

**THINKING ABOUT THE BIBLE**  
**PART 2: FACT OR FICTION**  
**February 12, 2017**

"The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of God stands forever."  
Isaiah 40:8 (NLT)

**INSPIRED**

God- \_\_\_\_\_; all Scripture is the product of the Divine breath;  
God inspired forty different authors over a period of approximately 1,500 years who,  
being \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_,  
wrote what God wanted them to write. The writers used their own minds, talents,  
language and style from their own personal, historical and cultural contexts. But  
\_\_\_\_\_ of what was written.

**THE BIBLE'S EXTRAORDINARY CLAIMS**

"In the beginning, God ..." Genesis 1:1 (NIV)

"I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book. And if anyone takes words away from this book of prophecy, God will take away from him his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book."  
Revelations 22:18-19 (NIV)

- **From beginning to end, the Bible claims to be a book about \_\_\_\_\_.**

"The Lord said to Abram, "Leave your country, your people and your household and go to the land I will show you."  
Genesis 12:1 (NIV)

"... God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Then He said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob."  
Exodus 3:4-6 (NIV)

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here I am. Send me!" He said, "Go and tell this people ..."  
Isaiah 6:8-9 (NIV)

"This is the message that the Lord gave to Israel through the prophet Malachi." Malachi 1:1 (NLT)

"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you really knew Me, you would know My Father as well ... Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father."  
John 14:6-7, 9 (NIV)

- **From beginning to end, the Bible claims to be** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

"All scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip His people to do every good work." II Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)

- **If true, then the Bible has implications for every aspect of life; why I** \_\_\_\_\_,  
**my** \_\_\_\_\_ **in life,** \_\_\_\_\_ **I should** \_\_\_\_\_, **and**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **when I** \_\_\_\_\_.

"The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of our God stands forever." Isaiah 40:8 (NLT)

### HOW DO I KNOW IF THE CLAIMS OF THE BIBLE ARE TRUE?

"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect ..."

I Peter 3:15 (NIV)

#### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ EVIDENCE

"He (God) spreads out the northern skies over empty space; He suspends the earth over nothing."

Job 26:7 (NIV)

"He (God) sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in."

Isaiah 40:22 (NIV)

#### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ SUPPORT

"Lot took a long look at the fertile plains of the Jordan Valley in the direction of Zoar. The whole area was well watered ... (This was before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah.) ... Lot moved his tents to a place near Sodom and settled among the cities of the plain."

Genesis 13:10, 12 (NLT)

"... at the sound of the trumpet, when the people shouted, the wall collapsed; so every man charged straight in, and they took the city."

Joshua 6:20 (NIV)

#### 3. THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THE \_\_\_\_\_.

"... there will be a time of great persecution. You will be dragged into synagogues and prisons, and you will stand trial before kings and governors because you are My followers ... Even those closest to you – your parents, brothers, relatives, and friends will betray you. They will even kill some of you."

Luke 21:12, 16-17 (NLT)

#### 4. \_\_\_\_\_

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

Genesis 1:1 (NIV)