

**Internal Case:**

1. What the Scripture says of itself: What is inspired: 2 Tim. 3:16-17; How it is inspired: 2 Peter 1:19-21; John 10:34-35; Matthew 5:17-18; 2 Peter 3:15-16. 2 *God Says...Scripture Says:* Genesis 12:3 & Gal. 3:8; Exodus 9:16 & Rom. 9:17; *Scripture says...God says:* Genesis 2:24 & Matthew 9:4-5; Psalm 2:1 & Acts 4:24-25; Isaiah 55:3 & Acts 13:34; Psalm 16:10 & Acts 13:35; Psalm 2:7 & Heb. 1:5; Psalm 97:7 & Heb. 3:7; Psalm 104:4 & Heb. 3:7; Psalm 95:7 & Heb. 3:7.2. Extent of Biblical Authority: Divine authority - Matt. 4:4, 7, 10; Indestructibility - Matt. 5:17-18; Unbreakability - John 10:3; Ultimate Supremacy - Matt. 15:3, 6; Factual Inerrancy – Matt. 22:29; John 17:17; Historical Reliability – Matt. 12:40, 24:37-38; Scientific Accuracy – Matt. 19:4-6; John 3:12 3. Why would I have a lower view of Scripture than Jesus Christ Himself? Testimony of Jesus Christ. If Jesus was deliberately wrong, then He is a deceiver; If Jesus was ignorant, then His claims were involuntary. O. Jesus was in fact correct, then He is Lord and Scripture is reliable: Matthew 22:32: Jesus argument rests upon tense of verb; Matthew 22:43: Jesus argument rests upon specific words; Matthew 5:17-18: Formation of letters.
4. Fulfillment of literal Prophecy: 27% of Scripture is prophetic. O.T. 6,641 verses out of 23,210 (28.6 %) are predictive. N.T. 1,711 out of 7,914 verses (21.6 %) are predictive. In the entire Bible 8,352 verses out of 31,124 (27 %) are predictive. Little over 1/2 of all these prophecies have already been literally fulfilled.

**1. God cannot err (if an infinitely-perfect God exists, then this premise is true).**  
**2. The Bible is the Word of God. (Internal, Uniqueness, Bibliographic; Historical evidence)**  
**3. Therefore, the Bible cannot error.**

**Bibliographic Manuscript Case:**

1. We have more manuscripts than any other work or collection of ancient antiquity. We now have over, 5,800 manuscripts and portions of. For example: We have 7 copies of Plato’s work compared to 5,800+ N.T. manuscripts; 2. Moreover, we have more copies closer to the original than any other work of antiquity; 3. Finally, we have 99% accurately copied as opposed to any other work. 4. Whose history can we better trust?:

Author	Book	Date Written	Earliest Copies	Time Gap	# Copies:
Homer	Iliad	800 B.C.	C. 400 B.C	400 yrs.	643
Herodotus	History	480-425 B.C.	C. A.D. 900	1,350 yrs.	8
Thucydides	History	460-400 B.C.	C. A.D. 900	1,350 yrs.	8
Plato		400 B.C.	C. A.D. 900	1,300 yrs.	8
Demosthenes		300 B.C.	C. A.D. 1100	1,400 yrs.	7
Caesar	Gallic Wars	100-44 B.C.	C. A.D. 900	1,000 yrs.	200
Livy	History of Rome	59 B.C.-A.D. 17	C. 4th cent. (partial); mostly 10th Century	400 yrs.	1 partial
Tacitus	Annals	A.D. 100	C. A.D. 1100	1,000 yrs.	19
Pliny Secundus	Natural History	A.D. 61-113	C. A.D. 850	750 yrs.	20
New Testament		A.D. 50-96	C. 114 (fragment) + 50 years		5,800+
			C. 200 (books)	100 years	
			C. 250 (most N.T.)	150 years	
			C. 325 (complete N.T.)	225 years	

**Uniqueness Case:**

1. Argument from Continuity: Written over approx. 1,500 year span; Written by more than 40 authors from every walk of life (Moses: a political leader highly educated in Egypt; David: a king, poet, musician, shepherd, & warrior; Amos: a herdsman; Joshua: a military general; Nehemiah: a cupbearer to a pagan king; Daniel: a prime minister; Luke: a physician & historian; Peter: a fisherman; Matthew: a tax collector; Paul: a rabbi); Written in different places (Moses in the wilderness, Jeremiah in a dungeon, Daniel on a hillside and palace; Paul inside prison walls; Luke while traveling; John exiled on the isle of Patmos); Written at different times (in times of war, sacrifice, peace, & prosperity); Written during different moods (e.g., joy, despair, sorrow, doubt, bliss); Written on three continents (Europe; Asia; Africa); Written in three languages (Hebrew; Aramaic [e.g., Daniel 2-7]; Greek); Written in a wide variety of literary styles (e.g. poetry, song, romance, memoirs, satire, biography, prophecy, parable, historical narrative, allegory, didactic treatise, etc.); Addresses hundreds of controversial subjects...yet with amazing harmony to the extent that a little over 1/2 of specific prophecies (Isa. 52:13-53:12; Micah 5:2) have been literally fulfilled. In spite of diversity, the Bible presents a single unfolding story: God’s redemption of humanity.
2. Unique in its Circulation:
3. Unique in its Translation:
4. Unique in its Survival: Through Time; Through Persecution; Through Criticism
5. Unique in its Teachings; Through Prophecy; History; Character
6. Unique in Its Influence on Literature
7. Unique in its Influence on Civilization

**Historical Case:**

*How do you define history? “A knowledge of the past based upon testimony.” Josh McDowell.*

1. But is your testimony true? Oral testimony; Written testimony; Physical testimony (e.g., archeology); Multiple independent sources strengthens case; early attestation is preferred.
2. The writers wrote as eyewitnesses or wrote as eyewitness accounts (court of law);
3. They appealed to the knowledge of the audience of whom they were writing (1 Corinthians 15; Acts 2:22). If their claims weren’t true, then their claims would not have gained so much currency. They appealed to the knowledge of their opponents (If they wrong even once, their work would not have gained currency).
4. The writers (except for John) died martyrs death: they truly believed this was true. Yes, many people do die for a lie, but people die for what they believe to be true. The extent of the sacrifice speaks of the nothing of the truthfulness of the event. But they believed it to be true.
5. Lastly, they died for a great cause! From a shattered dream to a martyr’s death. They believed it was a great cause after seeing and experiencing the bodily resurrected Jesus Christ.

**Material for chart adapted from Josh McDowell’s *New Evidence That Demands a Verdict* (Nashville, TN.: Thomas Nelson, 1999).** [www.prshockley.org](http://www.prshockley.org)