



“Why Should I Believe the Bible?”

2 Peter 1:16-21

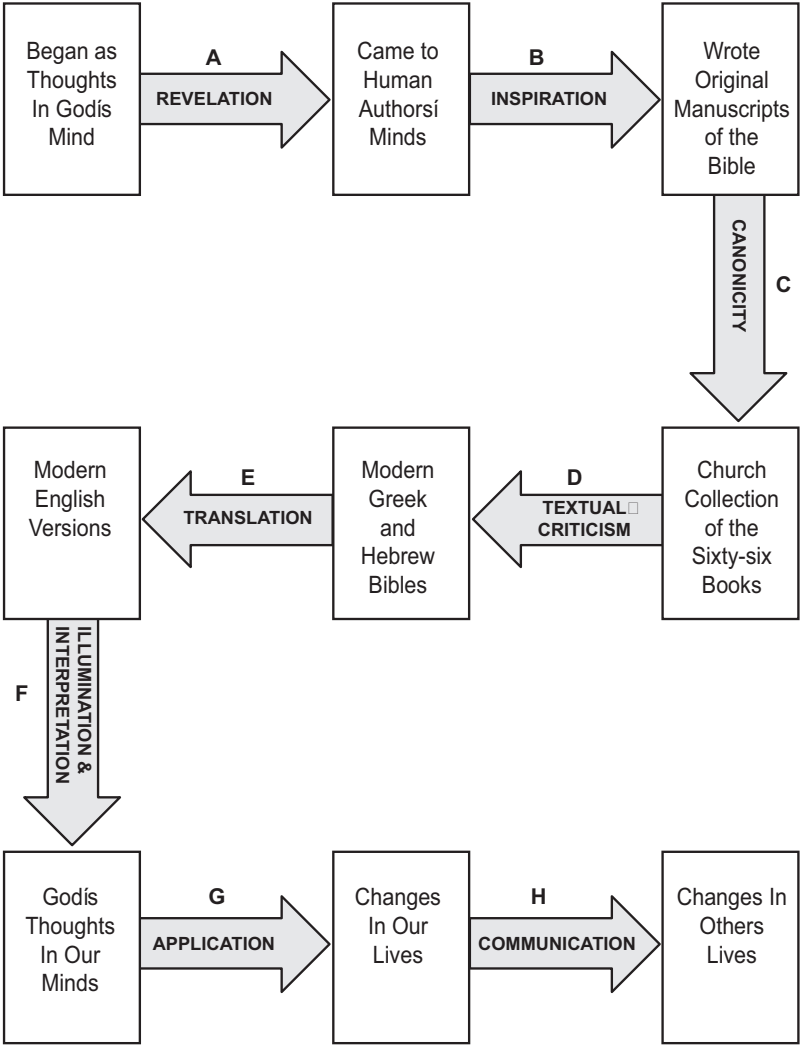
Part 3 in the series: “Road to Truth”

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Sunday, February 7, 2016

2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” ¹⁸ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹ And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰ knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. ²¹ For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.



A. Revelation:

Revelation (apokalupsis) means “to uncover, reveal, disclose,” or “make known;” therefore, in terms of divine revelation, God makes himself known to the objects of that revelation, e.g., angels & people. The fact that God must make himself known in order for us to know him is necessary since we are finite and He is infinite, and we are sinful and He is holy (Rom. 16:25 & Rev. 1:1).

B. Inspiration:

God’s Word says that God divinely originated this word through the pen of Spirit-filled men. Just like Jesus Christ was 100% human and 100% divine, the Bible is 100% given from God and 100% written by inspired men of God. The Bible is from the breath of God: God-breathed (2 Tim 3:16-17 & 2 Peter 1:20-21).

C. Canonicity:

A canon is a rule or standard. The early church father, Origen, used the word “canon” to denote what we call the ‘rule of faith,’ the standard by which we are to measure and evaluate.” (Bruce, BP, 95). Canon means the officially accepted list of books in our Bible. The church recognizes scripture as canon what the Bible claims as inspired.

D. Textual Criticism:

The study of manuscripts or printings to determine the original or most authoritative form of a text, especially of a piece of literature. The process/science to help us know that Moses wrote Genesis and Paul wrote Colossians.

E. Translation:

The Bible was translated from Hebrew (OT) and Greek (NT) into the English language.

F. Illumination & Interpretation:

God gives me EARS to hear and EYES to see. God gives illumination or understanding of His Word that His people might believe (1 Cor. 2:14). Interpretation is accurately explaining both what the author is saying and what he is saying about what he is saying!

G. APPLICATION:

God’s people are expected to be DOERS of this Word, not merely readers or hearers (James 1:22-25).

H. COMMUNICATION:

God’s people are expected to communicate the truths of this Word as ambassadors of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:17-19).

10 Compelling Reasons to Believe the Bible

You can believe the Bible because of:

1. Its honesty.
2. Its indestructibility.
3. Its claims for itself.
4. Its miracles.
5. Its unity.
6. Its historical and geographical accuracy.
7. Its endorsement by Christ.
8. Its prophetic accuracy.
9. Its survival.
10. Its power to change lives.

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