

Well, kids and teachers are going back to school so I thought we might too.
What you learn is based on the source of your learning.

Talk about your Bible for a little while today.
This is what we preach and teach from.
This is what we present as truth.

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So why do we have confidence in this book?
Why do we trust this book above anything else?

Just want to point out some interesting things we have learned over the years.
If you know WHY you BELIEVE what you say you believe it helps!
There are reasons why we trust this book.

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First of all I want to show you the beginnings - Life Spans of the generations –
These are All recorded very meticulously in both the Old Testament and the New.
There is a reason for that.

Early GENERATIONS still living and overlapping. Telling stories.

Gen. 5:27 Methuselah was the oldest man to ever live, dying at 969 years old. His name means, *“When he is gone, it shall come.”* The Flood came upon the earth the year Methuselah died!

Written History we know from shortly after the flood with the rise of the Egyptian Empire.

Moses was well educated and wrote down the first five books. (Adam, Noah, Flood)
(Note that Shem was still alive through most of Abraham’s life.)

Those are the books of the Law that still must be kept today so they were memorized and passed orally and in writing. (Torah – Pentateuch)

Pretty seamless from Creation to the Flood, to Abraham and forward...

Won’t get deep into this today but what about Cave Men? Writing on walls?
Dinosaurs and all of that? “Pre-historic” stuff.

We know from Archaeology that Biblical man was pretty intelligent. Egypt had batteries as good as ours today. Google “Egypt and Batteries”

They have found metal that was welded together (using those batteries!).

So why would men this intelligent live in caves and write on walls?
Biblically - you have two pretty good possibilities.

One, the flood.

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Fossil records have lots of evidence of layers and layers of plant and animal life all mixed together and buried at one time like they had been in washing machine! All fossils are found in sedimentary rock which is laid down by water.

There are more than 200 accounts of cultures with stories in their histories of a great flood and a man called NO, NA, NOH! The Chinese character for a large ship or boat is a combination of the figure 8 and the symbol for persons and boat.

<Slide 4> (Ocean fossils in Andes the Himalayas – Annapurna’s 20,000+!)

So after the flood, the world would have to be rebuilt. And as the population grew and men moved about it would make a lot of sense that they lived in caves until towns or cities were built. DISLOCATED!! There are some tribes today that still live in caves. Result of sin, lack of education, fear, lots of reasons. So we didn’t have to start out stupid and get smarter. Biblical we started out pretty smart and lost a lot of that along the way. A guy that lived 900 years probably knew a few things!

Another reason you may have caves and writing is Gen 10, 11. One culture Until 10. (After the flood 6 to 9). Now you have language problems and this great dispersion of people all over the earth. So again, this would be a time when whole cultures were moving and learning to communicate. So there is some pretty solid BIBLICAL evidence for what might seem far fetched or even ‘pre-historic.’

And dinosaurs?

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Job 40:15 “Behold now, Behemoth, which I made as well as you; He eats grass like an ox. :16 “Behold now, his strength in his loins And his power in the muscles of his belly. :17 “He bends his tail like a cedar; The sinews of his thighs are knit together. :18 “His bones are tubes of bronze; His limbs are like bars of iron. :19 “He is the first of the works of God; Yet his maker can bring near his sword.

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Job 41:1 “Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook? Or press down his tongue with a cord? :2 “Can you put a rope in his nose Or pierce his jaw with a hook? Job 41:7 “Can you fill his skin with harpoons, Or his head with fishing spears? Job 41:8 “Lay your hand on him; Remember the battle; you will not do it again! Job 41:13 “Who can strip off his outer armor? Who can come within his double mail?

Job 41:14 "Who can open the doors of his face? Around his teeth there is terror.
Job 41:15 "His strong scales are *his* pride, Shut up *as with* a tight seal.
Job 41:16 "One is so near to another that no air can come between them.
Job 41:17 "They are joined one to another; They clasp each other and cannot be separated. :18 "His sneezes flash forth light, And his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning. :19 "Out of his mouth go burning torches; Sparks of fire leap forth. :20 "Out of his nostrils smoke goes forth *As from* a boiling pot and *burning* rushes. :21 "His breath kindles coals, And a flame goes forth from his mouth. :25 "When he raises himself up, the mighty fear; Because of the crashing they are bewildered.

