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T H E C O N T E N D E R

Contending For The Faith Once For All Delivered To The Saints (Jude 3)
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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, Luke 17)
- (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 might 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 did not know there were any treasures of the snow. But Dr. Frank Shutt of the Canadian Dept. of Agriculture has shown that the action of snow centrifuging through the air collects nitrated free ammonia and albuminoid ammonia. These are all valuable fertilizers and an average winter's snow is worth about \$20.00 per acre to farmers.
- (4) The number of stars. In 150 B.C. Hipparchus said there were less than 3,000. In A.D. 150 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 etc. 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, West may behold countless millions of stars invisible to the naked eye but when the telescopes are set exactly to the North there is a great empty place. For this they have been unable to account. "He stretchth out the North over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing." (Job 26:7)
- (6) The ancient Greeks and Romans believed that the earth was held in place on the shoulders of Atlas. Some said that the earth sloated on water and should one go too far out on the sea he would surely perish. When men sailed around the Earth they discovered that it indeed 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 today.
- (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 days of Moses 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. How was Moses to know anything of germs?

(10) The caul or diaphragm was not to be eaten according 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 would still be in the diaphragm.

THE SCRIPTURES--INSPIRED OF GOD!

Hardly a day passes but someone scoffs at the idea of the Scriptures being inspired of God. The Bible is 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 divine inspiration of the Bible.

MORALITY: The Bible presents the highest standard of morality 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) The moral standards given by Christ are so superior to those of other religious institutions that it is impossible to account for these principles except that they come from God.

UNITY: The Bible was written by about 40 different men in 3 languages over 1500 years. Yet its remarkable unity of thought emphasized by absence of contradictions points to the divine inspiration of its penmen. One common theme runs through the Book, the redemption of sinful man through a Messiah according to God's eternal purpose. Such would be impossible apart from divine inspiration.

IMPARTIALITY: The Bible tells us of 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 David, "a man after God's own heart" are in no way glossed over by inspired writers. Truth is placed first!

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 Payne launched an attack in his book "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 O.T. there are well over 200 prophecies of Christ alone. Even today we see the fulfillment of Gen. 10 before our eyes and many others too numerous to mention here grace the pages of the Book proving its divine inspiration.

MAN'S DESTINY: This Book tells us where we came from, where we are going and how we are going to get there. It asks and answers the greatest of all questions that man could ask..What must I do to be saved? Jesus commanded: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mk.16:16)

"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh in you that believe." (I Thess. 2:13)

NEWS & NOTES: This month we have been blessed with many members here confessing wrongs and setting themselves to do better in the future. May God bless them and strengthen them in His service!

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