

CAN WE
TRUST
THE
BIBLE?

Has The Bible Been Corrupted?

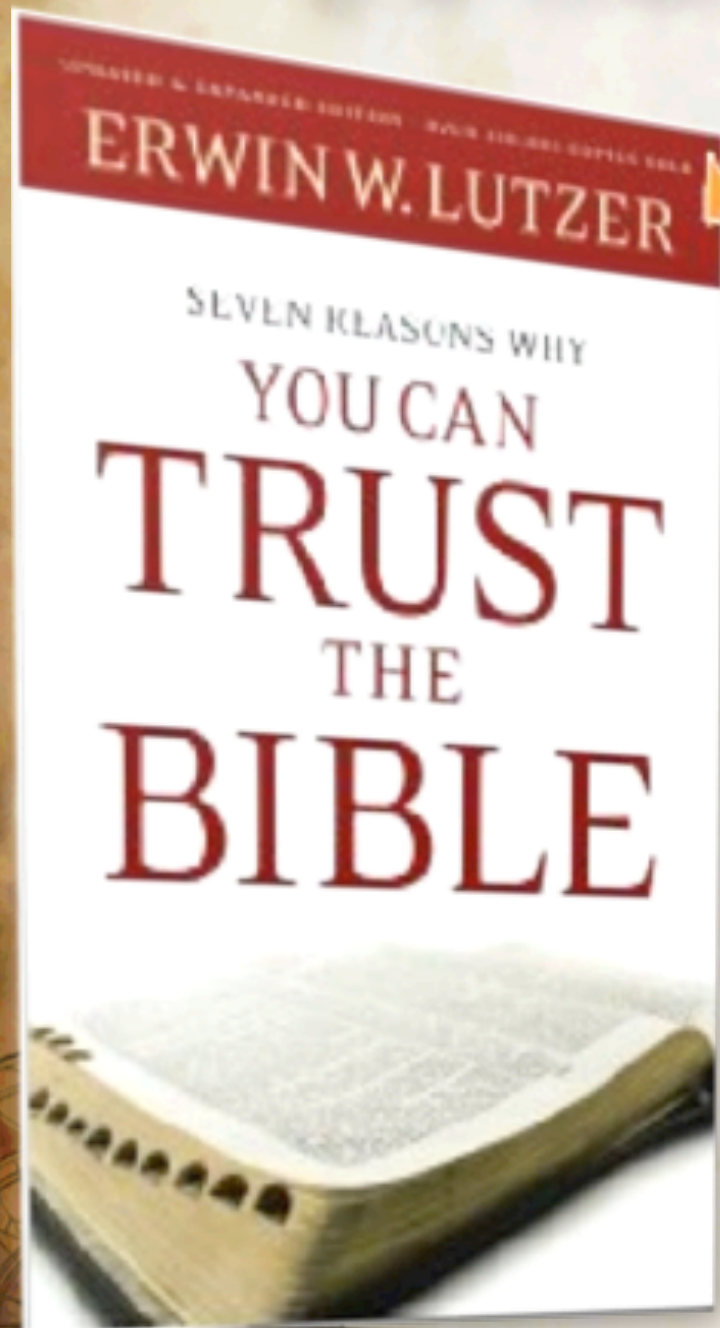
What About The Alleged Contradictions?



The Trustworthiness of The Scriptures

Can We Trust The Bible?

Is It True? Is It Accurate? Is It From God?



- ◆ God Is!
- ◆ God Has Provided Divine Confirmation!
- ◆ It Answers Every Human Need!
- ◆ It Is One Harmonious Thought!
- ◆ It claims to be the word of God!

