



Evidence For Belief

Wednesdays
Year 3 Book 4

Jr. High School Class
by Charles Willis

5. What evidence from the following areas do you find especially convincing that God is real and the Bible is inspired?
 - A. Historical accuracy (lesson 3)
 - B. Archaeology (lesson 4)
 - C. The Prophecies (lesson 5)
 - D. The miracles (lesson 6)
6. Why do you believe Jesus resurrected from the dead (lesson 7)?
7. What evidence is seen outside the Bible that convinces you that the Bible is from God, and it contains the truth which you must believe (lessons 8–12)?
8. Why did God give the written word?
 - A. Deuteronomy 4:10
 - B. Deuteronomy 31:9–13
 - C. Deuteronomy 17:18–20
 - D. John 20:30–31
 - E. Ephesians 3:3–6
 - F. James 1:25
 - G. 2 Timothy 3:16–17

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Lesson 1

Evidence the Bible is Inspired

The word “inspired” comes from the Greek word *theopneustos* meaning “inspired by God” (Theos, “God,” pneo, “to breathe”) (Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words). That “God breathed” the words indicates they come from God’s mouth. Man did not imagine, create or compose the words which are inspired, they come from God.

1. How was Moses inspired (Leviticus 1:1; Numbers 1:1)?
2. How did the Law come to Moses so that we know it was from God (Exodus 20:1ff; 31:18)?
3. How did the prophets claim inspiration (Isaiah 1:2; Jeremiah 1:11)?
4. What instructions did God give indicating inspiration?
 - A. Exodus 34:27
 - B. Habakkuk 2:2
 - C. 2 Timothy 3:16
 - D. Hebrews 1:1–2; 2:3
 - E. Revelation 1:1
5. What was the role of the Holy Spirit in the revelation of God?
 - A. Matthew 10:19–20
 - B. John 14:26
 - C. John 15:26
 - D. John 16:13–15
 - E. 1 Corinthians 2:12–13
 - F. Galatians 1:11–12
6. How did prophecy come to man (2 Peter 1:20–21)?

God’s Method of Creating Belief

Lesson 13

God has always given man a reason to believe and trust Him. Our belief is never a blind faith. We trust God because He has proven Himself to be trustworthy. After all the things studied in this workbook as evidence for belief, it is important to take some time and think about whether we believe because of the evidence.

We are amazed at the faith of Abraham who went so far as to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice in obedience to God (Genesis 22). Hebrews 11:19 recounts his faith saying “*He considered that God is able to raise people even from the dead.*” God had given Abraham reason to believe that if he offered Isaac, God would raise him from the dead.

1. What evidence did God give Abraham?
 - A. Genesis 15:3–5
 - B. Genesis 17:4–8
 - C. Genesis 17:15–17, 21
 - D. Genesis 18:9–14
 - E. Genesis 21:1–3
2. What evidence did God give Gideon?
 - A. What instruction was Gideon given (Judges 6:12–14)?
 - B. What did Gideon request and receive (Judges 6:17–24)?
 - C. What further signs did God give Gideon (Judges 6:36–40)?
 - D. Why did Gideon believe what God said in Judges 7:7?
3. Read Romans 1:19–20
 - A. What is “clearly seen” about God as you consider what He has made (the created world)?
 - B. What part of the creation convinces you God exists?
4. Looking back to lessons 1 and 2 in this workbook, what causes you to believe the Bible is inspired?

6. Some argue the great flood was just a local event. Why do you think this might be false?

7. Does the geology of the earth indicate a global flood?

A. "Bones of Whale have been found 440 feet above sea level, north of Lake Ontario; a skeleton of another whale was discovered in Vermont, more than 500 feet above sea level; and still another in the Montreal-Quebec area, about 600 feet above sea level..." (Velikovsky, Immanuel, *Earth In Upheaval*, 1955, p. 47).

B. "The sediments do not exhibit strong evidence of a record of Evolution with simple animals at the bottom, progressing type by type up to more and more complex animals. The order is often random or completely upside down or out of order for Evolution. But this would be expected in a global flood catastrophe." (Wang, Kun. "Breakthroughs," *Discover*. Dec. 1994.)

How fast do marine animals decay? What was necessary for them to turn into a fossil rather than decay and disappear? We are told the stone in which the fossils are found took millions of years to be laid down. Hmm...



8. Examine the website below (with parents permission). Is there evidence for the biblical flood? What convinces you?

amazingdiscoveries.org/C-deception-fossils_Flood_catastrophism_uniformitarianism

Summary

If the evidence points to the reality of the Biblical flood, and that the creation of man was not through evolution, but was by God (as recorded in Genesis 1–3), what should be our thinking about the rest of the Bible?

Genesis was written around 1450BC and Revelation around 95AD. The Bible was written over a period of about 1500 years. More than 40 authors wrote down 66 books by inspiration of God. They came from all types of backgrounds and employment, yet the Bible is united in purpose and in agreement with itself.

7. How is the unity of the Bible different than the books men write?

The inspiration of the Scripture is fundamental to our belief. Because the word is from God we see it as authoritative. If we do not believe the Bible is inspired then there is no authority in it, and no reason to obey what it says. Jesus said, "*the Scripture cannot be broken*" when referring to the Law of Moses (John 10:35). In Matthew 15:3 He calls Scripture "*the commandment of God*" and in verse 6, "*the word of God.*" He certainly knew and taught the Law came through Moses for he said "*if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me*" (John 6:46).

8. What stories from the Old Testament does Jesus quote as fact?

A. Luke 17:27

B. Luke 17:28–32

C. Mark 12:26

D. John 3:14

E. Matthew 12:40

We must not miss in the writing of the New Testament that an argument was concluded and thought to be finished when it was based on "it is written" and an inspired text was given (Acts 23:5; Romans 5:9–12; Galatians 3:13; Hebrews 2:12). The inspiration of Scripture is so accurate, Paul bases an entire argument on the absence of one letter (Galatians 3:16).

