Tearing one's clothes was a public and powerful expression of grief in ancient times. The practice is continued today in the Jewish practice of *keriah*. Today's ritual is less spontaneous and more regulated: the garment is cut by a rabbi at a funeral service, as the bereaved recite words relating to God's sovereignty. One tradition says that the mourner must tear the clothing over the heart—a sign of a broken heart.

(<http://www.gotquestions.org/tear-clothes-Bible.html>)

Then the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam the son of Shaphan, Achbor the son of Micaiah, Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah the king's servant saying, “Go, inquire of the Lord for me and the people and all Judah concerning the words of this book that has been found, for great is the wrath of the Lord that burns against us, because our fathers have not listened to the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us.” 2 Kings 22:12-13

- Do we see the holiness of God as we read His Word?
- Will we recognize our sin and confess before the Lord?

So Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam, Achbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe (now she lived in Jerusalem in the Second Quarter); and they spoke to her. She said to them, “Thus says the Lord God of Israel, ‘Tell the man who sent you to me, thus says the Lord, “Behold, I bring evil on this place and on its inhabitants, even all the words of the book which the king of Judah has read. Because they have forsaken Me and have burned incense to other gods that they might provoke Me to anger with all the work of their hands, therefore My wrath burns against this place, and it shall not be quenched.”’ But to the king of Judah who sent you to inquire of the Lord thus shall you say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord God of Israel, “Regarding the words which you have heard, because your heart was tender and you humbled yourself before the Lord when you heard what I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants that they should become a desolation and a curse, and you have torn your clothes and wept before Me, I truly have heard you,” declares the Lord. “Therefore, behold, I will gather you to your fathers, and you will be gathered to your grave in peace, and your eyes will not see all the evil which I will bring on this place.”’” So they brought back word to the king. 2 Kings 22:14-20

\*Josiah's death in 609 BC was four years before Nebuchadnezzar's first attack on Jerusalem in 605.

Then the king sent, and they gathered to him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem. The king went up to the house of the Lord and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests and the prophets and all the people, both small and great; and he read in their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the Lord. **The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord, and to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His statutes with all his heart and all his soul, to carry out the words of this covenant that were written in this book.** And all the people entered into the covenant. 2 Kings 23:1-3

Then the king commanded Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second order and the doorkeepers, to bring out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels that were made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the host of heaven; and he burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron, and carried their ashes to Bethel. He did away with the idolatrous priests whom the kings of Judah had appointed to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah and in the surrounding area of Jerusalem, also those who burned incense to Baal, to the sun and to the moon and to the constellations and to all the host of heaven. He brought out the Asherah from the house of the Lord outside Jerusalem to the brook Kidron, and burned it at the brook Kidron, and ground it to dust, and threw its dust on the graves of the common people. He also broke down the houses of the male cult prostitutes which were in the house of the Lord, where the women were weaving hangings for the Asherah. 2 Kings 23:4-7

Then he brought all the priests from the cities of Judah, and defiled the high places where the priests had burned incense, from Geba to Beersheba; and he broke down the high places of the gates which were at the entrance of the gate of Joshua the governor of the city, which were on one's left at the city gate. Nevertheless the priests of the high places did not go up to the altar of the Lord in Jerusalem, but they ate unleavened bread among their brothers. He also defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter pass through the fire for Molech. 2 Kings 23:8-10

He did away with the horses which the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at the entrance of the house of the Lord, by the chamber of Nathan-melech the official, which was in the precincts; and he burned the chariots of the sun with fire. The altars which were on the roof, the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the Lord, the king broke down; and he smashed them there and threw their dust into the brook Kidron. The high places which were before Jerusalem, which were on the right of the mount of destruction which Solomon the king of Israel had built for Ashtoreth the abomination of the Sidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, and for Milcom the abomination of the sons of Ammon, the king defiled. He broke in pieces the sacred pillars and cut down the Asherim and filled their places with human bones.

Furthermore, the altar that was at Bethel and the high place which Jeroboam the son of Nebat, who made Israel sin, had made, even that altar and the high place he broke down. Then he demolished its stones, ground them to dust, and burned the Asherah. Now when Josiah turned, he saw the graves that were there on the mountain, and he sent and took the bones from the graves and burned them on the altar and defiled it according to the word of the Lord which the man of God proclaimed, who proclaimed these things. Then he said, “What is this monument that I see?” And the men of the city told him, “It is the grave of the man of God who came from Judah and proclaimed these things which you have done against the altar of Bethel.” He said, “Let him alone; let no one disturb his bones.” So they left his bones undisturbed with the bones of the prophet who came from Samaria. Josiah also removed all the houses of the high places which were in the cities of Samaria, which the kings of Israel had made provoking the Lord; and he did to them just as he had done in Bethel. All the priests of the high places who were there he slaughtered on the altars and burned human bones on them; then he returned to Jerusalem. 2 Kings 23:15-20

Then the king commanded all the people saying,  
**“Celebrate the Passover to the Lord your God as it is written in this book of the covenant.”** Surely such a Passover had not been celebrated from the days of the judges who judged Israel [about 400 years earlier], nor in all the days of the kings of Israel and of the kings of Judah. But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah, this Passover was observed to the Lord in Jerusalem. 2 Kings 23:21-23

Moreover, Josiah removed the mediums and the spiritists and the teraphim and the idols and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might confirm the words of the law which were written in the book [of Torah] that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the Lord.

Before him there was no king like him who turned to the Lord with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; nor did any like him arise after him. 2 Kings 23:24-25

The Bible is God's Word,  
teaching rulers and kings how  
to lead their nations in  
humility and righteousness

The Bible is powerful and  
true and life-changing...

- for individuals
- for nations

# The Bible's Most Famous Verse?

Jesus said, “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

\*Our turn... what will we do with the Bible?