Job by the way may have been written BEFORE any of Moses writings. It does detail some of the earliest 'History' of earth. Talks a lot about the upheaval of the flood.

Lots of evidence that these creatures died IN or after the flood. **The world changed - shifted - ice caps, deserts, etc.** tough to feed these huge animals.

After those first five books it is all recorded history up until the New Testament.

25,000 sites/locations/places mentioned in the Bible have been found - identified!

NEW Testament - every author lived when Jesus did! Disciples all Paul!
So that is all 'eye witness accounts'. And throughout the course of their writings they **refer to quote or give authority to the books and authors that are in the Old Testament.** (Even Jonah and that whale tale!) (Satellite images can show you were a couple million people crossed the Red Sea because the ground is packed down!) So while it may seem like bits and pieces it is actually pretty comprehensive - proven by history - verifiable to a great degree.

Much of the New Testament was written with 100 years of Jesus death so some of those men were still living to sign off on it! Paul wrote within 30 years of the events and Acts says there were 500 witnesses so many of them would have been around to fact check his writings!

There are literally thousands of parchments, documents, scrolls, etc. that have been found containing parts of the New Testament dating from 550, 8th century, 6th century, 7th century, some are whole, some are part. The total count of Greek manuscripts of the New Testament is now around 5,000!

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There are about a 7 or 8 writings from the 1st to the 5th century that have copies today. For most, the first copy came 1000 years after the original. Only 2 can be verified for any accuracy at all. One is Homer's 'Illiad' which has about 650 copies.

The New Testament has over 5000 proof checks! Nothing else like that!

A Few things found in our Bibles other than history. How about some science? True science is based on reproducible or verifiable facts. NO scientific FACT has EVER disproven the Bible. ONLY Theories that cannot be reproduced. Some are still changing but can't get it right. **No true science disproves the Bible.** It actually only proves what the Bible already says!

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The Earth as a globe - round
Isaiah 40:22 says that God sits upon the circle of the earth.

God inspired Isaiah to reveal that our planet was a globe, knowledge that was in advance of what the men in that day knew. 2700 years ago. 500 years ago men believed it was flat! (I think Columbus believed that!)

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THE EARTH IS NOT SUPPORTED

1. **Job 26:7** “. . . *He suspends the earth over nothing.*”
2. The belief that the earth is not supported on anything was not discovered until the 15th century and not accepted in the scientific community until the 17th century!

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Fingerprints:

JOB 37:7 “*He (God) sealeth up the hand of every man; that all men may know his work.*” KJV

In 1905 in Scotland Yard in England, Detective Stockley Collins explained that he had studied millions of fingerprints for over 10 years and never found any to be exactly alike. Now there are over 200 million fingerprints on file with the FBI and no two are alike.

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WATER VAPOR CYCLE

Job 36:27, 28 LB “*He draws up the water vapor and then distills it to rain, which the skies pour down.*”

Ecclesiastes 1:7 LB “. . . *The rivers run into the sea but the sea is never full, and the water returns again to the rivers, and flows again to the sea.*”

Nearly 4000 years ago, scripture spoke of the water vapor cycle (evaporation, condensation, precipitation, transpiration) even though men of science never fully understood this process until the 19th century.

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LIGHTNING

1. **Job 38:25** NIV *“Who cuts a channel for the torrents of rain, and a path for the thunderstorm (lightning)?”* **Job 28:26** *“when he made a decree for the rain and a path for the thunderstorm....”*
2. In 1930, high speed cameras were used to photograph lightning. When they slowed down the film, it was noted that before the lightning occurred with the following thunderclap, there was a leader. The leader is a weak initial probing of an electrical energy force to the earth. As the leader nears the earth, it draws a charge or streamer from the earth towards itself. When the leader and the streamer meet there is a path prepared for the lightning to come down and immediately the lightning makes a visible flash!