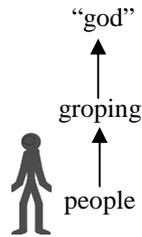


## Reasonable Evidence that the Bible is True – the Word of the God

### 1. Major contrast between the religions of the world and Christianity.

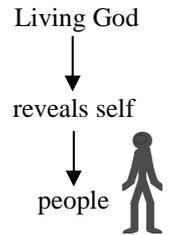
**World religions** basically say that mankind is **groping** after “god”.

1. People make up their idea of god.
2. People try to buy/earn god’s favor



**Christianity** states that God has **revealed** himself in three ways:

1. in what God created – the universe shows a Creator
2. in the Bible, prophets in the Hebrew Scriptures, apostles in New Testament
3. in Jesus Christ, but can only be known from the Bible.



### 2. There are TWO kinds of evidence that the Bible is true, the Word of God.

#### a. EXTERNAL EVIDENCE – things outside the Bible that point to its accuracy

1. **The church** has acknowledged the Bible to be the Word of God.  
Yet, the Bible’s trustworthiness does not depend on what the church says, because there is often a part of the church that says that the Bible is not totally accurate. Acceptance is based on prophet/apostle authorship.
2. The Bible has been subject to **God’s special care**, so that it has been preserved as no other writing.  
Many writers over a period of 1,500 years have a consistent message.  
Seeming contradictions will be explained when fuller knowledge of history and word meanings are known.
3. **Archaeology** supports the historical content of the Bible, which lends support to the spiritual content.  
e.g. The Dead Sea Scrolls confirm the accuracy of much of the Hebrew Scriptures, the Old Testament.
4. **Other writings** outside the Bible around New Testament times lend support.  
Josh McDowell, author of Evidence (And More Evidence) that Demands a Verdict, makes a valid presentation.

#### b. INTERNAL EVIDENCE – things that the Bible says about itself.

Note: Some say that to read what the Bible says about itself would be to argue in a circle. Every document identifies itself.

1. The **Old Testament claims** to be the very Word of God.  
Ex: Moses wrote: “**God spoke** all these words.” Exodus 20:1  
David wrote: “The **Spirit of the Lord spoke by me** and his word was in my tongue.” II Samuel 23:2
2. The **New Testament writers readily accepted** the Old Testament as the Word of God.  
Ex: John 10:35 John quoted Jesus as saying, “The Scripture (O.T.) cannot be broken.”  
Acts 4:24,25 Peter said: God spoke by the mouth of his servant David.
3. **Jesus Christ promised to give the Holy Spirit** to enable the apostles to write the Bible.  
Ex: John 14:26,27 “The Holy Spirit will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have said to you.”
4. The **Apostles later received the fulfilment of this promise**.  
Ex: 2 Peter 1:16 “We did not follow cleverly invented stories...but were eyewitnesses of his (Jesus’) majesty.”  
1 Corinthians 14:37 Paul wrote: “let him acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord’s command.”  
1 Thessalonians 2:13 Paul wrote: “when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God...”
5. The **Apostles treated each others’ writings as the Word of God**, putting them on the level as the Old Testament.  
Ex: 2 Peter 3:16 Peter wrote that people sometimes have a hard time understanding Paul’s writings, just as they often misunderstand the Old Testament Scriptures. Peter equated Paul’s writing with O.T. Scripture.
6. The Bible contains **information** that could have come **only from God**...  
Exs: (a) Creation of the heavens and earth, (b) Purpose of the universe, (c) Promised new heavens and earth.
7. The **Bible contains many predictions** concerning events which have been fulfilled.  
Ex: Isaiah 7:14 That the Messiah, Jesus Christ, would be born of a virgin.  
Isaiah 53 That the Messiah, Jesus Christ, would suffer and die for the sins of people.  
Psalm 16:10 That the Messiah, Jesus Christ, would rise from the dead.
8. The **Bible teaches a plan of salvation and a system of ethics**, which human wisdom could not devise.  
God’s revealed plan is that he took to himself a human body, went to the cross to take the punishment for our sin and offered the free gift of salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.  
Human wisdom teaches that people can earn God’s favour and way to heaven.  
Ephesians 2:8,9 “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works so that no one can boast.”

**Conclusion:** *The Bible is truly the Word of God. As we read it, the Spirit of God may be pleased to cause us to understand it and apply it to our lives, for salvation, Christian living and claiming the promise of eternal life.* 1 John 5:11-13.