The Trustworthiness of The Scriptures

From God To Us -

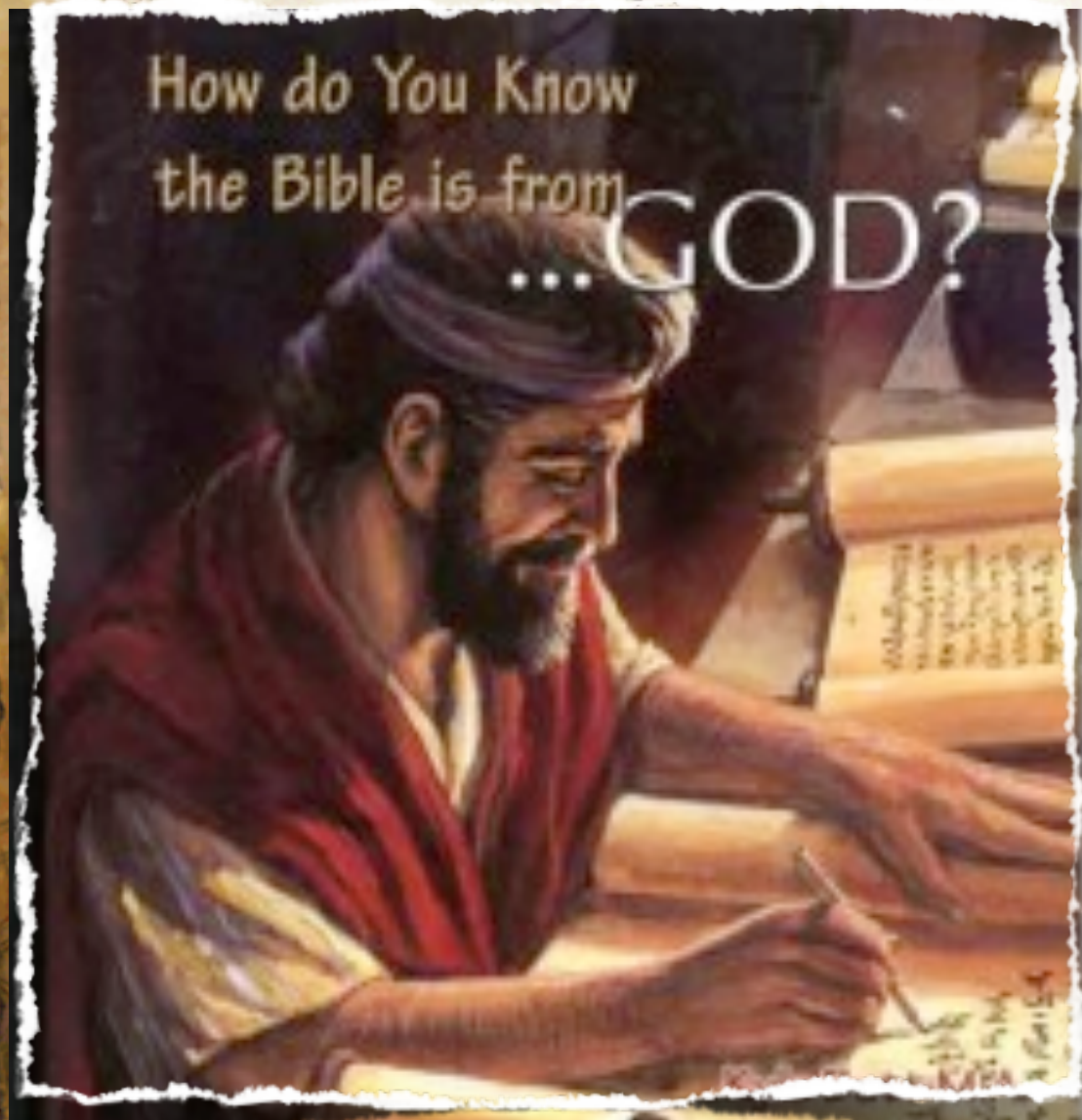
How Did We Get The Bible As It Is Today?

