

## THE RELIABILITY OF THE BIBLE

## PRECEPT

**Proverbs 30:5**

<sup>5</sup> All of God's word has proven to be true. He defends all who come to him for protection.

## PROMISE

**Credibility of the resurrection account of Jesus.** Guaranteed by Christian and non-Christian scholars as a historical event based on strong evidence, including eyewitness accounts, early creeds, and the explosive growth of the early church.

**Completion of Old Testament prophecies.** Jesus fulfilled over 300 Messianic prophecies written centuries before His birth. His birth, life, ministry, suffering, death, resurrection, and exaltation.

**Consistency of the message.** One message from Genesis to Revelation, despite being written by different authors from different generations. 66 books, with one storyline. Written over 1,500 years, from Moses to John. Written by over 40 authors— kings, prophets, fishermen, shepherds, and more (lawyers, doctors, tax collectors, and prisoners), documented in 3 languages — Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. Written on 3 continents —Asia, Africa, and Europe, composed in different genres —law, history, poetry, prophecy, wisdom, biography (Gospels), letters, and apocalyptic literature.

**Conservation of the truth.** Isaiah 40:8 says, "The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever." The Bible also experienced oppression from religious institutions. Yet underground churches and believers preserved the true Word under threat of death. Believers smuggled Scripture, copied verses by hand, and memorized chapters to protect God's Word in their hearts.

**Capacity to transform lives.** No book in history has transformed more hearts, healed more broken lives, or redirected more destinies than the Bible. It doesn't just inform—it transforms. Countless people have experienced how reading, trusting, and applying the Bible brings peace in chaos, hope in despair, freedom from guilt, healing from brokenness, strength to forgive, and purpose for living. Open your Bible, open your heart, and let the Word of God speak for itself; you might be surprised at how clearly, how personally, and how powerfully it speaks to you. Psalms 18:30 says, "God's way is perfect. The Lord's word is flawless."

## PRACTICE

1. **Reliability.** Have you ever doubted the reliability of the Bible?

2. **Bible unboxed.** Did the message change your doubts/perspective about the Bible? And how can we encourage/pray for you regarding this?

## PRAYER

**I. Circles**

- Pray for Manalo couple as they continue to lead our young pros and youth to God and His teachings.

**II. Leaders**

- Pray that they will lead with integrity and uphold justice, among all.

**III. Pastors**

- Pray that God may grant them courage, and wisdom as they lead.

**IV. Growth**

- May He guide us as we seek to grow in faith and character, and to learn from Christ.

**V. Disciples**

- Thank God for calling us to follow Him as disciples.

**VI. Life Groups**

- May we grow in faith, support one another, and spread God's love.

**VII. Ministries**

- Pray that God will empower all of our ministries with His strength, grace, and guidance.