9. What authoritative language is used in writing the New Testament?

A. 1 Corinthians 11:23

B. 1 Thessalonians 2:13

C. 2 Thessalonians 3:14

D. 1 John 4:6

E. 2 Peter 3:16

10. What did Jesus affirm in Matthew 4:4?

Lesson 2

Evidence of Manuscript Accuracy

God never intended for anyone to believe without giving evidence to cause that person to believe. Bible faith rests upon proven facts. The Bible is itself a book of evidence which causes belief, as Paul wrote, *“faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ”* (Rom. 10:17). We hear His words through the written word, but in the first century these things were relayed audibly. John indicates his teaching was based on facts when he wrote, *“What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life... what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also”* (1 John 1:1-3). John said, *“these things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life”* (1 John 5:13).

1. What evidence has God provided?

A. Moses was concerned about having evidence to present to Pharaoh for he asked God, *“what if they will not believe me or listen to what I say? For they may say, the Lord has not appeared to you”* (Ex. 4:1). Keep reading in chapter 4 and tell what two miracles God gave to Moses to convince others?

B. What further evidence was given to Pharaoh (Exodus 7-12)?

C. What evidence was given to Gideon (Jud. 6:36-40)?

D. What evidence did Jesus speak about (John 10:37-38)?

Much evidence for belief is found in Scripture (which will be examined in future lessons). Many people wonder why we should listen to the Bible? How can we know the Bible is from God? There is much evidence from outside the Bible that points to the Bible as coming from God. Much of this evidence comes from the ancient manuscripts.



More recent “missing link” finds are also composed of fragments. *Lucy* was discovered in 1974 and is presented as being 3 million years old. *Ardi* is presented as being 3.2 million years old and is comprised of 125 fragments. The skull alone was in 60 fragments.

Ida was revealed to the world in May of 2009 as a link between man and lemurs. It is said to be 47 million years old and is the size of a small cat.



There is a major problem with the supposed evolution of man. It disagrees with fossil records and objects created by man. With your parents permission, examine the following websites and tell the class what you found.

2. icr.org/article/paluxy-river-tale-trails
3. creation.com/did-angkor-really-see-a-dinosaur
4. historyevidenceofdinosaursandmen.weebly.com/visual.html

Evidence From The Flood

5. How long did it take Noah to build the ark (Genesis 5:32; 7:6)?
How long did they live in the ark (Gen. 7:17, 24; 8:4–6, 10, 12–14)?

Professor Harold Clark states, “Preserved in the myths and legends of almost every people on the face of the globe is the memory of the great catastrophe. While myths may not have any scientific value, yet they are significant in indicating the fact that an impression was left in the minds of the races of mankind that could not be erased” (*Fossils, Flood and Fire*, 1968, p.45). While all the details of the stories do not match, the basics are intact in every story: a universal destruction of the human race and animals by water, a boat or ark allowed some to escape, and a remnant of mankind was preserved to propagate the earth.

Lesson 12 Evidence For Creation: Man and the Flood

Evolutionists strongly argue that man evolved from monkeys. In his book *Descent of Man*, Darwin writes, “The Simiade then branched off into two great stems, the Old-World and New-World monkeys; and from the latter, at a remote period, man, the wonder of glory of the universe, proceeded” (p.220-221). This theory is promoted as truth in science and biology textbooks.

Many of the greatest finds in the area of human origins are merely bone fragments or just a few bones. There are a few very rare specimens of nearly intact skeletons and skulls, but the vast majority are incomplete and quite fragmentary. When a person who believes in evolution finds a bone fragment, they work to adopt it into their understanding and place it into their concept of human origins. There are many examples of how these assumptions of evolution have brought about errors and mis-claims. Perhaps one of the greatest is the Hesperopithecus claims of Henry Osborn and Doctors Hellman and Gregory. Osborn was the director of the American Museum of Natural History who received a package from Harold Cook containing one tooth. These eminent scientists determined it was from an ancient form of man, the first great ape of the west. Their claims were supported by Professor Wilder who published a book declaring Hesperopithecus was halfway between Java Man and Neandethal Man. Elliot Smith’s article on the ancestors family life contained the drawing to the right. This was a sensation for four and a half years in the 1920’s. When archaeologists began digging the nearby locations, more remains were eventually found which proved the tooth belonged to an extinct wild pig. The assumptions and imaginations of the evolutionists had run wild and produced a result that was totally wrong.

1. What can you learn about the following? Visit the websites with parental permission.

A. Java Man

answersingenesis.org/human-evolution/hominids/who-was-java-man

B. Piltdown Man

sciencemag.org/news/2016/08/study-reveals-culprit-behind-piltdown-man-one-science-s-most-famous-hoaxes

Manuscripts of ancient writings exist in every culture. Since the beginning of archaeology (around 1840A.D.), many more manuscripts have been discovered which add to the evidence of Bible inspiration.

Look at the following charts and answer the questions below.

AUTHOR	BOOK	DATE WRITTEN	EARLIEST COPIES	TIME GAP	NO. OF COPIES
Homer	<i>Iliad</i>	800 B.C.	c. 400 B.C.	c. 400 yrs.	643
Herodotus	<i>History</i>	480-425 B.C.	c. A.D. 900	c. 1,350 yrs.	8
Thucydides	<i>History</i>	460-400 B.C.	c. A.D. 900	c. 1,300 yrs	8
Plato		400 B.C.	c. A.D. 900	c. 1,300 yrs	7
Caesar	<i>Galic Wars</i>	100-44 B.C.	c. A.D. 900	c. 1,000 yrs	10
Livy	<i>History of Rome</i>	59 B.C. – A.D. 17	4 th Cent. (partial) mostly 10th cent.	c. 400 yrs c. 1000 yrs	1 partial 19 copies
Tacitus	<i>Annals</i>	A.D. 100	c. A.D. 1100	c. 1,000 yrs	20
Pliny the Younger	<i>Natural History</i>	A.D. 61-113	c. A.D. 850	c. 750 yrs	7
New Testament		A.D. 50-100	c. 114 (fragment) c. 200 (books) c. 250 (most of NT) c. 325 (complete NT)	+50 yrs 100 yrs 150 yrs. 225 yrs.	5366

2. What is important about the “time gap” (the period of time from the “date written” to the “earliest copy”)?

In addition to the 5366 Greek manuscripts of the New Testament, there are more than 19,000 manuscripts in other languages including Latin Vulgate (10,000+) , Slavic (4100+), Armenian (2500+), and Ethiopic (2000+). This brings the total New Testament Manuscripts to more than 24,000.

