

Supplemental Notes:

What Is Truth?

The Case for Biblical Integrity

We live in a skeptical environment, where even the very existence of truth is questioned. Lately, the Bible—and even the Lord Jesus Himself—has been under attack.

How do we know what is *really* true?

How do we know that the Bible is true?

How sure can we be?

Join Chuck Missler as he examines the boundaries of our reality, explores ways to qualify sources of information, offers advice on testing hypotheses, and reveals the source of Ultimate Truth.

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What Is Truth? The Case for Biblical Integrity

Our Challenges

- **Our Skeptical Environment:** We've seen attacks on the very existence of Truth; attacks on the Bible; attacks on the Lord Himself.
- **The Existence of Cosmic Warfare:** Spiritual adversaries and the weapons of doubt and deceit: "Yea, Hath God Said...?"

How Do We Know the Bible is True?

- **Testimonies of the Past:** Scholastic evidences, such as manuscript evidence and the testimony of contemporaries.
- **Testimonies of the Present:** The boundaries of reality, such as the lessons of modern science, messages of "extraterrestrial" origin, and hidden discoveries in the Biblical text. We will focus on these aspects in this study.

Dan Brown, *The Da Vinci Code*

- "A masterpiece that should be mandatory reading..." — *Library Journal*
- "An exhaustively researched page-turner..." — *Publisher's Weekly*
- A blockbuster movie by Ron Howard.

"Gospel of Judas"

- National Geographic, May 2006.
- Slick presentation, skillfully designed to undermine traditional Biblical beliefs.
- The "Gospel of Judas" was known and refuted by Irenaeus, 180 A.D.

Mel Gibson, *The Passion of the Christ*

- "...a repulsive, masochistic fantasy, a sacred snuff film." — Leon Wieseltier, ed., *New Republic*
- "...courting bigotry in the name of sanctity..." — Maureen Dowd, *New York Times*

Why is *The Passion* excoriated and *The Da Vinci Code* extolled? Why are Gibson's motives denounced and Brown's dignified? Why is Christ's passion regarded as a "repulsive, masochistic fantasy" and the supposed marriage with Mary Magdalene touted as researched, material fact?

Attacks from the Pagan Left

- Dan Brown, *The Da Vinci Code*.
- National Geographic feature of the discredited "Gospel of Judas."
- Jesus Seminar: Subjective speculative hunches replace serious scholarship.
- Peter Jennings's TV Special, *The Search for Jesus*.
- History Channel: *Banned Books of the Bible*.
- Hugh Schonfield, *The Passover Plot*, 1966.
- Nikos Kazantzakis, *The Last Temptation of Christ*, 1960.
- (Even Mel Gibson's *The Passion* fails to identify who Jesus Christ really is.)

What's Going on Here?

- "Political correctness" in an increasingly secularist culture?
- A reversal of values: Fiction is cleverly promoted as fact. Fact—even the deity of Christ—is capriciously passed off as fiction! Even the undeniable grandeur of the creation is attributed to the randomness of a cosmic accident.

“Gnostic Gospels”

Gnosis = (hidden) knowledge.

- All under false pseudonyms attributed to apostles to give their speculations legitimacy; the early church rejected any with pseudonyms. Such deceptions were inconsistent with Divine inspiration credited to the New Testament.
- All were written centuries *after* the Gospel period and contrast with NT eyewitness accounts. They make no pretense of being actual records of events. They are *anti*-historical rather than simply *non*-historical.
- The Gnostic Gospels include: “*The Gospel of Thomas*,” “*The Gospel of Philip*,” “*The Gospel of Mary*,” “*The Gospel of Truth*” ...and four dozen others.

Gnosticism

For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

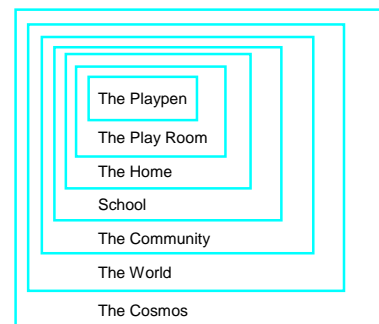
2 Timothy 4:3

Why Are They Accepted?

- Not due to serious historical research; since they include no verifiable facts; rather, they are fables that some have chosen to embrace. “What is history, but a fable agreed upon?” — Napoleon
- The “spirit of our times”: doctrinal diversity; pressure of feminism; and the quest for a “do-it-yourself” religion.
- Doubts about *The Gnostic Gospels*? Just read them. They are clearly fanciful and nonsensical to anyone with any Biblical literacy.

