

WHY WE BELIEVE: The Bible Hebrews 3:4; 11:3; Psalm 8:3–9

The Scientific Accuracy and Foreknowledge of the Bible pt.2

1. **Before A.O. Schnabel began preaching in Portland, OR he was an aerospace engineer at Boeing Aircraft in Seattle.**
 - a. When he would talk about the Bible to his friends and co-workers at Boeing—they kept asking for evidence to back up what the Bible said.
 - b. These were engineers, technicians and mathematicians—they wanted something more than opinions or beliefs—they wanted hard evidence that is based on logic.
 - c. Some are like Thomas—who would not believe unless he saw the nail prints in Jesus hands and the wound in His side—but Jesus went to Thomas and Showed him...
 - d. Schnabel began studying and cataloging the evidences given in the Bible—scientific accuracy and foreknowledge that only the architect and builder of the universe would know!
 - e. Evidences from Astronomy, Geology, Oceanography, Meteorology, Physics, Biology, Archeology and Prophecy—and he made his book available for free online¹

Bible writers wrote of things they could not have known except by inspiration (2 Pet 1:20–21)

I. The Scientific Accuracy and Foreknowledge of the Bible

(1) UNIVERSE BUILT BY THINGS NOT SEEN

1. **The Bible describes an invisible structure of the universe (Hebrews 11:3)**
 - a) Greek word for “things” indicates the smallest, most basic elementary parts of anything
 - b) Elements that are so small they cannot be seen—
 - c) so that the things which are seen are not made of things which are visible.
2. **The Bible not only describes an invisible structure of the universe—
it also says there is an unseen power holding everything together (Heb 1:3)**
 - a) An unseen power is holding the material structure of the universe together!
3. **It was not until the scientific discovery of atoms and atomic particles that
confirmed everything that is seen is made of elements that are not seen.**
 - a) Using early microscopes—molecules were first seen...
 - b) Then with more powerful microscopes—atoms were first seen
 - c) Then with electron microscopes—the subatomic particles of atoms were discovered.
The amazing discovery of electrons, protons and neutrons!
4. **In 2001, scientists using linear particle accelerators (‘atom-smashers’)
discovered sub-atomic particles never seen before...**
 - a) Sub-atomic cousins to electrons called “murons”
 - b) And now we know that the sub-atomic particles that make up all matter are held together by an unseen power and energy.
5. **The Bible described the invisible structure of the universe centuries ago!**
 - a) (Genesis 1:1) Time, Space, Energy, Matter
 - b) All Held Together By an Unseen Power (Hebrews 1:3; 11:3)

¹ You can download a PDF of his book for free: ‘Has God Spoken?’ By A.O. Schnabel, at www.onestone.com

(2) THE SOURCE OF WATER

- 1. Ancient cultures knew that enormous rivers eventually flowed into the Sea**
 - a) But they didn't know where the water originated from...
 - b) and why the ocean levels didn't overflow...
 - c) The source of rainwater was a mystery.
 - d) **The Mississippi river** dumps approximately **518 billion gallons of water every 24 hours** into the gulf of Mexico (America)
 - e) Imagine how much water flows from ALL rivers of the world like the Nile & Amazon!
- 2. It wasn't until about 300 yrs ago that scientists realized the atmospheric water cycle of evaporation and precipitation...**
 - a) That rain clouds develop from evaporation from the oceans
 - b) Carried over land by atmospheric wind patterns
 - c) and then precipitation of Rain and the Complete Water Evaporation Cycle.
- 3. But if they had read the Bible they would've realized this much sooner!**
 - a) Notice what Solomon wrote 3,000 years ago (**Ecclesiastes 1:7**)
 - b) The Sea is the source of the water (**Amos 9:6**)
 - c) 4,000 years ago Job wrote: (**Job 36:27-28**)

QUESTION: How did Solomon, Amos & Job know the source of rain water is oceanic evaporation 3,000 yrs before it was discovered by scientists?