3. Why is the number of manuscripts important?

In addition, we have many writings of the Early Church Fathers (now published in English as a 27 volume set). These were early Christians (100–300AD) who wrote a lot to encourage fellow believers (like many do today). In their writings they quote the New Testament a lot (just like modern bulletin articles, internet sites, and books). These form additional manuscript evidence of Scripture. These are all fragments of Scripture, but attest to the widespread distribution of Scripture and it’s reliability in ancient times. The chart on the next page helps to see the extent of the number of these manuscripts.

EARLY CHURCH FATHER'S REFERENCES TO THE NEW TESTAMENT

WRITER	GOSPELS	ACTS	PAULINE EPISTLES	GENERAL EPISTLES	REVELATION	TOTALS
JUSTIN MARTYR	268	10	43	6	3 (266 allusions)	330
IRENAEUS	1,038	194	499	23	65	1,819
CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA	1,017	44	1,127	207	11	2,406
ORIGEN	9,231	349	7,778	399	165	17,922
TERTULLIAN	3,822	502	2,609	120	205	7,258
HIPPOLYTUS	734	42	387	27	188	1,378
EUSEBIUS	3,258	211	1,592	88	27	5,176
GRAND TOTALS	19,368	1,352	14,035	870	664	36,289

The most important (oldest) manuscripts are: The Vatican Manuscript, The Sinaitic Manuscript, and the Alexandrian Manuscript. These date from 350-450AD. They are the oldest Bibles in the world.

The Vatican Manuscript has resided at the Vatican Library in Rome since 1481, and possibly longer. It is missing the beginning up to Genesis 46:28, some of the Psalms (106-138), and the end is lost from Hebrews 9:14 to the end of Hebrews, as well as losing the Letters to Timothy, Titus, and Revelation. It is bound in book form (a codex) made of 759 vellum leaves. Each page is 10 inches square and contains three columns of writing. It is still considered the most exact copy of the N.T. known, believed to be the earliest of the great manuscripts.

The Sinaitic Manuscript was discovered in a monastery burn pile in 1844 by Constantin von Tischendorf. He found pages of the Old Testament in Greek. The librarian gave him about a third of them (43 sheets), and 9 years later he made arrangements for the other 86 sheets. These manuscripts contained all of the New Testament and large portions of the Old Testament. Following a fire in 1975, this same monastery found an additional 12 sheets from the Old Testament.

- Examine the following website, reading paragraphs 3-5, and tell the class what you learn about the Coelacanth.
sites.google.com/a/georgiasouthern.edu/etmcmull/coelacanth-and-other-living-fossils-no-change-over-time

The supposed evolution of horses is on display in many museums. There are arguments presented for how they went from many toes to the current one toe (hoof).



- Examine the following website and tell the class what you learn.
creation.com/the-evolution-of-the-horse
- How do these evolution "facts" agree or disagree with the Bible? Why is that a problem?

Dr. Colin Patterson, who was at the time the senior paleontologist (fossil expert) at the prestigious British Museum of Natural History, wrote a book for the British Museum simply called *Evolution*. Creationist Luther Sunderland wrote to Dr. Patterson inquiring why he had not shown one single photograph of a transitional fossil in his book. Patterson then wrote back with the following amazing confession which was reproduced, in its entirety, in Sunderland's book *Darwin's Enigma*: 'I fully agree with your comments on the lack of direct illustration of evolutionary transitions in my book. If I knew of any, fossil or living, I would certainly have included them. You suggest that an artist should be used to visualize such transformations, but where would he get the information from? I could not, honestly, provide it, and if I were to leave it to artistic licence, would that not mislead the reader?' He went on to say: 'Yet Gould [Stephen J. Gould—the now deceased professor of paleontology from Harvard University] and the American Museum people are hard to contradict when they say there are no transitional fossils. ... You say that I should at least "show a photo of the fossil from which each type of organism was derived." I will lay it on the line—there is not one such fossil for which one could make a watertight argument.' (Sunderland, L., *Darwin's Enigma*, Master Books, Arkansas, USA, pp. 101–102, 1998.)

In 1999, the National Geographic Society unveiled *Archaeoraptor liaoningensis*, a small fossil from China, at a press conference. Ten pages of pictures and text were devoted to it in their November 1999 magazine, which stated: "With arms of a primitive bird and the tail of a dinosaur, this creature found in Liaoning province, China, is a true missing link in the complex chain that connects dinosaurs to birds. ... This mix of advanced and primitive features is exactly what scientists would expect to find in dinosaurs experimenting with flight." Within months *Archaeoraptor* was proven to be a fraud—a forgery concocted by a Chinese farmer for profit. In due course, studies showed that the fossil was a 'doctored' combination of up to five separate specimens.

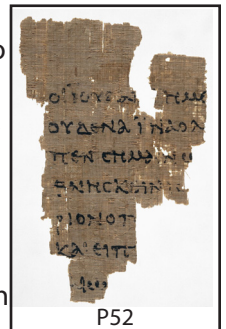
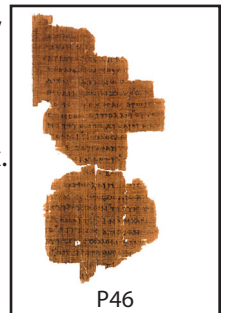
The Coelacanth was touted as a fossil record "missing link" providing evidence for evolution. This was primarily based on the limb-like structure of the fins; a structure on the way up from a fin for swimming and a foot for walking.