Epistemology 101: How Do We “Know”?

Our Boundaries of Reality



Cosmic Issues

- Is the universe infinite?
- How long has it been here?
- Is it designed or is it a cosmic accident?
- Are there limits to size? How large? How small?
- Is “space” really empty?
- Has time always been the same?
- Are there other dimensions, beyond the *four* we experience?

Two imputed concepts that are elusive in our physical world:

1. Randomness Prov 16:33
 - Stochastic vs. Deterministic Processes
 - Pseudo-Random Numbers
 - “Chaos Theory”
2. Infinity Jas 1:17
 - Macrocosm: A Finite Universe
 - Microcosm: Quantum Physics

Hyperdimensions: Beyond Euclid (>3 D)

- 1854: Georg Riemann's Metric Tensors.
- 1915: Einstein, 4-Dimensional Space-time.
- 1953: Kaluza-Klein: 4+n Dimensions.
 - Light, & Supergravity.
- 1963: Yang-Mills Fields.
 - Electromagnetic & Both Nuclear Forces.
- Today: Superstrings, 10 Dimensions.

Dimensions of "Reality"

- Nachmonides (13th century) wrote of 10 dimensions; only four are "knowable" [*Commentary on Genesis*, 1263.]
- Particle Physicists (21st century) writes of 10 dimensions; four are directly measurable (three spatial + time); six are "curled" into less than 10⁻³³ cm, and thus inferable only by indirect means.
- Our 3-dimensional existence is but a "shadow of a larger reality." [*Scientific American*, June 2005, p.57-63.]
- This is what the Bible has said all along [Heb 11:3; 1 Cor 15:44-49.]

The Anthropic Principle

- The appearance that the universe was designed for Man. In constructing a mathematical model of what we believe we know about the universe, there are hundreds of delicate ratios that, if altered the slightest, would render life impossible.
- (Some as little as 1/10⁻⁵⁵!)

Anthropic Factors

Atomic Physics

Strong nuclear force coupling constant
Weak nuclear force coupling constant
Electromagnetic coupling constant

Ratio of electron to proton mass
Stability of the proton
Fine structure constants
Velocity of light
Be, C, and O nuclear energy levels

Earth

Surface gravity
Thickness of crust
Rotation period
Gravitational interaction with a moon
Magnetic field
Axial tilt
Albedo (reflectivity)
Oxygen to nitrogen ratio
Carbon dioxide and water vapor levels
Ozone level
Atmospheric electric discharge rate
Seismic activity

Sun Factors

Birth date & Age
Distance from center of galaxy
Mass
Color
Distance to the Earth

Universe

Gravitational coupling constant
Age of the universe
Expansion rate of the universe
Entropy level of the universe
Mass of the universe
Uniformity of the universe
Number of stars
Distance between stars
Rate of luminosity increase

The more rare these relationships are, the more they unequivocally reveal both skillful design in their origin as well as diligence in their maintenance!

The Nature of Time

Einstein's Special Relativity (1905):

- Length, mass, velocity and time are *relative* to velocity of the observers.

Einstein's General Relativity (1915):

- No distinction between time & space = a 4-D continuum (confirmed 14 ways to 19 decimals).

A time measurement device in a weaker gravitational field runs faster than one in a stronger field. Near the surface of the Earth the frequency increases about one part in 10^{16} per meter, and a clock 100 meters higher than a second clock will have a frequency higher by one part in 10^{14} .

Time is *not* uniform: Time is a *physical* property that *varies* with mass, acceleration and gravity... among other things... We exist in *more* than 3 dimensions (apparently, 10).

Epistemological I.Q.

A single string of 347 beads: black and white.

$$P_{\text{random chance}} = 2^{-347} = 2.8669 \times 10^{-104}$$

Borel's Law: $P < 10^{-50}$ is defined as *absurd!*

Example: Hemoglobin (574 Amino Acids Long)

Glycine	36	Tryptophan	4
Alanine	68	Cysteine	5
Serine	31	Methionine	6
Tyrosine	30	Asparagine	47
Proline	25	Glutamine	29
Valine	56	Arginine	12
Isoleucine	1	Histidine	32
Leucine	69	Lysine	43
Phenylalanine	28	Amide N*	38
Threonine	14	*includes Aspartic & Glutamic acids	

Specificity: Formula for linear arrangements: $N=n!/(p! \times q! \times r! \dots)$; 10^{650} permutations possible (probabilities $<10^{-50}$ defines "absurd"); specificity $\sim 10^{650}$ far beyond "chance." Only *one* of them is hemoglobin (change just one of them? = Hemoglobin Opathy).

