

4. Even Pharaoh's wise men (Exodus 8:19) and Simon the Sorcerer (Acts 8:9-13), great magicians in their own right, attested to the fact that what Moses and the Apostles did was way beyond them and had to have been done by God.
5. The Sun was stopped or reversed, mighty rivers parted, men struck dead, and the dead restored to life (Matthew 27:50-53).

E. IT CONTAINS COURTROOM ACCEPTABLE EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNTS.

1 John 1:1-4 -- *What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we beheld and our hands handled, concerning the Word of Life... these things we write.*

2 Peter 1:16 -- *For we did not follow cleverly devised tales when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eye-witnesses of His majesty.*

Simon Greenleaf is known as the greatest authority in England or America (as per Chief Justice Fuller of the Supreme Court) and is the highest authority cited. He states that the four gospels could be received in evidence in any of our courts, "without the slightest hesitation."

F. IT AFFECTS PEOPLE AND NATIONS STILL

1. Its principles of psychology are more advanced than today's science. It gives direction in growth (1 Corinthians 2:16), it gives purpose (Ecclesiastes 12:13), it tells you how to change one's behavior (Ephesians 4:28) and thinking (Romans 12:1-2; Colossians 3:1-10), furnishes a support group in the church, and provides the ultimate motivation in judgment. In changing people and the lives around them, it works.
2. Its laws have been used in some of the greatest of nations. Its message still saves. It became the basis of the Byzantine Empire. Alfred the Great, in 900 A.D., used the Old Testament for the pattern for British Common Law. Thomas Jefferson used its principles for the construction of the Constitution of Virginia and the Constitution of our country.
3. It is the foundational material of the three greatest religions of the world (Judaism, Christianity & Islam).

INTRODUCTION

1. That any should even question the Bible as being the Word of God is amazing, considering that it was a widespread assumption at the beginning of this country. Of course, this was when people actually read it. Its laws are the basis of our government, its morals formed the foundation for western civilization, and its inspiration has made this nation the most blessed and powerful country in the history of the world. There is no other book written by man to compare to it.
2. The problem is, like Israel of the Old Testament, a whole new generation has grown up who have never looked into the Holy Scriptures and are influenced by a degenerated society who mocks anything that would expose its shame. People who know nothing about God feel confident that they can revile His wisdom. They feel no fear because they do not know what the Bible contains concerning evidence and warnings.
3. To the honest heart though, God, through the gospel, still reaches out, impresses and converts. The world is no different than it was in the time of the flood, or Babylon, or Rome, or the Dark ages. But the word of God still endures, influences, overcomes and conquers, while all the rest pass away into judgment.
4. So how do we know the Bible is God's Word? Consider...

A. GOD SAYS THE BIBLE IS HIS WORD

1. It may seem trite, or even insulting, to say, "Because the Bible says so!", yet a vast majority of people work off such a principle in other philosophical pursuits and daily assumptions. There are 33 million gods in India because people have visions, say they have seen a particular image, and it is accepted – no proof needed.
2. Mohammed claimed to be a prophet of Allah and the Koran his writings – no proof offered. Joseph Smith claimed the Book of Mormon to be inspired of God – with nothing to attest to it, just his say so. People believe everything they read in the newspapers just because they read it in the newspapers – no substantiation required.
3. So why not believe the Bible is God's Word?
 When Moses said, "*Then God spoke all these words, saying...*" (Exodus 20:1), why not believe him?
 Or Isaiah, "*Come now, and let us reason together,' says the Lord*" (Isaiah 1:18);
 or "*to whom the word of the Lord came*" (Jeremiah 1:2);