Originally it thought the manuscript was 730 leaves. 393 remain (including all of the New Testament). The leaves are of very fine vellum measuring 15 inches square, and the text is in four columns. It is on display at the British Library.

The Alexandrian Manuscript manuscript is known to have resided in Alexandria for several centuries. It was taken from Alexandria to Constantinople in 1621. In 1757 it was donated to the British Museum. It contains both Old and New Testaments, mostly complete. This manuscript is 773 leaves. Ten leaves are missing from the Old Testament, but the New Testament has suffered more loss.

There are several other very important manuscripts, some complete, some incomplete, as well as many thousands of fragments where the original has crumbled. P4, P64, P67 are listed as three fragments which we know belonged to the same original codex. It contains several verses of Matthew and Luke. It is more like the Vatican Manuscript than anything else, dating to perhaps the late 2nd century - giving it a very good claim to be the oldest known codex of the four gospels. P46 is a Beatty papyri and is the earliest text of most of the letters of Paul and dates to the early third century. Of an original 104 leaves, 86 remain. The text is like the Vatican text. P52 is located at the John Rylands Library in Manchester, England. This fragment has become the item the library is most famous for. It is called the "John Rylands fragment" and is 3.5 X 2.5 inches. It was identified in 1934 by C. H. Roberts of Oxford while sorting through an abundance of papyri fragments. It has a few words written on both sides in Greek, identified as part of John 18:31-33, 38-38. It is dated to the first half of the 2nd century (100–150AD). Perhaps within 50 years of the original writing!



In addition to New Testament manuscripts, many other manuscripts of the Old Testament have been found. In the early 1940's, many voices were claiming the Bible is not reliable. In March of 1948 a discovery of ancient scrolls found near the dead sea was first reported. They were found by an Arab boy looking for a lost goat and stumbled upon a cave with jars containing the scrolls. He original sold 7 scrolls from this find, one being a scroll of Isaiah in Hebrew. Since 1948, 6 other

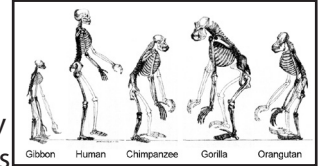
caves have been found in the region containing more than 800 scrolls. Fragments from almost every book of the Old Testament have been identified. They number about 200. Is it a COMPLETE copy of Isaiah that dates to 100B.C. This scroll is about 1,000 years older than the oldest which existed prior to this find. It confirms the accuracy of the text from 900 AD.

4. These manuscripts are all found to be in agreement in their record of the Bible. How does this information impact your thinking and confidence that what you have in your copy of the Bible is accurate and is what God intends for us to have?
5. What evidence (from this lesson) helps you believe the Bible is from God? Why?
6. If the Bible IS from God, what should be our reaction to what we read?

Evidence of Creation: After Their Kind

Lesson 11

Evolution is a theory that states one kind of life is transformed into another kind of life. Supposedly, a creature evolves when a mutation occurs in the birth of a young one, and that mutation is passed on to its descendents. Through a long succession of mutations (over millions of years) the result is a different kind of creature. Evolution claims fish mutated into creatures that walked on land and breathed air. Reptiles (lizards) became birds and mammals (horses, monkeys, lions, etc). You have probably heard how the theory claims man evolved from the monkey. Charles Darwin first proposed the theory of evolution in his book *The Origin Of Species* published in 1859. The majority of scientists and science text books are based on this theory as being fact.



Evolution and the creation by God in Genesis 1 cannot agree. One must be wrong and one must be right. You must decide based on the evidence.

1. When God created and enabled reproduction, what rule did He give (Genesis 1:11–12, 24–25)?
2. How many different kinds of “flesh” are there (1 Corinthians 15:39). List them.

Scientists who believe one “kind” mutated into another “kind” over millions of years claim there are transitional fossils to prove the theory is fact. Sometimes these types of fossils are called a “missing link.” The fossil Archaeopteryx is often given as one of the best examples which supposedly demonstrates a transition between a lizard (dinosaur) and a bird. Seven specimens of this fossil have been found (ucmp.berkeley.edu/diapsids/birds/archaeopteryx). Two of the fossils have imprints of feathers, three do not. Of the two that do, the upper slab of stone from which it was taken no longer settles onto the fossil which has caused much speculation that this is a fraud and the feathers were carved by man.



Thought Questions

- A. How old were the trees when God created them (Gen. 1:9–13; 2:16)?

- B. How old were the birds when God created them (Gen. 1:20)?

- C. How old were Adam and Eve when God created them (Gen. 2:7, 15–25)?

- D. How old was the earth when God created it (Gen. 1)?

In Class Project

Read and study in Genesis 5 to calculate how long was it from Adam till the flood of Noah? Understanding how this works helps us to see how the Bible indicates the age of the world is about 6,000 years.

(Teachers: this website may help. [www. answersingenesis.org/ bible-timeline/timeline-for-the-flood](http://www.answersingenesis.org/bible-timeline/timeline-for-the-flood))

Evidence of Historical Accuracy

Lesson 3

King David is a central character to the Bible story. He was chosen to be the second King of Israel because he was a man after God's own heart. The coming Messiah was to reign on the throne of David forever. Skeptics pointed to David as a fictional person because there was no evidence of him outside the Bible. That is, until the summer of 1993. Dr. Avraham Biran was excavating at Tell Dan in northern Galilee where they discovered a royal plaza. Amidst the ruins was a stone stele with Aramaic writing. Two of the lines included the "The King of Israel" and "House of David." Dr. Bryant Wood states "in our day, most scholars, archaeologist and biblical scholars would take a very critical view of the historical accuracy of many of the accounts in the Bible. . . . Many scholars have said there never was a David or a Solomon, and now we have a stele that actually mentions David." (Randall Price, *The Stones Cry Out* (Eugene, OR.: Harvest House Publishers, 1997), 46.)



