

THE CONTENDER

Contending For The Faith Once For All Delivered To The Saints (Jude 3)
Church of Christ: 4th Ave. South Shore, Ky. P.O. Box 649, June 24, 1973
Editor & evangelist: Richard E. Swan, Phone: 932-3244 Volume II No. 25



THE BIBLE AND SCIENTIFIC FOREKNOWLEDGE

The Bible is not a textbook on material science, yet it is scientifically accurate. Modern science has never disproved any statement in the Bible but has proved and demonstrated the truthfulness of hundreds of things which the Bible anticipated. For example:

- (1) The earth being round. (Isa. 40:22, Prov. 8:27)
- (2) Formation of static electricity. The ancients thought that a thunderstorm consisted of Jupiter hurling a handful of thunderbolts at the earth and its peoples. Yet they may have informed themselves by reading Jer. 10:13, "He (God) maketh lightnings with rain." Ben Franklin, Edison, and others have discovered that static electricity may be formed by condensing water, yet Jeremiah knew of this thousands of years before. How?
- (3) "Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow?" (Job 38:22) Job at the time did not know that there were any treasures in the snow but Dr. Frank Shutt of the Canadian Dept. of Agriculture has recently shown that the action of snow centrifuging through the air collectts nitrated free ammonia, and albuminoid ammoina. These are all valuable fertilizers and an average winter's snow is worth about \$20.00 per acre to the farmer.
- (4) The number of stars. In 150 B.C. Hipparchus said there were less than 3,000. In 150 A.D. Ptolemy said there were not more than 3,000. After the middle ages and the invention of the telescope, men discovered that the stars are innumerable. Yet all the time Gen. 13:16, 15:5, Jer. 33:22 and other verses of the Bible declare that the stars of the sky are like the sands of the seashore..."innumerable".
- (5) The empty place in the North. Astronomers, by turning their telescopes to the South, East, and West may behold countless millions of stars invisible to the naked eye, but when telescopes are set exactly to the North there is a great empty place. For this they have been unable to account. They need to read Job 26:7, "He stretches out the North over the empty place".
- (6) The ancient Greeks and Romans believed that the Earth was held in place on the shoulders of Atlas. Some said the Earth floated on water and should one go to far out on the sea he would surely perish. When men sailed around the Earth they discovered that it touches nothing--that nothing visible holds it in place. Then it was that the statement, "...He hangeth the Earth upon nothing." (Job 26:7) was understood.
- (7) Before Matthew Maury lived there were no sailing lanes and no charts of the sea. One day after a study of Ps. 8, he said, "If the Word of God says there are paths in the sea, they must be there. I will find them." Within a few years he had charted the principle lanes or paths of the sea and these are followed by oceangoing vessels to this day."
- (8) How was Moses able to say in Gen. 1:10 there were seas? God also said "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together unto one place and it was so". It is literally true that the oceans are connected and thus have one bed. In the dxys of Mosses men believed that there was one small ocean and hardly knew of the seas much less that they have but one bed."
- (9) "And the leper in whom the plague is, his clothes shall be rent and his head bare, and he shall put a covering upon his upper lip and shall cry unclean, unclean." (Lev. 13:45) This putting a covering upon his upper lip is the wearing of a mask. Surely Moses didn't know anything about the germ theory now did he?
- (10) The caul or diaphragm was not to be eaten accoring to Lev. 7:4 and there

is a very obvious medical reason for this. The most frequent and the earliest sign of the trichinella spiralis which is the disease of a trichinosis, is found in the diaphragm. Even if an animal was infested very slightly with trichinelli it might not be in the flesh but it would be in the diaphragm.

--The Contender--

THE SCRIPTURES--INSPIRED OF GOD!

Hardly a day passes but someone scoffs at the idea of the Scriptures being of God and divinely inspired. The Bible is just another Book penned by man seems to be the prevailing cry to the young. Let's consider a few of the many reasons for believing in the divine inspiration of the Scriptures. Note Below:

ORDER OF SERVICE
*
* Lord's Day: 10:00 a.m. Worship *
* 7:30 p.m. Worship *
* Tuesday: 7:30 p.m. Bible Study *

MORALITY: The Bible presents the highest standard of morality that the world has ever known. "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets" (Matt. 7:12) "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves." (Phil. 2:3) The moral standards given by Christ are so superior to those of other religions that it is impossible to account for these principles except on the basis that they are Divinely inspired. Look around.

UNITY: The Bible was written by about 40 different men in three languages over a period of some 1500 years. Yet its remarkable unity of thought emphasized by the absence of contradictions, points to the divine inspiration of its penmen. One common theme runs through the Book, the redemption of man through the Messiah in accordance with God's eternal purpose. Mere man would not think of such a thing and his efforts would be impossible apart from Divine inspiration.

IMPARTIALITY: The Bible tells us the best of the worst men, and the worst of the best. In this it stands in striking contrast to the literary efforts of fallible human authors. Even the sins of King David, "a man after God's own heart" are in no way glossed over by the inspired writers. Would an uninspired man do this?

PRESERVATION: No book has been subjected to more attacks than the Bible. Roman emperors and Roman popes have done their worst, yet the Word of God lives on. Thomas Paine launched an attack in his book, "The Age Of Reason" but still the Bible reigns and his book does not. Voltaire predicted the Bible would be a forgotten Book in a museum, but today he is forgotten and his house is occupied by a Bible society.

PROPHECY: In the Old Testament there are well over 200 prophecies of Jesus Christ alone. Even today we see the fulfillment of Gen. 10 before our eyes and many, many, many others too numerous to mention here grace the pages of the Bible proving beyond a shadow of a doubt its divine inspiration.

MAN'S DESTINY: This Book tells us where we came from, where we are going and how to get there. It asks and answers the greatest question that man could ask...What must I do to be saved? It portrays man as lost because of his sin, destined for hell for breaking God's laws. It shows man's helplessness in giving anything that is perfect to a perfect God to atone for sin. It pictures God's love and pity in realizing this and sending His only Son to provide the only acceptable sacrifice. It describes in detail what sinful man must do if he is ever to avail himself of this sacrifice: He must--Believe in the one true and living God, (Heb. 11:6) Believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (Jn. 3:16), Repent of his sins (Lk. 13:3, Acts 17:30), Confess with his mouth what he believes in his heart (Rom. 10:9,10, Acts 8:37) and be baptized (Mk. 16:16, Acts 2:38, I Cor. 12:13)