CAN WE TRUST THE BIBLE? Part 3
"What Is Christ's View of the Scripture?"

INTRO: Series . . . Goal . . . Today . . . I believe . . . Nick Pollard quote . . . Ever since Satan attacked God's Word in the Garden, it has been on trial ("Did God *really* say?". I am bringing different witnesses to the stand to offer reliable testimony that the Bible is truth and can be trusted. So far, God Himself as the Author. He cannot lie and said over 3800 He wrote this book using human writers. Our next witness was the biblical writers themselves. Their UNITY is staggering . . . The OT writers believed they were receiving and recording the words of God ("the word of the Lord came"). The NT writers believed the OT was "the Scripture", often using the phrase "It is written" to refer to it. The NT writers (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Peter, James, Jude, writer of Hebrews, and Paul) all accepted the OT as "Scripture" (God's Word). Over 80 times (14 in Gospels, 12 by Jesus) they label the OT "the Scripture". Seventy times they use the phrase "It is written" (30 in Gospels, 26 by Jesus from 14 OT books). Paul used "it is written" over 30 times. He quoted OT 180 times in 11 of his 13 books. Also, the NT writers viewed the other NT writers' writings as "Scripture" (2 Pet. 1:20-21; 3:15-16). John, Paul, Peter, James, Hebrews all testify they received revelation from God and wrote it down.

NEXT WITNESS? Since Christ is the common theme of Scripture (Jn. 5:39; Lk. 24:25-27, 44; Rev. 19:10), it is critical to understand His view of the Scripture (Hebrew Bible OT). The OT books were most likely finished 400-200 BC. Probably post-Babylonian exile, led by Ezra. Jesus quoted OT 180 times from 14 OT books. So, it is important to know what is Christ's view of the Scripture? "Can you believe in Christ but not in the authority and infallibility of the Bible?" Mac Quote . . .

"WHAT IS CHRIST'S VIEW OF THE SCRIPTURE?"

A. *Review*, two lessons ago we saw Bible claims to be divinely inspired (leads to infallibility and inerrancy), supremely authoritative, eternally indestructible, etc. What the writers of Scripture asserted about the Bible; Jesus affirmed as well.

B. Jesus' Affirmations and Testimony in His Words

1. Infallible (perfect, incapable of error) – John 10:35; 17:17
2. Inerrant (without error – originals) – He believed the very words of Scripture. To fail to search and know the truth of Scripture was and is to live in error (Mk. 12:24).
3. Authoritative (final word – TRUTH!) – "It is written" (26 times). "Scripture" 14 times, "Word of God," "God said" – Used to defeat the devil (Matt. 4:1-11; Eph. 6:17b)
4. Indestructible (eternal) – Matt. 5:18; 24:35

C. Jesus Validated OT People and Events – Jesus quoted from the OT 180 times in 1800 verses of the 4 Gospels (23% of the 7959 total). Creation (Matt. 19:4-5), slaying of Abel (Lk. 11:51), Gender & Marriage, Sodom and Gomorrah (Lk. 17:29), Jonah (Matt. 12:40), Daniel (Matt. 24:15), Noah and the flood (Lk. 17:27). OT complete prior to His birth (Matt. 23:35).

D. His Mission? He came to fulfill Scripture (Matt. 5:17; Lk. 16:17; 18:31; 24:44). (Prophecy -He fulfilled 109 prophecies at His first coming – 224 to go! - more later). He believed Scripture to be the very words of God. He believed in its power to defeat the devil (Matt. 4:1-11) and transform our lives (Jn. 6:66-68; 2 Tim. 3:17; 2 Cor.3:18; 1 Pet. 2:2).

ILLUS: 3 possibilities . . .

CONC: There's no doubt that Jesus and the biblical writers believed they were speaking and writing the words of God, who is truth and can only give truth. If Jesus believed in the OT Scriptures, I do too. It can be trusted "in all matters of faith and practice." Still more witnesses to the stand next.