For centuries there was no evidence of the Hittite nation outside of the Bible, though the Bible mentions them frequently. They are first mentioned in Genesis 15:20 as inhabitants of Caanan. In 1886 a collection of tablets in an unknown language were discovered in the Turkish city of Boghaskoy. Hugo Winkler, a German cuneiform expert, examined the tablets and in 1906 began excavations in the city of Boghaskoy. His findings include five temples, sculptures, a fortified castle and a storeroom with more than 10,000 clay tablets. The tablets were eventually translated. One tablet was a treaty between Ramasses II and the king of the Hittites. Other tablets proved Boghaskoy was the capital of the Hittite nation, originally called Hattusha. A city which covered three hundred acres. "Nothing discovered by the excavators has in any way discredited the Biblical account. Scripture accuracy has once more been proved by the archaeologist." (Fred Wright, *Highlights of Archaeology in the Bible Lands*, (Chicago: Moody Press, 1955), 94-95)

King Sargon was suspiciously absent from history when looking at non-biblical sources. This again was purported to be evidence against the accuracy of the Bible. Many denied he ever existed. Between 1842 and 1844 the French archaeologist Paul-Emile Botta discovered a magnificent palace in Khorsabad. This site we now know was the new

capital city Dur-Sharrukin ('the fortress of Sargon'). The clay prism (right) called the Sargon Annals is of cuneiform writing accounting the capture and deportation of the northern kingdom of Israel in 722 BC. It records the 8th campaign of Sargon II in Syria and the revolt in Samaria (capital of the Northern Kingdom). King Sargon's boasting is included: "I besieged and captured Samaria, and carried off 27,290 of its inhabitants". This tablet is now in the Louvre Museum in Paris.



MS 2368
Royal inscription of Sargon II of Assyria.
Nimrud, 722-705 BC

1. What part did Sargon II play in God's dealings with the Israelites?
 - A. Isaiah 10:5
 - B. Isaiah 20:1-6
 - C. 2 Kings 17:22-23

RESEARCH PROJECTS: Examine each of the following using any available resource and share what you have learned about Historical Biblical Accuracy. Ask your parents for some help, especially in finding a book or internet site to help you. Be prepared to share with the class what you have learned.

2. Hezekiah's tunnel (2 Kings 20:20; 2 Chron. 32:30). It was not believed to have been possible for ancient peoples to have constructed such a tunnel. So the claim was: the Bible is fiction.
3. Abram left Ur of the Chaldees (Gen. 11:31), a location which supposedly did not exist. Search for "treasures from Ur."

- Evolutionists want us to believe there are these well defined layers in the ground that clearly date fossil and rock formations. This is not the case at all. Fossils and rocks are intermixed. A great example of this intermixing is seen in the walls of the Grand Canyon with darker and lighter layers of formations. Older formations are found on top of supposedly younger formations. In fact they will be intermixed in tens of layers.



Research Project

Select two of the following to study about and give a brief report to the class. Ask your parents permission if you choose to visit the suggested website. State why the subject indicates a younger earth than the billions of years science is claiming.

- A. Polystrate Fossils (www.creation.com/polystrate-fossils-evidence-for-a-young-earth)
- B. Canyons Can Form Rapidly (www.answersingenesis.org/kids/videos/science/mount-st-helens) (www.answersingenesis.org/geology/natural-features/canyon-creation)
- C. Amount Of Mud And Salt In The Oceans (www.icr.org/article/evidence-for-young-world see points # 4 and #5)

Lesson 10 Evidence About Age Of The Earth

The age of the earth is a fundamentally important fact for proponents of evolution. If the age of the earth is only thousands of years (which the Bible indicates), then evolution is impossibly false. The United States Department of Interior produced a geological study in which it is stated, "there is substantial evidence that the Earth and the other bodies of the Solar System are 4.5-4.6 billion years old, and that the Milky Way Galaxy and the Universe are older still." (www.nature.nps.gov/geology/usgsnps/gtime/ageofearth.pdf) A figure similar to this length of time will be found in all geological text books in schools. *Science Daily* reported on March 11, 2010 that "High school and college students who understand the geological age of the Earth (4.5 billion years) are much more likely to understand and accept human evolution, according to a University of Minnesota study published in the March issue of the journal *Evolution*...The role of the Earth's age is a key variable that we can use to improve education about evolution, which is important because it is the unifying principle of biology," said lead author Sehoya Cotner, associate professor in the Biology Program, which provides general biology classes for University of Minnesota undergraduates. (www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/03/100310162833.htm) The point is simple - if the age of the earth is proven to be young, then the Bible is supported. If the age of the earth is proven to be old, then evolution is supported. We must educate ourselves about the age of the earth.

The following facts are important in this study:

- No scientific dating of an object is accurate. A range of dates are given as results (many thousands of years apart) and the results have been proven inaccurate. If you are interested, you can read more about this at www.answersingenesis.org/geology/carbon-14
- By looking at the age of a person in the Bible a time line can be created. A good example of this is found in Genesis 5 which tells of Adam to Noah and how long each person lived. By looking at all this type of information in Scripture, the age of the earth appears to be near 6,000 years. More information can be found at www.answersingenesis.org/bible-timeline/genealogy.
- In the geologic record, life appears suddenly and in great complexity. There is nothing like life coming from one creature or even a handful. The earliest fossilized life forms are complex, not simple organisms. The rocks show there was no life and then suddenly there was great variety and complexity of life.

4. Caiaphas was the High Priest at the time of Jesus' resurrection. He is mentioned nine times in the New Testament including Matthew 26:57. There was no evidence of him other than the Bible. (Search for Caiaphas in the year 1990).
5. The city of Ephesus and the mob scene of Acts 19. Could there have been such a mob in the theatre? (search for the amphitheatre in Ephesus.)
6. What is the benefit of examining non-biblical evidence?