Impossibility of "Chance"

- Only 10^{18} seconds in the history of the universe.
- Only 10^{66} atoms in our entire galaxy.
- Only 10^{80} particles in our entire galaxy.
- Probabilities $<10^{-50}$ defines "*absurd*."
- Specificity $\sim 10^{650}$ far beyond "chance."
- Equivalent to winning the lottery...
...every day for 90 days in a row!

The Basic Question: Which Came First?

- DNA? or Proteins?
- It takes protein to construct DNA.
- It takes DNA to make protein.
- They both had to be created at the same time, to a consistent system architecture.
- Thoughts (language) are not physical.

The Death of Darwinism

Darwinians cannot explain *the Origin of Life* because they cannot explain *the Origin of Information*.

The Nature of God

- Is God subject to the restrictions of mass? Acceleration? Gravity?
- He is not simply One with "lots of time," He is *outside* of the restrictions of time altogether.
- This uniqueness is His Personal Imprint...From Outside Time: "For thus saith the High and Lofty One, that inhabiteth eternity...(Isa 57:15)."

Since God has the technology to create us, He certainly has the means to get a message to us; but how does He *authenticate* His message so that we know that it is really from Him, and not a contrivance or a fraud?

Two Critical Discoveries

- 1) We have in our possession an *Integrated* Message System: 66 separate books, penned by 40 different individuals over thousands of years...in which every detail is anticipated by deliberate, skillful, design!
- 2) And which demonstrates that its origin is from *outside our time domain*.

The New Testament is in the Old Testament *concealed*; the Old Testament is in the New Testament *revealed*.

Prophetic Scriptures

There are 8,362 predictive verses, representing 1,817 predictions, on 737 separate matters.
[J. Barton Payne, *Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy*.]

How Sure Can We Be?

Luke 24:13-32—Emmaus Road: Jesus uses the Old Testament to authenticate Himself.

John 5:39: "Search the (OT) Scriptures ...they testify of *me*."

2 Pet 1:19: "**More sure word** of prophecy."

Composite Probabilities

Two events, each with a 50% probability, together have a 25% probability: $.50 \times .50 = .25$

If each had a 10% probability, together they would have 1%: $.1 \times .1 = .01$, or one chance in $10^1 \times 10^1 = 10^2$.

Sample of 8 Prophecies

1)	Micah 5:2	Bethlehem $10,000/2 \times 10^9$	1:200,000
2)	Zech 9:9	King on Donkey	1:100
3)	Zech 11:12	30 pieces of Silver	1:1000
4)	Zech 11:13	Temple; Potter	1:100,000
5)	Zech 13:6	Wounds in hands	1:1000
6)	Isa 53:7	No defense though innocent	1:1000
7)	Isa 53:9	Died with wicked Grave with rich	1:1000
8)	Ps 22:16	Crucified	<u>1:10,000</u>

Total composite probability: 1:10²⁸

8 Prophecies

Total population < 100 billion: 10^{11} $10^{28}/10^{11} = 10^{17}$

Concept Model: State of Texas covered with silver dollars, 2 ft. deep. [Alternate model: there are only 10^{17} seconds in the history of the universe!]

16 Prophecies

$10^{28} \times 10^{28} = 10^{56}$ $10^{56} / 10^{11} = 10^{45}$

Concept Model: ball of silver dollars: radius 30 times the distance of the Earth to the Sun!

48 Prophecies

$$10^{28} \times 10^{28} \times 10^{28} \times 10^{28} \times 10^{28} \times 10^{28} = 10^{168}$$

$$10^{168}/10^{11} = 10^{157}$$

(That's a bigger number than we can grasp...)