(3) SPRINGS OF THE SEA

- 1. 70% of the Earth's surface is covered with/ ocean water up to 7 miles deep.**
 - a) The ocean floor away from the shoreline is in total darkness.
 - b) 3 tons per square inch of water pressure at the ocean floor...Making deep sea exploration almost impossible except for modern deep sea submersibles.
 - c) I think we can assume none of the Biblical writers explored the ocean floor. [Jonah?]
- 2. But 4,000 years ago Job wrote there are underwater springs (**Job 38:16**)**
 - a) I think the obvious answer to that is: NO! Job had not been to the Ocean Floor.
 - b) God is asking Job a series of Questions to help Job realize his own ignorance.
 - c) This is all God has to do to humble us—is ask us some questions.
- 3. Notice (**Genesis 7:11**)**
 - a) So How did Job and Moses know there are fountains at the bottom of the ocean?
 - b) That there are underwater springs in the sea beneath the ocean floor?
 - c) Because they were inspired by God who Created the Planet and the Ocean and know what is happening 7 miles down at the bottom of the Sea Floor!
- 4. And Now—3,000 years after this was written—we know this is true!**
 - a) We now have deep sea research submersibles built to withstand extreme pressures
 - b) In 1973 Deep Sea Springs and Fountains were discovered for the first time.
 - c) They are continually releasing boiling hot mineral rich water—Creating underwater chimneys up to 60 feet high from the minerals they contain.
 - d) The U.S. Geological Survey estimates the amount of water released from sea vents at the bottom of the ocean to be 430 million tons per year.

(4) PATHS OF THE SEA

1. **(Psalm 8:3–9) David wrote this around 1,000 B.C. and he was not a sailor.**
 - a) David was a young shepherd — he was not known for any sailing expertise.
 - b) The only seas the Hebrews knew about was the Mediterranean and the Red Sea.
 - c) Neither are known for any significant or observable currents.
 - d) The Dead Sea and Sea of Galilee are really inland lakes.
2. **For almost 3,000 years this fact about paths of the seas remained untested, until a man named Mathew Maury was lying sick in bed...**
 - a) Mathew Maury was an astronomer and meteorologist and he served in U.S. Navy.
 - b) He was also a Christian and as he lay sick, His son was reading the Bible to him
 - c) When he read Psalm 8 – Maury stopped his son and said: *“If God said ‘paths of the sea’ then they are there, and if I ever get out of this bed I will find them.”*
3. **After years of research using deep sea depth soundings, tracking bottles released into the ocean, and examining thousands of old ship sailing logs, Maury found the ocean currents that follow predictable paths.**
 - a) He Discovered the **Gulf Stream Current** across the Atlantic
 - b) The **Japanese Current** across the Pacific
 - c) The **California Current** from the Bearing Sea down to the Baja Peninsula
 - d) Maury published a book on his findings in 1855, encouraging sailors to use the paths of the sea to increase efficiency and speed by sailing with the currents.
 - e) Ship sailing times were cut down by weeks and even months on long voyages.
 - f) Matthew Maury started the Annapolis Naval Academy and his research helped the U.S. Navy become the most powerful Navy in the World.
 - g) His statue stands at the Academy: one hand holding sea charts, the other a Bible
 - h) He is known as the father of oceanography—and his inspiration was the Bible.

(5) OCEANS TEEMING WITH LIFE

1. **Notice what the Bible declared 4,000 years ago (Genesis 1:20)**
 - a) NIV: “And God said, ‘Let the water teem with living creatures...’
 - b) NASB: Then God said, “Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures...”
 - c) **The Hebrew Word: שָׂרָץ *sharats* –**
“teem, swarm, multiply, be innumerable.” (Dictionary of Biblical Languages)
‘Rapidly multiplying...’ ‘To breed abundantly...’ (NASB Hebrew Dictionary)
2. **It wasn’t until the invention of the microscope in the 1600’s...**
 - a) that a man looked into a drop of rain water and couldn’t believe his eyes...
 - b) He called his daughter over to confirm what he was seeing...
 - c) A single drop of rainwater contained hundreds of living organisms
3. **No one had realized that every drop of ocean water is teeming with life**
 - a) colonies of living creatures so small they can only be seen under a microscope.
 - b) Amebas and protozoa’s...One species lives only 60 hours—
—and by the end of it’s life cycle it has reproduced 55 million descendants.

(6) GERMS, SANITATION, QUARANTINE

1. GERMS: There was a time when medical professionals did not know of the existence and harmful effects of germs and bacteria.

- a) In 1845 a young Doctor named Dr. Ignaz Semmelweis working at a Vienna hospital noticed the mortality rate of infants and mothers at the hospitals was up to 30% but the mortality rate of children born in homes with mid-wives was only 2%.
- b) He was so disturbed by this he dedicated himself to finding the reason and the cure.
- c) He realized that Doctors and Nurses in the hospital were inspecting the dead bodies in one room and then they were examining expecting mothers in the next. Even delivering newborn babies without washing their hands.
- d) They were only rinsing in a bowl of contaminated water that everyone was using.

