

Can we trust God's Word?

Is there a God? Does my life have any meaning or does everything happen solely by chance? How do I find the truth about life and death? What will happen when I die? Is the Bible truly the "inspired" Word of God or is it just the philosophical writings of a group of ancient men? These questions have occurred to all of us at some point in our lives. Our answers to these questions are vitally important because they affect our goals, our relationships, our peace of mind and, ultimately our eternal destiny. The Bible claims to be the inspired Word of God and declares that its message is absolutely true. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance that each of us determines for ourselves whether the Bible is truly the Word of God or not.

Is there some way to determine the truth about God and the Bible? In the past we have often referred that God has given us health laws in the Bible. Can these laws be trusted? If these laws are relevant, are the other laws of the Bible relevant?

This short article will reveal facts that are fascinating proofs that absolutely authenticate the Bible as the inspired and authoritative Word of God. These are just a few of the countless evidences that the Scriptures contain.

Fulfilled prophecies

The study of the fulfilment of Biblical prophecy provides overwhelming proof that God is controlling human history. Despite that cynics may suggest otherwise, the hand of God is still moving behind the scenes of current history to bring about His will. The details of the history of God's chosen people were precisely prophesied, their different captivities were prophesied, their exile and many, many more events were foretold. These predictions were fulfilled exactly because only God can predict the future precisely. He foretold the precise conditions that would exist on the world immediately prior to His second coming.

The Old Testament contains many, many prophecies. I would like to draw your attention to over three hundred passages that refer specifically to the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Within these hundreds of prophecies, Bible scholars have found forty-eight specific details about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. These Scriptural prophecies were published over five centuries before Christ was born in Bethlehem. It has been proven that Jesus of Nazareth fulfilled all of them, showing that He was indeed the promised Messiah, the Son of God.

There are Laws of Mathematical Probability that have been proven and are absolute. The Laws of Probability reveal that the probability of a single event occurring randomly is one chance in five, and the probability of another event occurring is one chance in ten, then the combined probability that both event will occur together in sequence is five multiplied by ten. Thus, the combined chance of both events occurring in sequence is one chance in fifty. To put this in a perspective we can appreciate, consider the odds when you toss a coin in the air. The odds are one chance in two that "heads" will appear. However, if you tossed two coins together, the chance of getting two "heads" is one in four. Now if we threw ten coins, the odds would be one chance in 1,024. Now if we took 17 of these prophecies occurring in the life of one man, the chance would be one in 480,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 or 480 billion x1billion x1trillion. Now remember that there are forty-eight prophecies given in the Old Testament about the promised Messiah. If we were to calculate the odds against all forty-eight predictions occurring by chance in one person's life, we would arrive at a number so large that it would exceed our capacity to comprehend it.

The mathematical signature of God in the words of Scripture

The Scriptures reveal God as the great mathematician who numbers the smallest detail of His creation, and measures and numbers all things. Over one hundred years ago, Ivan Panin, a famous mathematician left Russia to settle in Canada. Although a committed atheist in his early years he discovered the reality of Jesus Christ in his early life. In 1890, Panin embarked on an exciting journey of scientific exploration of the text of the Bible that would prove that the Bible is truly the inspired Word of God.

For 50 years Panin studied the amazing mathematical pattern beneath the surface layer of the text in the Bible. He worked diligently up to eighteen hours a day to illustrate the divine inspiration and authority of the Scripture. As one small example, Panin discovered that the first verse in the Bible in the book of Genesis contains an astonishing number of mathematical patterns that illustrate divine inspiration. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" Genesis 1:1

We need to understand that the Bible was originally composed in languages (Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek) that are alpha-numeric, or use various letters of the alphabet to express numbers such as "1, 2, 3," etc. Because each letter had a numeric value, every word can be given a numeric value by adding up the total value of each of the individual letters.

Ivan Panin carefully examined the Hebrew text of Genesis 1:1 and discovered an incredible phenomenon of multiples of seven that could not be explained by chance. Genesis 1:1 was composed of seven Hebrew words containing a total of 28 letters. Throughout the Bible the number seven appears repeatedly as a symbol of divine perfection – the 7 days of creation, God rested on the 7th day, the 7 churches, the 7 seals, the 7 trumpets etc. In total Panin discovered 30 separate codes involving the number 7 in the first verse of the Bible.

A list of the features of seven found in Genesis 1:1

- * The number of Hebrew words - 7
- *The number of Hebrew letters equal 28 ($28 \div 4 = 7$)
- *The first three Hebrew words translated contain 14 letters ($14 \div 2 = 7$)
- *The last four Hebrew words have 14 letters ($14 \div 2 = 7$)
- *The fourth and fifth word have 7 letters
- *The sixth and seventh word have 7 letters
- *The three key words: God, heaven and earth have 14 letters ($14 \div 2 = 7$)
- *The number of letters in the four remaining words is also 14 ($14 \div 2 = 7$)
- *The middle word is the shortest with 2 letters. However in combination with the word to the right or to the left it totals 7 letters
- *The numeric value of the first, middle and last letters is 133 ($133 \div 19 = 7$)
- *The numeric value of the first and last letters of all seven words is 1393 ($1393 \div 199 = 7$)

Then professors on the mathematics faculty at Harvard University tried to duplicate this mathematical phenomenon using over 400,000 words. Despite their advanced mathematical abilities and access to computers, the mathematicians were unable to come close to incorporating 30 mathematical multiples of 7 as found in the Hebrew words of Genesis 1:1.