**Inspiration /
Revelation**

**Words of God Written
& Copied**

**Canonization -
Archaeological
Evidence**

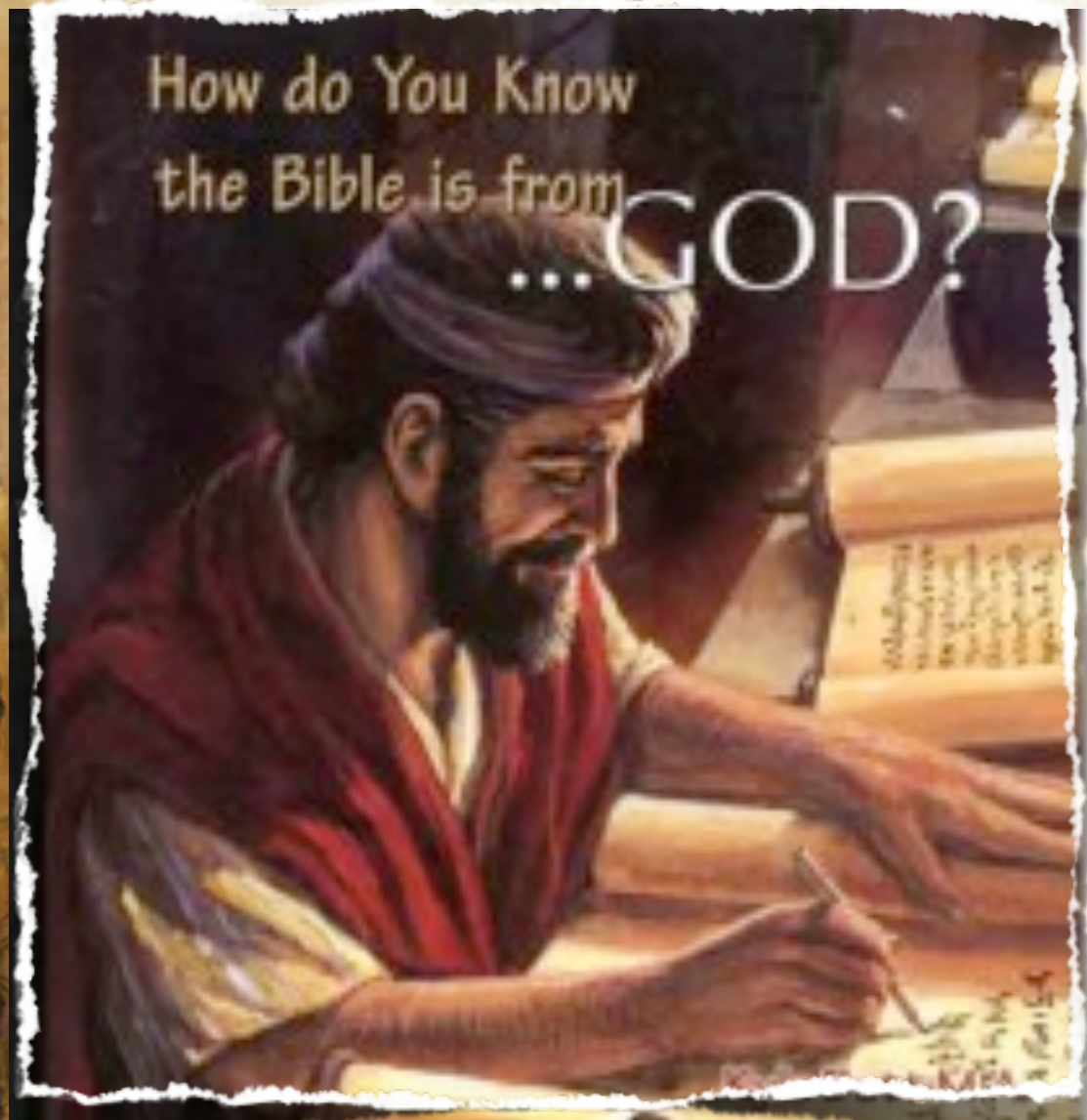
Internal evidence



The Trustworthiness of The Scriptures

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- ◆ How do we know that the Bible hasn't been changed over the years?
- ◆ Does the Bible contain errors & contradictions?

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A Host of Bible enemies actively seek to discredit the trustworthiness of the scriptures!

“What is incredible about the Bible is not its divine authorship; it's that such a concoction of contradictory nonsense could be believed by anyone to have been written by an omniscient god. To do so, one would first have to not read the book, which is the practice of most Christians; or, if one does read it, dump in the trash can one's rational intelligence -- to become a fool for god, in other words.”

<http://www.atheists.org/christianity/contradictions.html>

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What is a contradiction?

con·tra·dic·tion - Function: *noun*

1 : act or an instance of contradicting **a** : a proposition, statement, or phrase that asserts or implies both the truth and falsity of something **b** : a statement or phrase whose parts contradict each other <a round square is a *contradiction* in terms>

3 a : logical incongruity **b** : a situation in which inherent factors, actions, or propositions are inconsistent or contrary to one another



The Trustworthiness of The Scriptures

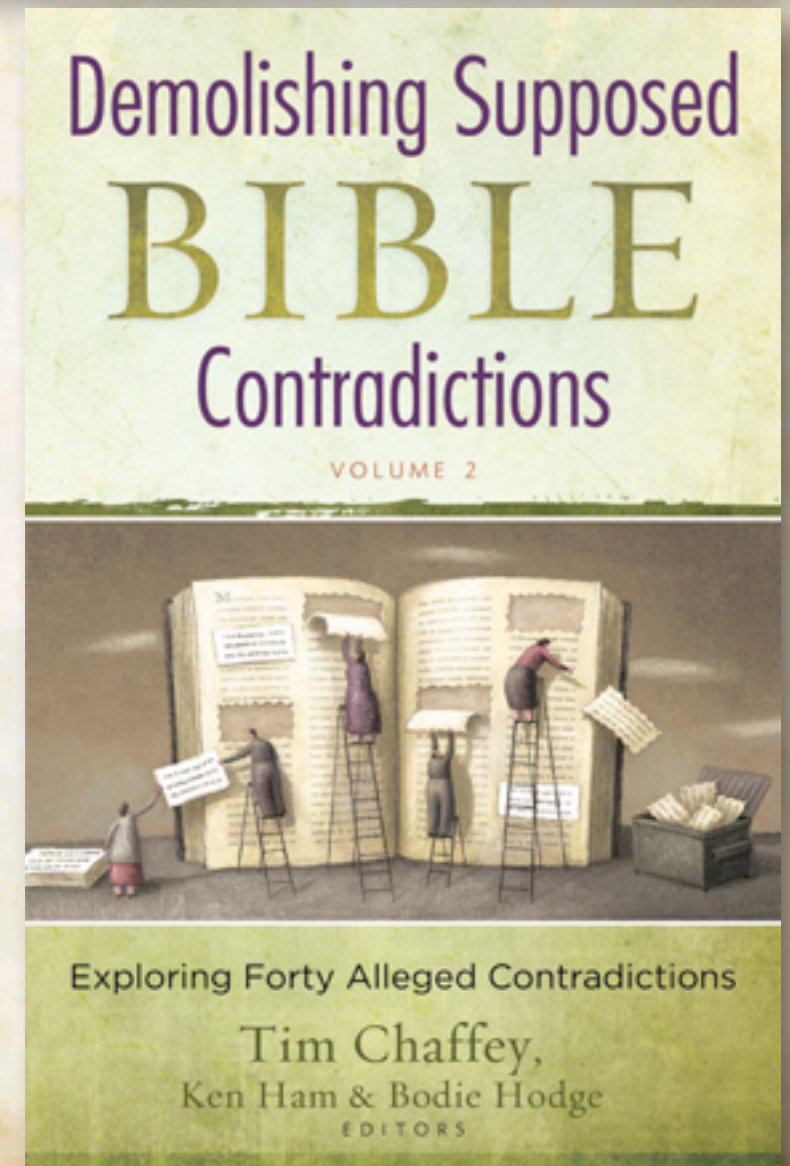
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Does it matter if the Bible contradicts itself?

