

## The Reliability of Scripture

### Introduction

It is impossible in a single brief core seminar to satisfactorily answer the legitimate and important questions participants might have.

### I.) Where Did the Bible Come From?

#### The Bible Came From God, By The Holy Spirit, Through Men, To Humankind.

The 66 books of the Bible are known as the \_\_\_\_\_, meaning \_\_\_\_\_.

### Criteria for Canonicity

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Origin
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Acceptance
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Use
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Message

### II.) How Do Christians View The Use of Scripture In Christian Apologetics?

#### Christians' Ultimate Authority Is the Word of God

Christians accept God's revelation of himself in \_\_\_\_\_.

As God's word, the Bible is the ultimate standard of \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Non-Christians Do Not Recognize the Authority of the Word of God

## But Christians Should Use Scripture as *Part* of Their Christian Apologetics

1. Using Scripture challenges the postmodern idea that \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Scripture is always \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Scripture contains in many places its own arguments for the \_\_\_\_\_ of its claims.

## III.) As Christian Apologists, How Do We Explain *Why* We Believe the Bible Is True?

### 1) The New Testament documents are Historically Reliable and Credible

#### *A. Unity of Message*

#### *B. Internal Consistency*

Framework:

- Scripture is always *true*, but not always \_\_\_\_\_.
- First and second causes do not exclude \_\_\_\_\_.
- Don't hold the Bible to what it doesn't \_\_\_\_\_.
- Different accounts do not imply \_\_\_\_\_.

#### *C. External Consistency*

## **2) Jesus' Character is Shown To Be Trustworthy**

Liar

Lunatic

Legend

Lord

## **3) Jesus Claims that the Old and New Testament Books were the Word of God**

### **Old Testament**

(John 10:34, Matthew 22, prophecy of Old Testament, Matthew 19, Romans 1)

### **New Testament**

(John 7:16, Matthew 24:35, Matt 7:29, Matt 10:19-20, John 14:26, John 16:12-13, Acts 1:8)

## IV. Rebuttals to Common “Charges” Against The Bible

1. *The Bible is Full of Myths.*

2. *The Bible Conflicts with Science.*

3. *The Bible is Full of Contradictions*

4. *The Bible is Historically Inaccurate*

### Resources:

- Lee Strobel, *The Case for Christ, The Case for Faith*
- R.C. Sproul, *Reason to Believe*
- J. I. Packer, *Fundamentalism and the Word of God*
- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*
- B. B. Warfield, *The Inspiration and Authority of the Bible,*
- John Wenham, *Christ and the Bible*
- Josh McDowell, *New Evidence That Demands a Verdict, A Ready Defense*
- Norm Geisler, *When Critics Ask*
- William Lane Craig, a number of books and articles
- F.F. Bruce, a number of books and articles
- J.P. Moreland, a number of books and articles
- Ravi Zacharias, a number of books and articles