Bonus Effort If you desire, bring one additional item to present to the class from the list below.

- A. Samson destroying a Philistine temple by pushing over two pillars of stone that supported the roof (Judges 16).
- B. The testimony from bullae [sometimes spelled bulla]. (Search for bullae of Baruch, or bullae of Isaiah).
- C. The Cyrus cylinder (see Chronicles 36:23 and Ezra 1).
- D. The Pool of Siloam (such as in John 9).

(Note: Teachers and students are encouraged to bring photos, or digital photos from any or all research projects to show to the class.)

Lesson 4

Evidence From Archaeology

This lesson will cover how archaeology has proven the Bible to be a factual, historical book based on evidence found of locations, people, and events. As a science, archaeology is relatively new. The very basic fundamentals were not established until the 1800's, and only in the last one hundred years or so has it come to be recognized as a field of scientific study. The efforts of archaeologists prove conclusively the accuracy of the Bible, which causes us to believe. For this lesson, we will consider the city of Jericho which God defeated for the Israelites as recorded in the book of Joshua.

"Authorities are generally agreed in locating the ancient city at Tel es-Sultan, a mile and half Northwest of modern Jericho. Here there is a mound 1200 foot long and 50 foot in height supporting 4 smaller mounds, the highest of which is 90 foot above the base of the main mound." (*International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, Vol. 3, p.1592) This mound was surrounded by a large earthen rampart with a stone retaining wall at its base. The retaining wall was some 12-15 foot high with a mud brick wall on top of it extending an additional 20-26 foot. (Ernst Sellin and Carl Watzinger, *Jericho die Ergebnisse der Ausgrabungen*, Osnabrück, Otto Zeller Verlag, p. 58, 1973). The interior wall surrounded a 6 acre enclosure where it is estimated some 1200 people lived. Some have stated the city could have contained upwards of four thousand while under siege. It is no wonder the Israelites were told "You are crossing over the Jordan today to go in to dispossess nations greater and mightier than you, great cities fortified to heaven" (Deut. 9:1). The evidence of the city construction agrees.

For years scientists scoffed at the ideas that the walls of Jericho would fall down and the city would be burned. They loudly stated there was no evidence. The work of Kathlyn Kenyon put to rest such claims. At the base of the embankment on the west side of the mound, she found "fallen red bricks piling nearly to the top of the revetment. These probably came from the wall on the summit of the bank [and/or] ... the brickwork above the revetment." (Kathleen M. Kenyon, *Excavations at Jericho*, 3:110, London, British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, 1981) In 1997 an Italian team located the same thing and reached the same conclusions. This verifies the inspired text which says "the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight ahead" (Joshua 6:20).

Joshua 2:15 states that Rahab's "house was on the city wall, so that

2. "Blowing toward the south, Then turning toward the north, The wind continues swirling along; And on its circular courses the wind returns" (Ecclesiastes 1:6). "For He draws up the drops of water, They distill rain from the mist, Which the clouds pour down, They drip upon man abundantly. Can anyone understand the spreading of the clouds, The thundering of His pavilion?" (Job 36:27-28). "He who calls for the waters of the sea And pours them out on the face of the earth, The Lord is His name" (Amos 9:6). What scientific principle does this sound like? (Hint: www.creation.com/the-bible-and-the-hydrologic-cycle). Read paragraph titled "What is the hydrologic cycle."
3. Tell how each reference below proves God's knowledge has been revealed before man knew about it.
 - A. "By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible" (Hebrews 11:3).
 - B. "There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory" (1 Corinthians 15:41).

Conclusion

What do you think about this evidence? What does it make you think about God and the inspiration of the Bible?

1. Research Project: Identify when the fact was discovered by man.
 - A. Isaiah 43:16 God *“makes a way through the sea and a path through the mighty waters.”* Psalm 8:8 mentions *“the paths of the seas.”* When did man first map these paths of the seas? With your parent’s permission, do an internet search for the work of Matthew Fontaine Maury who worked for the United States Navy.
 - B. Isaiah 40:22 *“It is He who sits above the circle of the earth.”* Isaiah was written about 850 B.C. When did man understand the earth is round? With parent’s permission, read this webpage (<http://www.bbc.com/earth/story/20160126-how-we-know-earth-is-round>).
 - C. Job 38:24 *“Where is the way that the light is divided?”* When did man first discover how light divides? With parent’s permission read this webpage (www.juliantrubin.com/bigten/lightexperiments.html)
 - D. *“Then God said, “Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures”* (Genesis 1:20). With parent’s permission visit this website (www.answersingenesis.org/creation-scientists/profiles/antony-van-leeuwenhoek-microscopes-creation-magnified). Scroll down to the paragraph titled *“The Unseen World of Antony van Leeuwenhoek.”* When did man understand what God knew at the beginning? Bonus: search for images of “plankton.”
 - E. How do these facts appearing in the Bible demonstrate God’s knowledge? How does this help us believe?

she was living on the wall!” In this way she was able to let the spies out her window, down the exterior wall and where they escaped to the hill country. The only one who was to survive the destruction of Jericho was *“Rahab the harlot and all who are with her in the house”* (Joshua 6:17). A German excavation in 1907-1909 found a portion of the northern lower wall that did not fall (whereas everywhere else the wall did fall). A portion of the mud brick wall remained standing to a height of about eight foot. They also found houses built against the wall. (Ernst Sellin and Carl Watzinger, *Jericho die Ergebnisse der Ausgrabungen, Osnabrück, Otto Zeller Verlag, p. 58, 1973*).

