



## *Why I believe the Bible to Be the Word of God*

### **Faith's Foundation Series**

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### *Lesson 2*

2 Timothy 3:14-16, "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup> and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

**To reiterate from the first lesson in this series:**

**If you have placed your faith in Christ Jesus as Savior, you have access to the greatest tool and friend ever placed in man's hands and heart!**

**What are they?**

- (1) The Bible—The Word of God.**
- (2) The Holy Spirit providing you access to God's nuggets of truth.**
- (3) The ability given by the Holy Spirit to understand the Holy Scriptures.**

**Scriptures are Foundational to Faith.**

- *They are "inspired by God"... meaning "God breathed."*
- *They are "informative"... meaning, they give us the basic instructions to life.*
- *They are "instrumental"... meaning they provide the way of salvation.*

**"The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. "**

**The #1 of the 16 Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God is:**

**The Scriptures Are Inspired of God**

*Important Belief or Testimonial Truth:*

- *The Bible is an invaluable collection of "sacred, credible, factual and infallible" ancient texts, written, assembled (fitted and joined together) over several hundreds of years by numerous authors.*

- **These texts were written to particular people living at a definite time and place who shared common experience and knowledge.**

**However, the Bible is also written that men might:**

- ✓ “..believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing (they) may have life in His name” (John 20:31),
- ✓ Come to know the Savior in a personal way...and be willing to share the “good news” and “...go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I (Jesus) have commanded you...” (Matthew 28:19-20a),
- ✓ Continue to “study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that does not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy, 2:15) after the initial salvation experience.

**It is relevant for the proper understanding of the Word of God, however, to believe that “all Scripture is given by inspiration of God (God breathed), and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, ‘thoroughly’ furnished unto all good works” (2 Timothy 3:16-17).**

**The Bible, therefore, is inspired, approved, and “determined” by God.**

*Man has “discovered” these truths and placed it in written form (the canon) to provide man with the means to know the truth and in which to live according to God’s principles.*

***In a real sense, Christ is the key to the inspiration and canonization of the Scriptures.*** *It was He who confirmed the inspiration of the Hebrew canon of the Old Testament; and it was He who promised that the Holy Spirit would direct the apostles into all truth.*

***Knowing that the canon, the Bible, the inspired Word of God, has been established, it is applicable to understand that there are many books and writings that were written over the years that were considered inspirational and historical, but not inspired (God breathed) by the Holy and Righteous God.***

***What are some inspirational books that you felt was approved by God, but not worthy of being called “God Inspired.?”***

***The Ability Given by the Holy Spirit to Understand the Scriptures.***

### *Spiritual Illumination*

***“The divine nature of God provides spiritual illumination to the born-again (John 3:3) believer – beginning at the point of his conversion from being under***

*self-rule, to humbling one's self of yielding to the drawing power of the Holy Spirit of the living God. The fall of Adam tainted the entire human race; thereby, all off-spring have inherited his sin nature. God's holy Word reveals sin as being anything we think, say, or do that breaks God's laws.<sup>1</sup>*

*Regeneration brings the illumination of divine revelation of the inspiration of Sacred Scripture to the new nature of man so that he may see the lost state found in the degradation of man and flee from it into the arms of a waiting Father who longs for him to become all He intended from the beginning.*

*The light of the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit shines upon the world around the new man revealing the truth of Jesus Christ: the crucified Savior of the world: resurrected, manifested, ascended, and seated on the throne beside His Father in heaven (Revelation 3:21). The work of the Creator points back to a timeless Supreme Being and is revealed as the Author of His Word.*

*The Person of the Holy Spirit, while being equal to the Father and the Son, is subject to the Father and the Son. His work within a Christian will always complement the administrative work of the Father and the Son. The Bible reveals that the Triune God is One in essence yet three identified persons all at work within the life of each individual whom He chooses and draws to Himself. Spirit-filled Christians are called to let their lights shine while being the salt of the earth and causing others to thirst for the truth of the Living Water (Genesis 1:3; Ephesians 5:8; Matthew 5:13; John 4:10).*