Patterns of other numbers as well as seven occur throughout the Bible. In the book *Number in Scripture* by *E W Bullinger* he approaches the subject by examining the supernatural design of the Bible. He notes amazing patterns of numbers and numerical features of the scriptures that give evidence of their Designer. He also highlights the spiritual significance and symbolic connotations of numbers which are repeated in the Bible. In the original Hebrew and Greek languages, each letter is given a numerical value. When certain words, names, titles, phrases etc (as written in the original language), are given their corresponding numerical values, these numbers reveal an amazing consistence. In *Bullinger's* book he details hundreds of pages of words, titles, names, phrases or sentences, and when the numerical values for the letters are added up, an amazing design is noted. For example, when dealing with all aspects of the life and ministry of Christ and of all spiritual perfection, all these added up to seven or a multiple of seven. In contrast, anyone who rebelled, apostatised or became enemies of God's people, (including Satan and all the names given to him) the numbers were either thirteen or a multiple of thirteen. The number ten points out perfection or completeness of Divine order. The number twelve signifies perfection of government as relating to ruling in heaven. It is most interesting to see that numbers (names) are not used by chance, but by design; not haphazardly, but with significance not only in the Word of God, but in the creative works of God.

Hidden Bible codes

For 3000 years a code in the Bible has remained hidden. Now it has been decoded by computer – and it reveals details of events that took place thousands of years after the Bible was written. The code was broken by an Israeli mathematician, who presented the proof in a major science journal and has been confirmed by famous mathematicians around the world.

Computers were told to skip letters as it scanned the Hebrew language of the Bible. Often words and messages leaped out of the text when the computer used only every 50th letter or 26th letter. By reading across, computer programmer Dr Eliyahu Rips, a Hebrew University mathematician has found coded in the Bible, references to hundreds of world-shaking events – everything from World War 11 to Watergate, from the holocaust to Hiroshima, from the moon landing to the collision of a comet with Jupiter, assassinations of

John and Robert Kennedy, Sadat, and Rabin. The dates of the Gulf War were found in the Bible before the war started and there is even reference to the Twin Towers.

Rips explains that the Bible is constructed like a giant crossword puzzle. It is encoded from the beginning to the end with words that connect to tell a hidden story. To find the code, Rips eliminated all the spaces between the words, and turned the entire original Bible into one continuous letter strand, 304,805 letters long. The computer searched that strand of letters for names, words, and phrases hidden by the skip code. It started at the first letter of the Bible and looked for every possible skip sequence – words spelled out with skips of 1, 2, 3 all the way to several thousand. It then repeated the search starting from the second letter and did it over and over again until it reaches the last letter of the Bible. But it is more than a simple skip code. Criss-crossing the entire known text of the Bible, hidden under the original Hebrew of the Old Testament, is a complex network of words and phrases.

Another example of how the Bible has been written and has several different layers hidden in different texts is given in a prophecy of the promised Messiah in Isaiah 53:10. There is a plain surface message, but encoded at a twenty letter interval in this text is another message that spells out the name of Jesus (Yeshua is my name). The chances of this happening is one in one billion. But as the computer searched through the verses from Isaiah 52:13 to 53:12 the Hebrew names of 43 people and phrases were found, all these were connected to the person and death of Jesus.

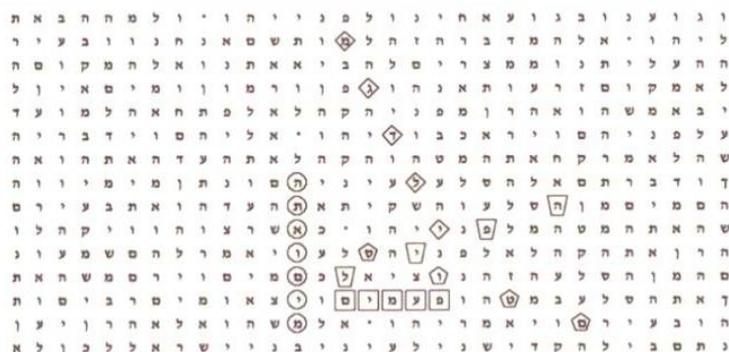
The Bible has been encoded with information about the past and about the future in a way that is mathematically beyond random chance, and is found in no other text. Time after time it finds connected names, dates and places encoded together – President Kennedy, to die, Dallas, Oswald, marksman, name of assassin who will assassinate; Gulf War, Saddam Hussein, Scuds, Russian missiles, date the war began; Twin, towers, it knocked down, twice, airplane; Twin, towers, in the end of days. These and hundreds of more examples are documented in the two books *The Bible Code* and *The Bible Code 2* by Michael Drosin

A senior code breaker at the top secret National Security Agency in America had spent his life making and breaking codes for American intelligence. He was trained as a statistician, spoke Hebrew and was sure that the Bible code did not exist. He wrote his own computer program and looked for the same information that the Israelis had found. He spent 440 hours to try to prove the code did not exist, only to find it was there. The names of the people (or events) in the codes, the dates that they were born and died were encoded. He was not the only one to question the validity of the code. Three other mathematicians checked it out and agreed to publish it in their Statistical Science Journal.

The Bible was written over 16 centuries with 43 or 44 different authors. It was written by men in different ages with different cultural backgrounds. Throughout the entire Bible there is a theme of utter consistency, a revelation of how God is acting to bring salvation to mankind.

Notwithstanding all the information in this article regarding prophecy, numbers and codes in the Bible, the plain words also tell us something remarkable. They speak plainly about the events that will happen just prior to Jesus' Second Coming. They are well worth examining. My hope is that you have been challenged into thinking that the Scriptures can indeed be trusted and take the time to consider what they say.

The Signature of God by Grant R. Jeffrey
Number in Scripture by E. W. Bullinger
The Bible Code by Michael Drosin
The Bible Code 2 by Michael Drosin



○ TWIN ◊ TOWERS ◻ IT KNOCKED DOWN ◻ TWICE ○ AIRPLANE
An example taken from The Bible Code by Michael Drosin