If the Bible contradicts itself - then either:

- ✗ God is a being that contradicts Himself –
- ✗ Or - the Bible is NOT the inspired word of God –
2 Tim. 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:19-21



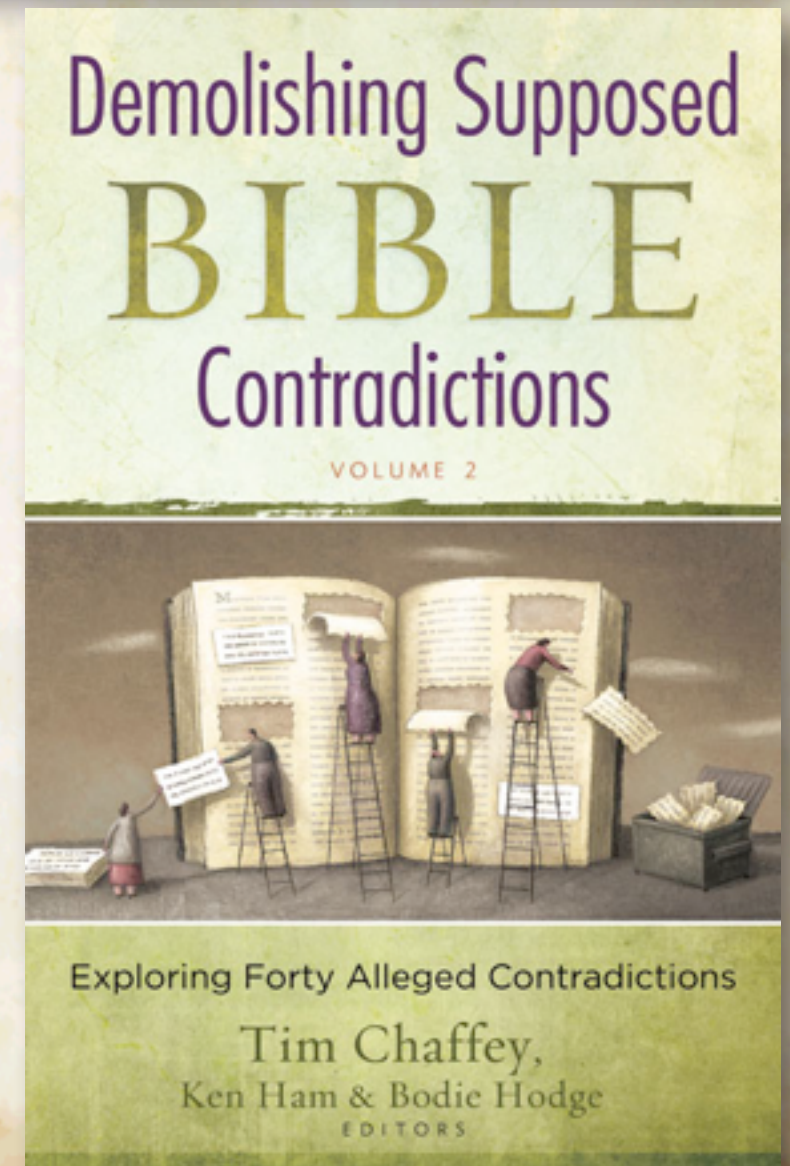
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Can We Trust The Bible?

Is It True? Is It Accurate? Is It From God?

Does it matter if the Bible contradicts itself?

If even ONE
POSSIBLE
explanation can be
given - the alleged
contradiction is
nullified!



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Different Types of Alleged Contradictions

- ◆ **Text verses Text –**
- ◆ **Text verses Science –**
- ◆ **Text Verses Logic –**
- ◆ **Text Verses Copyist Errors –**



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Some Alleged Contradictions

http://skepticsannotatedbible.com/contra/by_name.html

the **Skeptic's Annotated Bible**

- 
- 458. How many of Zattu's offspring returned from Babylon?
 - 459. Who was Zechariah's father?
 - 460. Did Zedekiah see the king of Babylon?
 - 461. Who was Zerubbabel's father?
 - 462. Where does God dwell?
 - 463. Did God call Abraham before or after he moved to Haran?

