

## Why Christianity – Doctrine

There are approximately 3000 religions in the world at the time of this writing. Some have similar teachings – some are diametrically opposed to each other, and they can't all be right. What makes Christianity the only right, reasoned choice?

As the Tribulation unfolds and the Antichrist gains more power, there will be aggressive moves to form a new, one-world religion. Everyone will be pressured to join and condemned if they do not. People will be threatened, imprisoned, hunted, and killed; all to pressure people to adhere to the one-world faith. Ultimately, they will be required to take the Mark of the Beast, swear allegiance and worship to the Antichrist, to their eternal damnation.

Tribulation-era believers must witness and try to save as many as possible from the choices that will ensure eternal torment in hell. Believers must counter the fierce pressure to join the Antichrist by providing compelling reasons to believe in the true Christ. A brief profile of compelling arguments for faith in Christ are listed here.

For additional information on this important subject, please see the “Why Christianity” video file in this folder, and the three “Reasons to Believe” video files in the Teaching Videos Folder in the Rapture Kit Expansion Pack.

### Compelling Reasons to Believe (categories)

- **Archaeology:** Archaeological evidence supporting the biblical record (verifying the Bible is true) is now abundant. In the last 150 years, archaeological finds have verified:
  - The existence of Bible characters such as David, Pontus Pilate, Herod, Mary Magdalene, Moses, and the Red Sea crossing.
  - Many long-lost and disputed cities mentioned in Scripture have been discovered. This includes many of the conquest cities referenced in the book of Judges, the New Testament city of Nazareth, Nineveh, Sodom, and many more.
  - Summary: Archaeology verifies the accuracy of Scripture. No find has shown the Bible to be in error.
  
- **Scientific Evidence**
  - Long before it was proven, the Old Testament noted that the earth is a sphere.
  - Long before it was proven, the Old Testament noted that the universe had a point of beginning.

- There is scientific evidence for a global flood, corroborating the story in Genesis 6-9.
- The Bible references a prior age when there were great creatures, fitting the description of dinosaurs (Job 40:15-19).
- The Bible rightly notes that the principal star in the constellation Draco was once the highest (most Northern) star in our sky, but now it has been replaced by Polaris, our 'North Star.'
- The Bible rightly notes that the center star in the belt of the constellation Orion is not one star, but a double-star – two stars moving away from each other or “uncoupling.”
- The Bible describes streams in the ocean (the Gulf stream), and in the clouds (wind patterns and weather fronts).

### **Historical Documents**

- Old Testament-era markers, scrolls, and documents validate dozens of laws, customs, traditions, and rites mentioned in the Bible.
- Secular historical documents verify many aspects of the biblical record, including Babylonian captivity, the Second Temple, the Jerusalem wall, the Roman census, and Jesus' crucifixion.
- No historical document has proven the biblical record to be in error.

### **Manuscript Attestation (the science of validating the authenticity of reliability of words of antiquity)**

- The number of early generation copies of the New Testament exceed the number of copies of writings held to be best preserved works of antiquity by several thousand percent. Over 5,000 copies of Bible writing exist compared to fewer than 50 copies of Plato or Aristotle.
- The span of time separating the writing of the original New Testament text from the oldest preserved text available today is several hundred percent lower than the averaged time gap in the so-called ten best works of antiquity – writings of Shakespeare, Socrates, and others.

- By all analysis points, this secular field of study notes that the Bible is fully unique – unequaled in seamless consistency and accuracy in the producing of thousands of early generation copies. The Bible deserves to be in a category all its own. Christians understand this is because it is the inspired word of God.

### **Prophetic Fulfilment**

- Bible scholars and skeptics have verified that the approximately 900 Bible Prophecies that should have been fulfilled by this point in history, have been fulfilled. The biblical record for prophetic accuracy is 100%. To put this in perspective, the probability of less than half of the 125 messianic prophecies being perfectly fulfilled by one man, Jesus, is roughly equal to the chances of picking one marked electron in all the universe. Biblical prophecy is specific, precise, and always perfectly accurate. This confirms the “inspired” nature of Scripture. It verifies the Bible to be true, and it beckons the hearer to be spiritually prepared because the 100 or so prophecies remaining will also unfold exactly as predicted in the days to come.

There are good reasons to believe the Bible is true, accurate and inspired. It is important that Christians be able to make compelling arguments for their faith and be able to articulate not merely what they believe, but also, why they believe it.

The four videos referenced in the third paragraph will inspire and equip believers to defend the faith and finish well.