*Spiritual illumination by the Holy Spirit will enlighten the hearts of all who respond to the redemptive work of Jesus Christ and resolve to become a student of the Word of God.*

*Excerpt from a Published paper for Master's Degree, Tyndale Seminary, called "Spiritual Illumination."*

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*Make sure your foundational truths are based on the Bible...the true Word of God. It will keep you informed and ready for action as a main player in God's drama of life.*

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Part FAITH'S FOUNDATION SERIES**

### **Faith Founded on Historical Evidence**

**The Bible is a history book full of stories that actually happened.**

- *Due to the fact that God does not lie and He was the One determining what Scripture and stories of the Bible are to be placed in the greatest book ever written by man and approved by God, all the of the stories are true, without blemish, embellishment, or speculative in nature.*

- ***In context of the human experiences, we see God at work and God in action.***
- ***The historical accuracy of the Bible testifies to its inspiration by God Himself.***

**Critics have always tried to find proof that the historical facts written in the Word of God (The Bible) are unjustified and not valid.**

***History has proven them wrong.***

**Every time a critic, scholar, archeologist, etc. have spent countless days/years trying to prove the Bible's historical facts are not valid, these critics have come to one of the following conclusions:**

- There is no way to know if the details and the stories in the Bible are true because we don't have a living witness.
- There are some people who have found that there were flaws in the ones writing the stories, the books, the dates attributed to the acts by the Biblical characters...BUT, the flawed man does not mean the acts did not take place as the Bible states.
- There are those who can believe such outlandish stories in the Bible, but there are also those who cannot or ever will believe what the Bible states is true. (No sound proof either way!)
- The more history, stories and statements diligently studied about and traced back through other Scriptures and early manuscripts were more possible to believe than not believe.
- Faith is critical in believing the stories of the Bible. Thus, faith is critical in one's handling and acknowledging the Word of God.

***Would it not be the most tragic end for someone to have spent years trying to prove the Bible is not true, that there is no God, and that there is no afterlife...to not find an answer they were seeking for?***

*"...Faith comes by hearing and hearing comes by the Word of God." Romans 10:17*

***The Validity of the Bible can be proved...by...The Bible Itself and the Faith of the Believer~***

***"The Bible has proven to be more historically and archaeologically accurate than any other ancient book. It has been subjected to the minutest scientific textual analysis possible to humanity and has been proven to be authentic in every way." Institution for Christian Research***

***This Institution has spent thousands of man hours and millions of dollars in search of solid proof that the Bible is true or is a farce. They, without hesitation, state:***

### **1. Genesis is historically true**

The most controversial book of the Bible is Genesis, especially the first eleven chapters. Those chapters speak of the creation of the universe, the fall of man into sin, the world-wide flood of Noah, and the language-altering event at Babel. There is much evidence that these events are historically accurate.

### **2. Biblical Data is Historically Testable**

Historical evidence routinely includes ancient literature, business records, and government documents, analyzed in conjunction with linguistics, geography, and archaeological analysis of physical objects (pottery, coins, remains of buildings, etc.), using forensic science techniques. After many millions of man-hours of research and evidence analysis, archaeology has repeatedly confirmed the reliability of the Bible.

***The Bible has been proven geographically and re-proven historically accurate, in the most exacting detail, by external evidences.***

## **BE HONEST WITH YOURSELF**

**This church, this class, these teachers encourage every person to be honest with yourself.**

**With all the evidence that the Word of God has provided, what stops you from accepting the Gospel of Jesus Christ?**

**Is it because there is not enough evidence, or is it because you would have to live your life differently?**

**To me, it takes more trust to not believe the truth than it does to believe what faith has placed within our spirit man.**

***It should be noted that Christianity is a religion based upon relationship, not knowledge. It is a religion of faith not logic.***

***All the information provided by all the great scholars in this world can only give their thoughts of the validity of Scripture, but ultimately you must believe in the Bible by faith (a spiritual experience).***

***Because of who God is, we might always have questions.***

***In order to have eternal life, we need to believe the words of Jesus that we are sinners and are in need of a Lord and Savior.***