The Trustworthiness of The Scriptures

Can We Trust The Bible?

Some Alleged Contradictions

Text verses Text

Was Abraham justified by faith or works?

the Skeptic's Annotated Bible

***He was justified
by faith.***

Romans 4:2
For if Abraham
were justified by
works, he hath
whereof to glory.

He was justified by works.

James 2:21
Was not Abraham our father
justified by works, when he
had offered Isaac his son
upon the altar?

Can We Trust The Bible?

Text versus Text

Some Alleged Contradictions

How long was the ark of the covenant at Abinadab's house?

the **Skeptic's Annotated Bible**

20 years

1 Sam.7:1-2 says that the ark of the covenant was brought to Abinadab's house and that it stayed there for 20 years. This was before Saul was made king (1 Sam.10:24).

Over 40 years

But according to 2 Sam.6:2-3, David removed the ark from Abinadab's house. And Acts 13:21 says that Saul (David's predecessor) was king for 40 years. So the ark must have been at Abinadab's house for more than 40 years.

The Trustworthiness of The Scriptures

Can We Trust The Bible?

Some Alleged Contradictions

Text verses Text

Should you answer a fool according to his folly?

the Skeptic's Annotated Bible

Yes.

Proverbs 26:5

Answer a fool
according to his folly.

No.

Proverbs 26:4

Answer not a fool
according to his folly.

The Trustworthiness of The Scriptures

Can We Trust The Bible?

Some Alleged Contradictions

Text verses Text

How many sons did Abraham have?

the Skeptic's Annotated Bible

Abraham had only one son.

Hebrews 11:17 - By faith Abraham when he was tried, offered up Isaac, ... his only begotten son.

Genesis 22:2 - Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, ... and offer him there for a burnt offering.

Abraham had more than one son.

Genesis 16:15 - And Hagar bare Abraham a son: . . . Ishmael.

Genesis 21:2-3 -For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age ... Isaac.

The Trustworthiness of The Scriptures

Can We Trust The Bible?

Some Alleged Contradictions

Text verses Text

How Long Was Israel In Egypt?

the **Skeptic's** Annotated **Bible**

400 years

Genesis 15:13

And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them, and they shall afflict them four hundred years.

430 years

Exodus 12:40 Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.
Galatians 3:17 The law, which was four hundred and thirty years after.

Can We Trust The Bible?

Some Alleged Contradictions

Text verses Text

How Long Was Israel In Egypt?

- ♦ “430 years from the promise to the Law (Genesis 15; Gal. 3:16-17)
- ♦ The genealogical records of 1 Chro 6:1; 23:6-13, and Ex 6:16-20 allows a **maximum** of 352 (*unless generations are absent from the records*)
- ♦ The Israelites returned to Palestine during the “fourth generation”— (Gen 15:16; cf. Ex 6:16-20, Num 3:17-19, 26:57-59, 1 Chro 6:1-3; 23:6, 12-13) (Jacob-Levi-Kohath-Amram-Moses).
- ♦ Archaeological research suggests that the Israelites was in Egypt for 215 years. 1662 B.C. - 1447 B.C. —a span of 215 years (David Rohl, 1995, pp. 329-332).
- ♦ In *Antiquities of the Jews*, Josephus - the Israelites “left Egypt in the month of Xanthicus, on the fifteenth day of the lunar month; four hundred and thirty years after our forefather Abraham came into Canaan, but **two hundred and fifteen years only after Jacob removed into Egypt**” (ll. 15.2).

Can We Trust The Bible?

Some Alleged Contradictions

Text verses Text

How Long Was Israel In Egypt?

- 75 – Abraham's age when promise given (Gen 12:3-4)
- 25 – years later Isaac was born – (21:5)
- 60 – years later Jacob was born – (25:26)
- 130 – years later – Jacob went into Egypt – (47:9)
- 215 – years the people of Israel were in Egypt – (Gal. 3:17)

= 430 years -

Can We Trust The Bible?

Some Alleged Contradictions

Text verses Text

How Long Was Israel In Egypt?

- ♦ Four hundred years—"Which began," says Mr. Ainsworth, "when Ishmael, son of Hagar, mocked and persecuted Isaac, Genesis 21:9; Galatians 4:29; which fell out thirty years after the promise, Genesis 12:3; which promise was four hundred and thirty years before the law, Galatians 3:17; and four hundred and thirty years after that promise came Israel out of Egypt, Exodus 12:41." - **Adam Clarke** - A Commentary and Critical Notes.
- ♦ Exodus 12:40 and Galatians 3:17 state that the Egyptian bondage was 430 years (from 1876 to 1446). Apparently, then, Genesis 15:13 and Acts 7:6, with their references to 400 years, are using rounded figures (see comments on Acts 7:6 and comments on Gal. 3:17). - **The Bible Knowledge Commentary**: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty.
- ♦ The 400 years were, according to prophetic language, a round number for the 430 years that Israel spent in Egypt (Exo_12:40).- Kiel & Del.

The Trustworthiness of The Scriptures

Can We Trust The Bible?