Concept Model

1) Make a "ball" of every atom in the universe; 10^{66}

2) Make such a ball for each atom of the universe;

$$10^{66} \times 10^{66} = 10^{132}$$

3) Repeat that exercise, every second since the universe began... $10^{132} \times 10^{17} = 10^{149}$

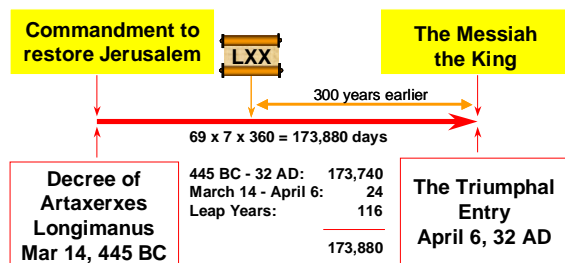
and we're still short by 100,000,000 times: 10^8

...and we've still only dealt with 48 prophecies out of over 300 in the Old Testament!

[*Adapted from Peter Stoner, *Science Speaks*.]

The Most Amazing Ones

Jesus' detailed genealogy and the specific prediction of the precise day that the Messiah would present Himself as King to Jerusalem...



The Return of Christ to Rule

- 1,845 references in the Old Testament;
- 17 books give prominence to the event;
- 318 references in the New Testament;
- 216 chapters;
- 23 of 27 books give prominence to the event.
- *For every prophecy of Christ's First Coming there are 8 of His Second Coming!*

Our Challenge

We believe that we are being plunged into a period of time about which the Bible says more than any other period of time in history...including the time that Jesus walked the shores of Galilee and climbed the mountains of Judea.

A Sense of Urgency

You will be unable to understand the events of the coming months and years unless you are knowledgeable about the classic Biblical Scenario that is presently leading to the *Climax of All History*.

It will, indeed, be an adventure without equal. Fasten your seat belts! It's going to be the most impacting event of your life.

Strategic Trends

- Struggle for Jerusalem
 - Magog Invasion
 - Rise of European Superstate
 - Rise of China
 - Toward Global Government
 - Ecumenical Religion
 - Global Pestilence
 - Decline of United States
 - Weapons of Mass Destruction
- | |
|------------------|
| Zech 12; Luke 21 |
| Ezek 38, 39 |
| Dan 2, 7 |
| Isa 49; Rev 19 |
| Dan 11, Rev 13 |
| Rev 13, 17, 18 |
| Rev 6:8 |
| Hosea 4 - 14 |
| Mt 24:22 |

Are There “Hidden Messages” in the Bible?

It is the glory of God to conceal a thing: but it is the honor of kings to search out a matter.

Proverbs 25:2

Equidistant Letter Sequences (ELS)

- The Torah always points to YHWH:

Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy

תורה תורה יהוה הרות הרות
 TORH TORH YHWH HROT HROT

Heptadic Structure of the Text





- Sevens occur in over 600 passages; some overt; some structural; some “hidden.”
- Underlying Heptadic Structures as a signature?
- Example: Genealogy of Jesus Christ as found in Matthew 1:1-11 (in Greek)!

Unique Vocabularies

- Gospel of Matthew
- Gospel of Mark
- Gospel of Luke
- Gospel of John
- James, Peter, Jude, and Pau...all 8, *each*, “wrote last.”
- Verbal inspiration: every letter guided by One Mind, supernaturally...

There is an automatic security monitor, watching over every single letter of the text, that doesn’t rust or wear out, running continually over several thousand years...the fingerprint signature of the Author.

Design of Experiments

Reality	Hypothesis	
	True	False
True		Type II Error 
False	Type I Error 	

Type I. The rejection of a true hypothesis.

Type II. The acceptance of a false hypothesis.

[After J. Neyman and E. S. Pearson, *Transactions of Royal Society of London*, A, 31, 1933, pp. 289-337.]

In Summary

To decline taking the Bible seriously can be a result of being unaware of what we now know about the boundaries of our reality. Would you take a physics course using 1950 textbooks? 1970 textbooks? 1990 textbooks?

The Bible has not changed: it didn’t need to! The more you know about advancements in “science,” the more comfortable Genesis 1 reads.

The Ultimate Truth

The Ultimate Truth is a Person: the identity of Jesus Christ. He was the most anti-religious person who has ever walked the Earth! It’s not about religion: it’s about relationship. It is the most important discovery of your life: your eternal destiny depends upon it!



Commentaries on MP3 CD-ROM

Chuck Missler's Expository Commentaries are now available from Koinonia House on MP3 CD-ROM as well as cassette tape. Some titles are also available on DVD and include workbooks for personal or group study, and as a way to earn college course credit. Write or call for a complete list.

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