

The Bridge to Grace

Jesus is the bridge that brings Muslims to a saving knowledge of Him



Evidence for the Bible The Dead Sea Scrolls

My dear Muslim friends,

In the name of our most Precious Heavenly Father, I bring this topic to you in the spirit of love. May the eyes of your understanding be enlightened. Amen

Muslims say, “The Bible is corrupted, and is not the Word of God.” I can show you that the Bible indeed is the inerrant, infallible, inspired Word of God. The Bible was written over a period of 2000 plus years, by more than 40 different authors, and these authors were inspired by God to write the 66 books which make up the Old and New Testaments.

The first 39 books contain what Christians call the Old Testament, also called the Torah (the Law), the prophets, the writings, the Psalms, written in Hebrew and Aramaic; and the last 27 books are the New Testament, written mostly in Greek, and includes the Gospels and the Pauline letters, as well as letters from some of the Apostles of Jesus Christ, and Revelation.

In the Bible, there are a number of verses that declare that these books are inspired by God. Please read them. 2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:20-21, John 17:17, Psalm 119:160, and Luke 24:44. “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

Also, God is very clear that we are NOT to change anything or add to His Word. Read these verses - Deuteronomy 12:32, Proverbs 30:5-6, Psalm 119:160, Deuteronomy 4:2, Jeremiah 26:2, Revelation 22:18-19. “For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy

city, and from the things which are written in this book.”

Now, there are numerous translations of the Bible. The Old Testament manuscripts were in Hebrew and Aramaic until about the third century B.C., when it was translated into Greek for the Gentiles (those of us who are not Jewish). Some of the apostles wrote their manuscripts (New Testament) in Greek, so that more non-Jewish people could understand their meaning. Throughout the centuries, there have been translations of the Bible, but one thing remains true, it is the same Bible. How do we know it is the same? This is where my proofs come in.

The Original Bible - It was not called a "Bible.” There were manuscripts/scrolls written on parchment and papyrus (a type of paper used thousands of years ago). The oldest complete copy dated back to the third century A.D., and that being a Greek translation. There are fragments of the Hebrew Bible that date back to the second century A.D.

There are many copies of those Old Testament scrolls; however, with the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, found in ceramic pots in the caves of Qumran by a Bedouin boy in 1947, we now have the oldest manuscripts as a living proof, dating back to before Jesus was even born. The carbon-14 dating system for the scrolls dates back from 150 B.C. to 70 B.C. These are the oldest manuscripts in existence! Every book in the Old Testament is included in those scrolls, and the scrolls of Isaiah are complete. Not only are they included, but they are identical to 95% accuracy, with the differences being only in regard to punctuation, spelling, and grammar.

The Essenes were a Jewish religious group of men that existed from the second century B.C. to the first century A.D. Their intention, according to commentaries written by them and found along with the biblical texts, was to preserve the texts of the Bible. It is an amazing fact to see that, practically simultaneously, a prophecy of Israel becoming a

nation comes to pass, as well as authenticity of the Hebrew Bible is discovered because of the work of the Essenes.

The Great Isaiah Scroll from the Dead Sea Scrolls is now housed in the Shrine of the Book Museum in Jerusalem with other Hebrew manuscripts of the Bible, while others are housed in numerous universities in the U.S. These scrolls prove to be the exact words that were written from before Jesus was born. Again, the only differences are misspellings, grammar and punctuation.

The Bible I have in my hands today contains the same words in the Old Testament as the manuscripts written up to 150 years before Jesus was born! The Bible I have is in English, so it is a translation from Hebrew to Greek to English.

The Septuagint, also known as LXX, was named after 72 Jewish scholars who painstakingly translated the Torah from Hebrew to Greek for the King Ptolemy of Egypt in the 3rd century B.C. That is before Jesus Christ was even born. These copies are also verified by the Qumran discoveries of 1947.

Groups of 9th century scribes and scholars, known as Masoretes, were responsible for guarding and preserving the text of the Bible, including spelling and articulating the reading of the Word. These texts are known as the Masoretic texts.

The Dead Sea Scrolls confirm the authenticity of the Hebrew texts of the Old Testament, as well as support the Masoretic texts and the Septuagint. Please learn more about the Dead Sea Scrolls found in the caves of Qumran.

If you still believe that the Bible is corrupted, then can you tell me when it was corrupted? Was it corrupted before or after Muhammad was given the Qur'an?

If the Bible was corrupted **before** Muhammad, then something is wrong. According to Islam, Muhammad was given the Qur'an by the Angel Gabriel who visited him and gave him the Qur'an verse by verse. At that time, the Bible (Torah, Gospel, etc.) was not corrupted. Read these verses from the Qur'an.

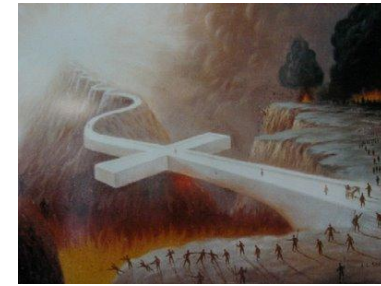
Surah 3:3 "He has revealed unto you (Muhammad), the Scripture (Qur'an) with truth, confirming that which was before it. And He sent down the Torah and the Injeel (the Gospel)." Also read from the Qur'an, Surahs 10:94, 5:69, and 61:6. Allah is saying to Muhammad that the Scripture that came before the Qur'an is true. The Scriptures we have today are the same Scriptures that Muhammad would have read.

Was the Bible corrupted **after** Muhammad was given the revelation of the Qur'an? Where is the evidence that this is the case, since I have shown you that the manuscripts found in the Dead Sea Scrolls at the Qumran caves authenticate the Bible's accuracy, proving it is the exact same words that already existed before Jesus was born? Even the Qur'an tells you that these scriptures of old were accurate and sent from God.

There are other important proofs for the accuracy of the Bible, including: scientific proofs, fulfilled prophecies, archeological facts and findings, and the structure of the Bible itself. The main proof for the validity of the Bible is the way a person's heart is changed, and our ability to even love our enemies.

But there is hope. Muslims believe in Jesus as being one of the "mightiest messengers of God." As a prophet of Islam, can He lie? Have you read His words?

Jesus said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:3



This is a Bridge to Grace Publication

Please reprint and distribute freely!

Series

Evidence for the Bible - The Dead Sea Scrolls
Muhammad and the Bible - The Paraclete
Muhammad and the Bible - Song of Solomon
The Trinity - One True God
The Deity of Jesus the Christ
The Redeemer
Crucified!

And More!

Website: www.thebridgetograce.com

Email: info@thebridgetograce.com

Sharing the Truth in love!

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32

Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6

Due to space constraints, please study on your own, read, open your heart and pray that God will give you understanding. Underlined words are key words that can be more deeply studied.