A problem still remains. The walls fell down. That’s been proven. Rahab’s house remained standing, that has been proven at least plausible. Yet, how did the Israelites go *“up into the city, every man straight ahead?”* The earthworks and retaining wall would have likely remained in place as an obstacle. Excavations show that the bricks from the collapsed inner wall, and from the mud brick wall (atop the retaining wall) collapsed outward forming a ramp which could easily be climbed. The Israelites went *“up into the city”* literally walking on this ramp, and *“every man straight ahead”* because the ramp encircled the city.

According to Joshua 3:15 the city of Jericho was attacked shortly after the harvest. The citizens would have had an abundance of food. With an abundance of food, and a spring which provided more than enough water, the city could be sieged for months and survive. In excavations of the Canaanite homes of Jericho, many storage jars full of grain have been found (by the Garstand expedition in 1930 and the Kenyon expedition in 19050’s). This testifies that the city did not wait long for its destruction. There was still an abundance of food. The Scriptural account is verified which speaks of a seven day siege. What’s more, the value of the grain (in that day) makes the find very unusual. The victors would have normally plundered the grain. That it was left again agrees with the inspired text. *“The city shall be under the ban, it and all that is in it belongs to the Lord”* (Joshua 6:17).

“They burned the city with fire, and all that was in it. Only the silver and gold, and articles of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the Lord” (Joshua 6:24). The stones of the city and the jars of grain all show evidence of the entire city being burned. Kenyon states, *“The destruction was complete. Walls and floors were blackened or reddened by fire, and every room was filled with fallen bricks, timbers, and household utensils; in most rooms the fallen debris was heavily*

burnt, but the collapse of the walls of the eastern rooms seems to have taken place before they were affected by the fire" (Kathleen M. Kenyon, *Excavations at Jericho*, 3:370, London, British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, 1981).

1. What causes you to believe the fall of the city of Jericho happened just like Scripture says?
2. Why is this type of evidence important?

When archaeologists are looking for an ancient location, the source they most frequently turn to is the Bible. They study it carefully for every indication of the city or site and go to that place to dig and see if they find it. This has led to much evidence pointing to the historical accuracy of the Bible.

Research Projects: for each of the following, visit a website (one is provided) to read and study. Read the provided Scripture reference. Be prepared to tell the class why and how the evidence of archaeology is important. You may want to write some notes or print from the internet and highlight some things. Ask your parents for permission and help.

1. Sergius Paulus (Acts 13:7)
<http://www.biblehistory.net/newsletter/paulus.htm>
2. The Pool Of Siloam (John 9:7–11)
<https://www.seetheholyland.net/pool-of-siloam/>
3. The Arch Of Titus (Matthew 24:2)
<https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/archaeology-today/cultural-heritage/true-colors-the-arch-of-titus/>

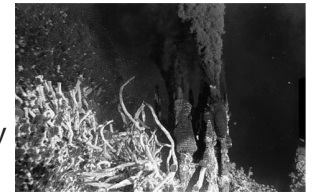
<https://www.biblicalarchaeology.org/daily/news/a-second-triumphal-arch-of-titus-discovered/>
4. Sennacherib's Invasion and death (2 Kings 18:13)
<https://www.bible-history.com/empires/prism.html>

Evidence From Science

The Bible is not a science textbook, yet there are many scientific facts stated in the Bible which have all been proven to be true. Many of these could not have been known by mankind at the time the Bible was written. Therefore, this foreknowledge is evidence of the inspiration of God.

God asks Job, "Have you entered into the springs of the sea or walked in the recesses of the deep" (Job 38:16)? No one was able to view the bottom of the ocean until recent times with the advent of robotic submersibles equipped with lights and cameras. From the surface there is no evidence of springs in the sea, and much evidence of the seas being fed by rivers and rainfall. Genesis 7:11 (in connection with the great flood) states "all the fountains of the great deep burst open." The first hydrothermal vents were discovered in 1977 at an average depth of 7,000 feet. They continuously spew mineral rich water (which appears black) at a temperature of 750 degrees Fahrenheit."

These underwater geysers are believed to play an important role in the ocean's temperature, chemistry, and circulation patterns" (www.oria.ceoe.udel.edu/the-deep-ocean/seafloor-geology). All the science of man merely confirms the facts revealed by inspiration many hundreds of years earlier.



The springs have been proven. So have the "recesses of the deep" (Job 38:16) (the Hebrew meaning: abyss). Most believed the ocean floor was flat until the 16th century when men began taking soundings with long ropes. These proved the floor changed. In 1855 Maury's chart was the first to indicate underwater mountain chains in the mid Atlantic. Survey ships laying the first trans-Atlantic telegraph line confirmed this finding. The development of radar technology in World War II led to a mapping of the sea floor. Mountain chains 50,000 kilometers long rise as much as 4500 kilometers from the floor. Twenty-two major trenches have been identified. The Mariana Trench, near Japan, is the deepest at 11,033 meters. If the tallest mountain (Mt. Everest at 8,850 meters) were set in the Mariana Trench, there would still be 2,183 meters (7,166 feet) of water left above it. Truly a recess of the deep.

6. Look at each of the following about human anatomy (with parent's permission) and tell why these point to God as the designer.
 - A. The Human Brain (www.answersingenesis.org/human-body/brain/brain-experiences)
 - B. The Human Eye (www.answersingenesis.org/human-body/eyes) [watch the 2 minute video]
 - C. The Human Cell (www.answersingenesis.org/biology/microbiology/the-amazing-cell)
 - D. Psalm 139:14
7. Look at each of the following about the universe (with parent's permission) and tell why these point to God as the designer.
 - A. The gravitational forces in our solar system and its effect on the position of the planets. (www.godandscience.org/apologetics/designss.html)
 - B. The Earth's rotation and axial tilt which allows, day, night, and seasons.(same article as above)
8. Make comments as to why the following aspects of the creation point to a designer.
 - A. Animal Migration (www.answersingenesis.org/animal-behavior/migration/journey-home)
 - B. Animal camouflage (www.answersingenesis.org/kids/videos/animals/chameleons)
 - C. Bat sonar (www.answersingenesis.org/mammals/bat-sonar-points-to-creation)