Some Alleged Contradictions

How Long Was Israel In Egypt?

Text versus Science



- ◆ Creation accounts - Gen 1,2
- ◆ A bat is NOT a bird!! - Lev. 11:13-19; Deut. 14:11-18
- ◆ Rabbits do not chew the cud – Lev. 11:6

The Trustworthiness of The Scriptures

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Some Alleged Contradictions

How Long Was Israel In Egypt?

Text versus Science



The Bible is not a science book, yet it is scientifically accurate.

No accurate scientific evidence contradicts the Bible.

- ◆ Paleontology
- ◆ Astronomy
- ◆ Meteorology
- ◆ Biology
- ◆ Anthropology
- ◆ Hydrology
- ◆ Geology
- ◆ Physics

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Some Alleged Contradictions

How Long Was Israel In Egypt?

Text verses Logic



- ◆ Abraham is told to offer his son as a burnt offering – Gen 22:2 – Isn't this contradictory to the stated nature of God? (cf. Lev. 18:21; 20:2-5; Deut. 12:31; 18:10; James 1:13).
- ◆ Jephthah's offering his daughter as a human sacrifice – Judges 11:34-40.
- ◆ The sacrifice of Christ & resurrection - (1 Cor. 1:18-25; 3:19)

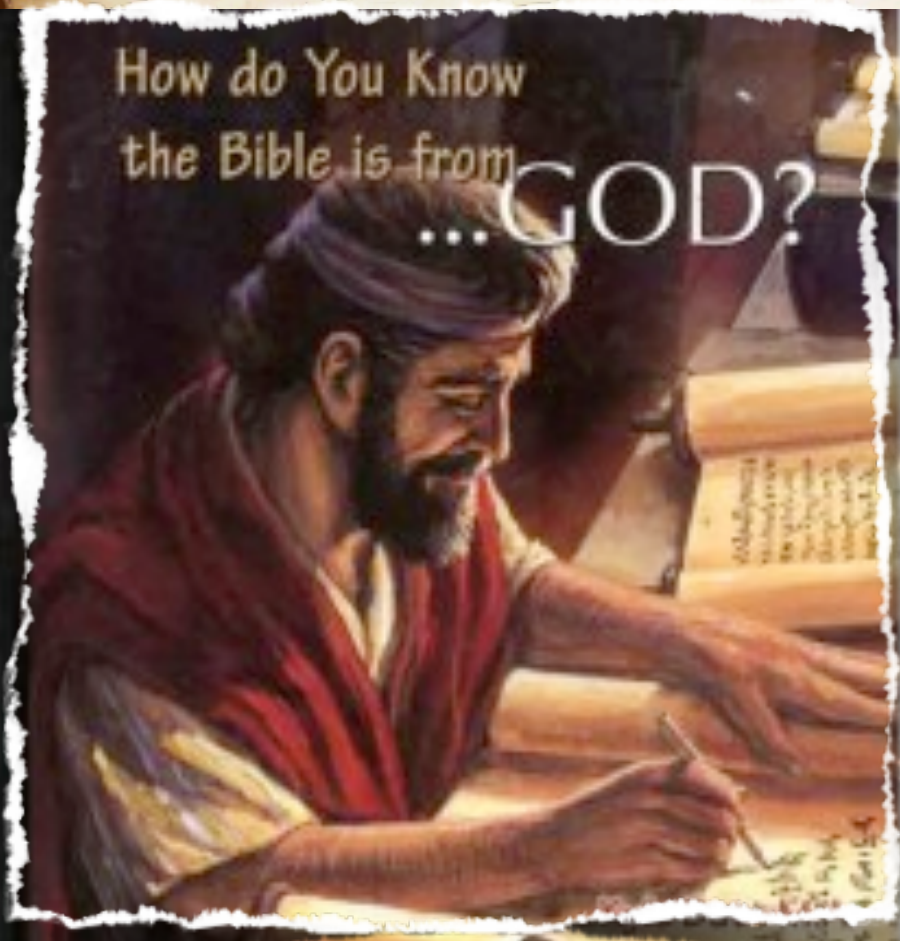
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Some Alleged Contradictions

How many men did the chief of David's captains kill?

Text verses Copyist Errors



- ◆ Was it 800 (2 Samuel 23:8) or 300 (1 Chronicles 11:11)? [#1 Skeptics Annotated Bible]
- ✳ 2 Sam. 23:8 - 800 - Following Masoretic Text and Targum; - 300 - Septuagint and Vulgate.
- ✳ The difference may be due to a scribal error in copying Chronicles for the Hebrew numerical symbols 300 and 800 look much alike. [BKC]

