

Search for Truth Lesson 1

Allen Lundy, Elder

Cover

- John 5:39
- World condition: chaos, confusion, problems, issues of life abound
- Is there a way out? Yes!!!
- The scriptures provide an answer to all of our problems
- But to get that answer, we must search the scriptures
- Examine, investigate, explore, seek out, hunt
- See 2 Timothy 2:15; John 10:10**

Chart 1

- Bible means biblical in the Greek or a collection of writings, much like a library
- There are 39 books in the OT. Need to commit these to memory
- 5 books of Law: Creation, the origin of man, flood, and the origin of the Jewish people
- 12 books of History deals with the history of the Jews, their trials, their division, captivity, as well as their restoration...and most assuredly, their disobedience
- 5 books of poetry, dealing with praise, prayer, promises, prophecies and wisdom
- Major prophets focusing on events in Israel's life, present and future...and their disobedience
- Minor prophets who delivered God's message of warning and destruction: Jonah
- OT written over a period of 1400 years, with about 32 writers, covering 3,600 years of man's history
- What's amazing is that in spite of the different writers, there is no contradiction in the Bible
- What would happen if you asked 5 doctors to write a paper on the cause and cure of lung cancer...much disagreement...and contradiction
- Let's look at **II Peter 1:21**

Chart 2

- Before the Bible, there was no written word for the first 2,500 years
- God spoke directly to men like Adam, Moses, Noah and Job
- God spoke through his creation: look around us and see all that He has made
- First written covenant or agreement was given to Moses on Mount Sinai on tablets of stone. **Look at Deut 17:18-19**
- As you can see, the** nation of Israel was chosen to preserve both God's written and spoken Word.
- Moses was instructed to place the tablets of stone in the most holy and sacred place: the ark of the covenant. This was the safest repository to protect God's written covenant
- Moses was also commanded to have the Levites and scribes make a copy of the law for their king when Israel would desire to have a ruler like other nations:

- ❑ “And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: and it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them” (Deuteronomy 17:18-19).
- ❑ Scribes had to copy that Law...precisely. With extreme care, the scribes must ensure the king’s copy to be precisely like the original.
- ❑ Take a look at Deut 31:9-11 and Luke 24:44 on how often the Law had to be read...every seven years
- ❑ This reading and copying went on for many years...until the printing press was invented in 1,488 and a German named Gutenberg figured out how to arrange letters to get a stamped impression on a piece of paper...and the rest is history
- ❑ the original Hebrew Scriptures were copied and translated for generations. In Alexandria, Egypt, during the second and third centuries B.C., one of the earliest and most important translations into the Greek language was called the “Septuagint” (meaning “seventy”) because of the seventy Jewish scholars who prepared it. Since that time, the Bible has been translated and paraphrased into more languages than any other book in existence (Josh McDowell, Evidence

Chart 3

- ❑ the Bible, since that time has been created in over 1,280 languages from the KJV to NIV, Darby, Amplified, NKJV and so forth
- ❑ Has survived time and the critics: Jesus said his Word would survive: **Matthew 24:35**
- ❑ Voltaire, who died in 1778, said that Christianity would be erase in 100 years!!!
- ❑ God wrote this Word. See **I Corinthians 14:37**. God said, created, made, See Genesis chap 1
- ❑ New Testament writers were eyewitnesses of the events they described or wrote from firsthand accounts. Peter, one New Testament writer, assured us: “We’re not writing fiction. We saw it happen!” **II Pet 1:16; Acts 2:22**

Chart 4 How we know Bible is true

- ❑ Science, Medicine, History, Archaeology and Dead Sea Scrolls all attest to its truth. **Isaiah 40:22 and Job 26:7**
- ❑ Man has tried to figure out the number of stars but the Bible says they can not be numbered.
- ❑ Ancient men believed that the world was flat and that underneath were giant supporting pillars. Only since Copernicus has science confirmed that no such literal pillars exist. The earth moves through space unsupported by solid objects.
- ❑ Yet the Bible precisely concluded the same analysis thousands of years earlier: **“He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing” (Job 26:7).**

- Take medicine for example, 18th century practice of “bleeding” for a suffering patient was the ideal treatment. The opposite is true: **Leviticus 17:11**
- Look at archaeology: the more they did, the more they discover about ancient times including the writings of men like Paul
- Critics assert that because we do not have an original manuscript, then the Bible is not truth.
- But there are many old copies of the Bible. Thousands of copies from ancient times have indeed been found. These writings are in Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Syriac, Egyptian, Gothic, Persian and other languages.
- They are still searching for truth today. Recall in 1947 two shepherd boys who discovered a scroll in a cave
- Thought to be more than 1,900 years old and containing the complete book of Isaiah...more than 24 feet long...a long leather scroll

Chart 5: Prophecy Says: “It’s True”

- Bible contains over 6,000 prophecies
- 1,000s have already been fulfilled
- Prophecy is the infallible test of God’s word
- What God has said in the OT has come true in the NT
- False Christs and cults in Matthew 24:11
- Wars and rumors of wars
- Earthquakes in divers places
- Zachariah described Christ’ entry into Jerusalem on a donkey
- Many OT prophecies concerning his death burial and resurrection
- Betrayal for 30 pieces of silver
- Betrayed by a friend
- Israel has been scattered for 1,900 years but most assuredly
- Finally in May 1948, the creation of Israel as an independent state was announced, with official recognition by America and other major nations.
- “And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way . . . For I will take you from among the heathen, and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land . . . And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be my people, and I will be your God” (**Ezekiel 36:19, 24, 28**).
- “And I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all countries whither I have driven them, and will bring them again to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase” (Jeremiah 23:3).
- Over 2 million Jews have migrated back to their country!!!
- Remind you that all of the following prophecies are being filled right now...right in front of our eyes
 - Immorality, famines, pestilence, witchcraft, false Christs and cults, lots of defensive aircraft in our midst, lots of wars and rumors of wars.
- The Bible presents many infallible proofs that the Word of God is solid and accurate. We can believe every Word written on its pages
- Not only do we need to believe it...but we need to get a grip on it and apply it our own personal lives for it provides life changing power to those who will search it, believe it and apply it.