This was normal at the time because no one knew about harmful germs or bacteria

2. SANITATION: Dr. Semmelweis found the reason why the mortality rate was so high and made strict rules for sanitation and hand washing.

- a) Semmelweis insisted they wash their hands before and after The infant moral rate dropped down to 2% when they
- b) But sadly the Doctors did not like Dr. Semmelweis' strict rules and strict attitude.
- c) They thought he was telling them they didn't know what they were doing and they resented his attitude that implied their incompetence was killing babies.
- d) They got him fired and so Dr. Semmelweis tried to convince other hospitals who didn't like his attitude either—he was eventually put in an insane asylum and they finally got rid of him.

e) But 4,000 years ago the Bible gave strict rules for sanitation to the nation of Israel in Leviticus and Numbers (Numbers 19:11–12).

- f) In that same chapter: Numbers 19 — the Bible gives the ingredients and instructions for the first anti-bacterial soap known in history! (Numbers 19:6)
 - (1) **Ashes**: which are used for creating Lye soap.
 - (2) **Hyssop**: contains an anti-septic ingredient called thymol used in mouthwash
 - (3) **Cedar**: which has anti-fungal, anti-septic, and insecticide properties.
 - (4) **Scarlet Wool**: fibers that create a gritty texture like 'lava soap'

- The Bible gives scientifically accurate medical information and methods of sanitation—NOT superstitious remedies from Egypt or Babylon or pagan “witch-doctors”

3. QUARANTINE: When the Black Plague spread across Europe in the 14th century, it was obvious that no one was immune to it's spread...

- a) But people began to notice that small Jewish communities were not affected by the Plague to same degree as everyone else.
- b) The Reason? They followed the simple instructions of the Bible!
- c) The Bible has instructions for quarantine centuries before any discovery of Viruses, Germs or Bacteria! (**Leviticus 15:13**)
- d) There was no concept of contagion, in any ancient medical writings—but the Bible has accurate instructions on preventing the spread of contagions.

Quarantine is an Italian word for 'forty' —40 days of isolation to stop the spread of disease.

(7) LIFE IN THE BLOOD

1. (Leviticus 17:11) “For the life of the flesh is in the blood...”

- a) Moses wrote that “the life of the flesh is in the blood” around 1450 B.C.
- b) The blood carries water, oxygen and nutrients to every cell in the body.
- c) It carries electrolytes to our cells... antibodies to fight infection...
oxygen from our lungs to our brain and every cell in our body.

2. Blood is absolutely essential for life and health—but ancient doctors believed releasing blood by bleeding, would heal people of disease.

- a) Herophilus was a physician in the city of Alexandria, Egypt around 350 b.c.
who advocated bloodletting as a way of ridding the body of disease,
Believing that the blood was the carrier of disease instead of life.
- b) Many people died from the practice of bloodletting—including George Washington,
who survived horrendous conditions of the Revolutionary war,
but did not survive the mistaken medical practices of the 1700’s.
- c) Bloodletting was practiced all the way through to the 1800’s where barbers practiced
bloodletting in barbershops—bleeding a person from both arms so they
supposedly would not be off-balance. This was done while they cut their hair.

3. Today we know that healthy blood is necessary for life...

just as the Bible said centuries before scientists discovered it.

CONCLUSION:

1. But the Bible is not a college science book or medical text book...

- It is much more profound than that—The Bible has the words of life...
- for you to be spiritually healed and born again

2. Life of the flesh is in the blood (Leviticus 17:11) > True physically & spiritually

- You may not remember the name James Harrison—called: ‘the Man w/ Golden Arm’
- But He Has Saved the Lives of **Over 2 Million Babies!** — But he is not a Dr. or Surgeon...
- He’s just a man who happens to have a rare anti-body in his blood capable of curing
Rhesus disease — A Severe form **anemia** affecting babies whose blood type is incompatible with their mother.
- His blood is the only thing that can keep these Babies Alive.

3. James Harrison’s blood is capable of saving life... millions of lives...

—but only the Blood of Jesus Christ is capable of Giving Eternal Life

- a. Only the blood of Jesus could atone for the sins of the world.

4. Our sins have separated us from God who is life—sin is terminal (Romans 5:8–9)

“But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.”

5. In Christ we can be healed, born again, cleansed by the blood of Jesus

(1 John 1:7; Revelation 1:5–6)