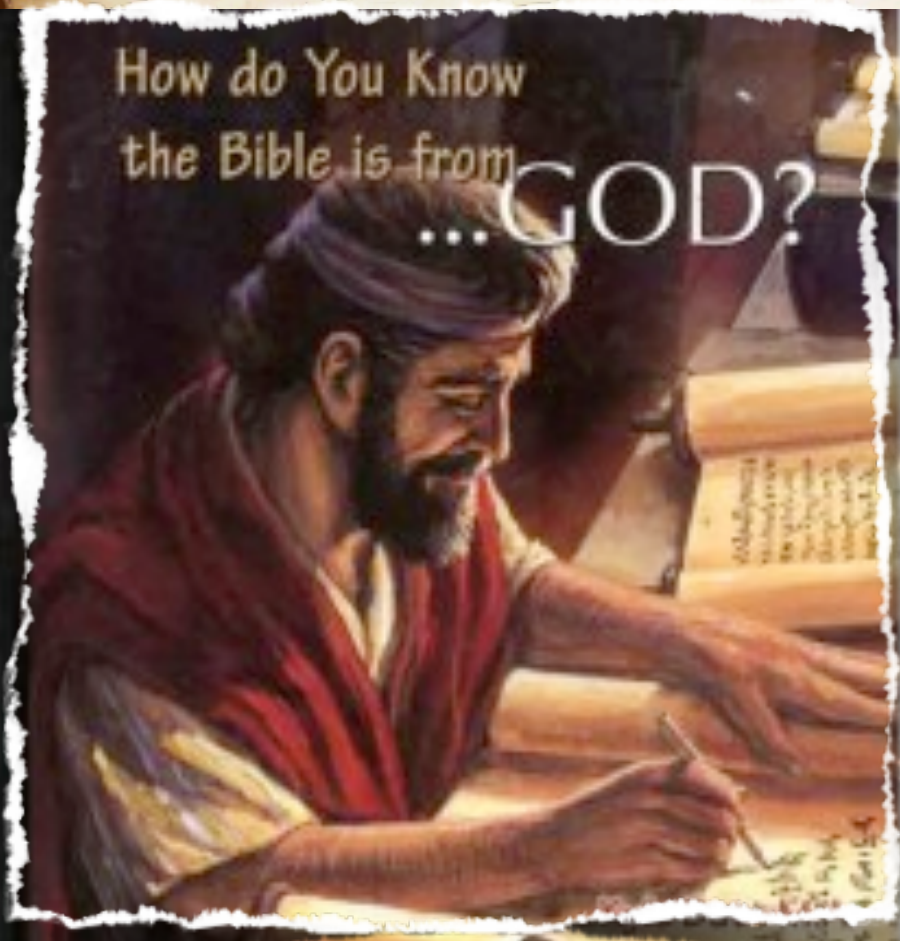
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Some Alleged Contradictions

Who prophesied about the potter's field?

Text verses Copyist Errors



- ◆ Matthew 27:9-10 mentions Jeremiah as the prophet, however, no such prophecy is found in Jeremiah. The prophecy is found in Zechariah 11:12-13.
- * Jeremiah was the first of the prophets in the "Book of the Prophets,"
- * A transcribers' error? "this might be done by the change of only a single letter." - (Jeremiah = Iriou - Zechariah = Zriou).

