



## Part 2: Can We Trust The Bible?

### Bottom Line:

*The Bible is trustworthy and reliable, backed by historical and archaeological evidence.*

---

### Introduction:

- In this message, we explored one of the most important questions when it comes to faith: **Can we trust the Bible?**
  - Whether you're new to faith, exploring, or a long-time believer, at some point we all wrestle with questions about the Bible's reliability.
- 

### Why Trust Matters:

- We all have things we need to figure out when it comes to faith. For many, one of the biggest questions is whether the Bible is true and reliable.
  - If we can trust the Bible, it changes everything about how we live our lives and approach faith.
- 

### Luke's Investigation (Luke 1:1-4):

- Luke, a doctor and historian, carefully investigated the events of Jesus' life. He didn't set out to write part of the Bible—he wanted to provide a reliable account for his reader, Theophilus, so that he could know the truth about Jesus.
  - The Gospel of Luke is an example of how the Bible was written based on **eyewitness reports**, making it historically trustworthy.
-



## Historical and Archaeological Evidence:

- The **Masoretic Text** was the most reliable Hebrew manuscript of the Old Testament for centuries until the discovery of the **Dead Sea Scrolls** in 1947. These scrolls, hidden in caves in AD 70, matched the Masoretic Text with a 95-97% accuracy rate. This archaeological find demonstrated the Bible's preservation over time.
  - When it comes to the New Testament, we have around **28,000 manuscript copies** in different languages, making it one of the best-preserved historical documents from antiquity. In comparison, we only have **643 copies** of Homer's *The Iliad*, one of the best-preserved non-biblical ancient texts.
  - With so many manuscript copies, scholars can compare them to ensure that what we read today closely matches the original writings.
- 

## Paul's Example:

- Paul, who initially persecuted Christians, radically changed after encountering Jesus. He suffered imprisonments, beatings, and hardships, not for personal gain, but because he believed in the truth of the gospel.
  - Paul's willingness to endure suffering proves that he didn't just believe the Bible was reliable—he believed it was **true**.
- 

## Conclusion:

- The Bible is not just a collection of old stories; it is historically trustworthy and life-changing.
- This week, Chris challenged the church to dig deeper into the trustworthiness of the Bible by starting the [Why Jesus?](#) Bible reading plan on the Bible App.