Evidence From Prophecies

1. What is prophecy and how can we know if it is true (Deuteronomy 18:20–22)?
2. Are there prophets speaking for God today (Hebrews 1:1–2; 1 Corinthians 13:8–10)?
3. Read and write down the prophecy in Isaiah 44:28 and Jeremiah 29:10.
 - A. How was this fulfilled (Ezra 1:1-3)?
 - B. Isaiah wrote about this 280 years before it happened. How could he have known the name of Cyrus or what would happen?
 - C. How does this cause us to believe in God?
4. Tell why the following are considered prophets. Try to include how the prophecies came true.
 - A. Joseph (Read Genesis 37:5–9 and 41:16–32).
 - B. Daniel (Read Daniel 2:36–45). Ask parents if you need help.
5. The prophets frequently foretold the coming of the Messiah. These are called Messianic prophecies. For each of the following write down what the specific prophecy was and how it was fulfilled.
 - A. Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:26–31
 - B. Hosea 11:1; Matthew 2:14–15

Evidence Of Design In Creation

The theory of evolution tells us that all things came into existence by chance. The very existence of all things supposedly began with a “big bang” when atoms (which previously did not exist) collided causing an explosion from which came the entire universe. Since the “big bang” the theory states life has evolved from the simple to the complex. To be clear, evolution is a description of how one species gave birth to another species. There is no question that there are mutations and diversity within a species (consider the number of ants, or birds, or fish). But who could believe a fish gave birth to a lizard? Or that a clam gave birth to a fish? Or that a horse gave birth to a monkey? The theory is against everything seen in nature. The creation account in Genesis 1 affirms that what we see in the world today is what has been going on since God created.

- C. Zechariah 9:9; Mark 11:7–11
 - D. Zechariah 11:12; Matthew 26:14–15
 - E. Isaiah 53:7; Mark 15:4–5
 - F. Psalm 22:17–18; Matthew 27:35–36
 - H. Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 27:57–60
 - I. Could one man have learned all the Messianic prophecies and worked all his life to fulfill them in order to trick people into thinking he was the Messiah?
 - J. Isaiah’s prophecies were more than 600 years before Christ. How does the amount of time cause us to believe?
6. Jesus is the Messiah. He is God who became flesh. He also prophesied. Tell how each was fulfilled.
- A. Matthew 16:21; 20:17–19 (also in Mark 9:31 and Luke 9:22)
 - B. Matthew 26:20–21
 - C. Matthew 26:33–35, 69–75
 - D. What does Jesus say about prophecy in Matthew 5:17?
7. What importance does Jesus put on the prophecies about Himself (John 5:39)?

1. Why should we examine evidence from the creation (Romans 1:20)?
2. What is meant in Genesis 1:24 by the phrase “*after their kind*”?
3. **Research Project.** Pick at least one of the following about the flight of birds. Research some facts on the internet to present to the class as evidence of design and how such things do not happen by accident. Use a separate piece of paper.
 - A. The design of bird bones
 - B. The design and function of feathers
 - C. The design of a bird flapping wings
 - D. The design of bird lungs
4. What evidence would you point to that shows moths and butterflies were designed by God? (consider the wing patterns, camouflage, and/or migration)
5. What evidence would you point to that shows bees (or other flying insects) were designed by God? (consider wings, communication by “dance”, scent trails)

6. How important is it to be convinced of the truth of Jesus' resurrection?
 - A. Luke 7:11–18
 - B. Luke 8:40–42, 49–56
 - C. John 11:1–15, 30–46
 - D. Acts 9:36–42
7. There were others in the New Testament who were raised from the dead. Tell who was resurrected, the purpose of the miracle, and the result of the miracle.
 - A. Luke 7:11–18
 - B. Luke 8:40–42, 49–56
 - C. John 11:1–15, 30–46
 - D. Acts 9:36–42

Evidence From Miracles

Lesson 6

1. What is a “miracle”? Try for a definition.
2. How do the following demonstrate an interference with the laws of nature?
 - A. Matthew 14:13–21
 - B. Matthew 14:25–27
3. What is the importance of a witness' account of a miracle? (Consider the importance of witness testimony in a trial.)
4. What is the purpose of the recording of miracles (John 20:30–31)?
5. For each of the following, tell what the miracle was and the response from the people.
 - A. Exodus 12:29–32
 - B. 1 Kings 18:30–40
 - C. 2 Kings 5:9–16
 - D. Daniel 2:16–27
 - E. Luke 5:18–25
 - F. Luke 13:10–17
 - G. Acts 2:1–12, 37–41
 - H. Acts 8:4–13
 - I. Acts 16:19–40
6. What is the testimony of the witnesses about Jesus?
 - A. John 5:31–39
 - B. John 8:14
 - C. John 4:29

7. What was the role of the apostles (Acts 1:8)?
8. What did the apostles testify?
 - A. Acts 2:32
 - B. Acts 5:30–32
 - C. Acts 10:38–43
 - D. 1 John 1:1–3
 - E. Acts 20:24
9. Why do miracles cause us to believe?

Evidence From The Resurrection

Lesson 7

Of all the testimony of witnesses, none is greater than that of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. No miracle better demonstrates the canceling of natural laws.

1. What was the sign of Jonah (Luke 11:29–30)? See also Matthew 12:40. Ask your parents if you need help.
2. What was the attitude of some when they heard of the resurrection of Jesus (Acts 17:32)?
3. What did the Jewish leadership do when they realized the resurrection was real (Matthew 28:11–15)?
4. From the following passages, give reasons for your belief in Jesus' resurrection.
 - A. Matthew 28:1–10
 - B. Mark 16:1–11
 - C. Luke 24:1–12
 - D. John 20:1–18
5. Read 1 Corinthians 15:4–8. List the witnesses spoken of, and why this is important to you.