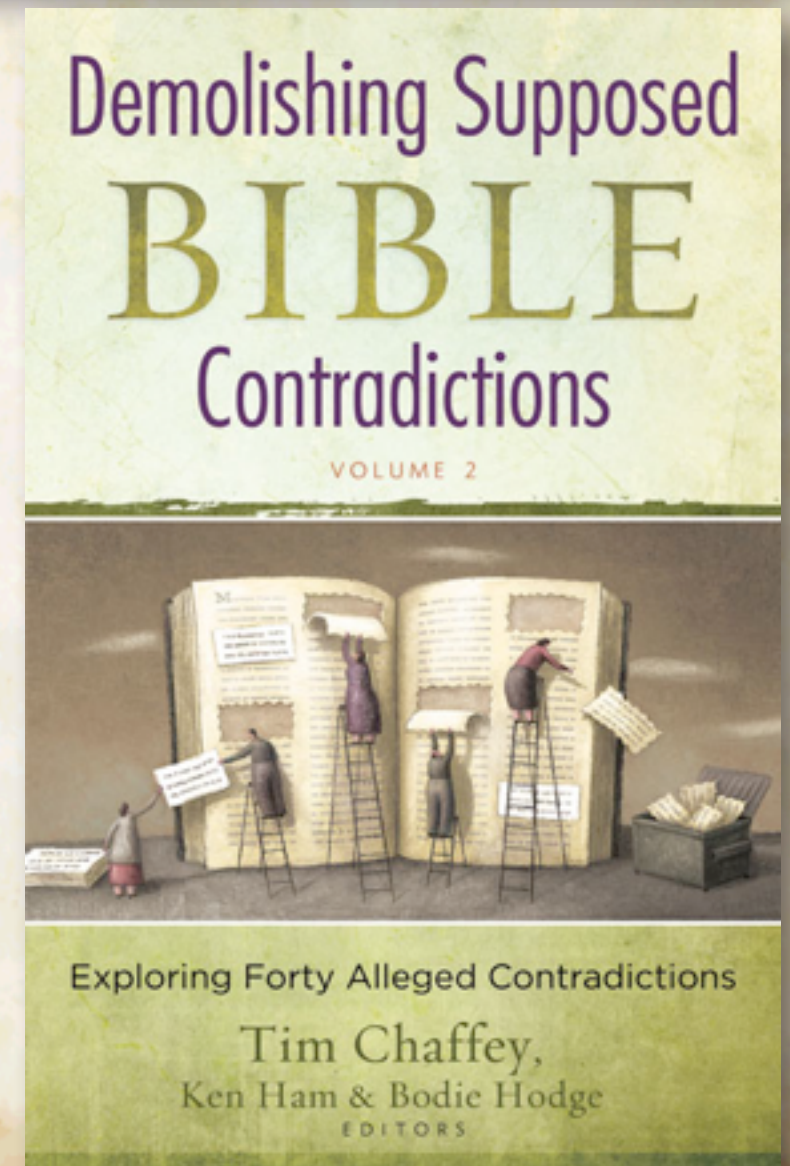
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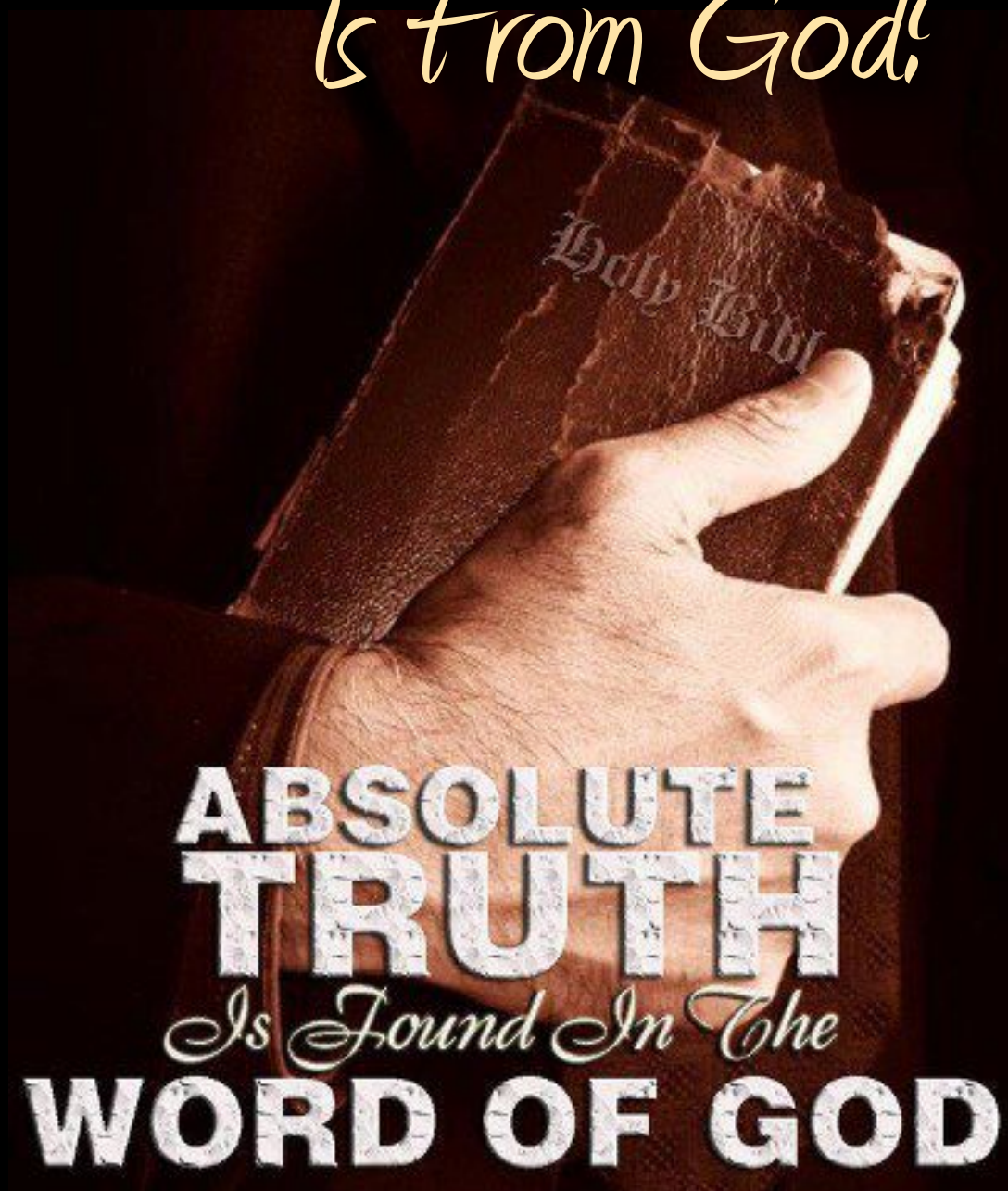
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**Hear It
Believe It
Obey It
Follow It
Be Blessed
Through It!**

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What About Alleged Contradictions?

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