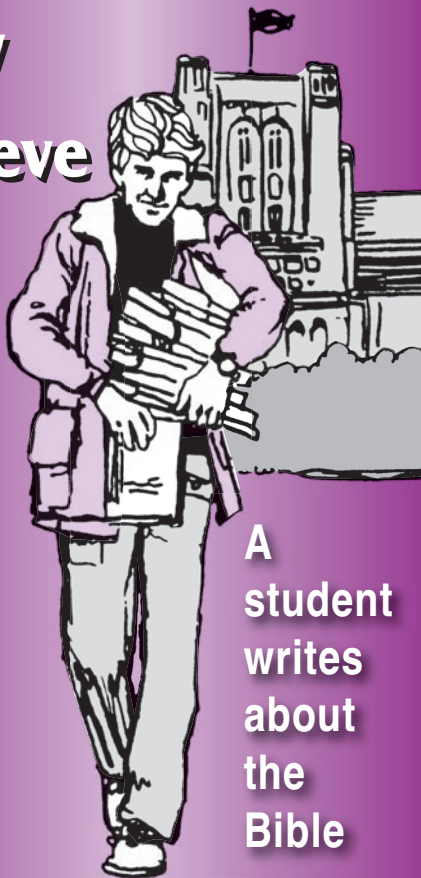


Why Believe It?



A
student
writes
about
the
Bible

THE BIBLE:

Withstands All Attack. Did you ever consider what a task it would be to destroy God's Word? I believe the Bible because of its ability to withstand attack. No other book has ever been opposed as much as the Bible. From the first century to the present, skeptics, atheists and infidels have discredited it, but the Bible has weathered all storms, and its pages are still brighter than gold.

Saturates All Civilizations. God has guarded the Bible by carefully weaving it into every fiber and fabric of history. To destroy it, one would have to buy hundreds of millions of copies printed in over six hundred different languages and scattered all over the world.

But that isn't all. The attacker would then have to go into every library in the world and cut out every Bible reference and quotation from the greatest works of literature.

What next? The attacker would have to visit every art gallery of the world and destroy the priceless works that are built upon Bible

themes, such as Da Vinci's *Last Supper* painting and Michelangelo's *David* sculpture.

Would the attack be over? Not quite. He must silence the music of the great masters such as Bach, Handel, and Mozart. Would that complete the task? Not yet. With hammer and chisel, the enemy of the Bible would have to visit every grave yard and many of the world's greatest buildings, and chisel away the verses inscribed on the marble there.

After all this, would the job finally be finished? No, indeed! The destroyer would need to enter the very hearts and minds of every believer who has found happiness and peace from memorizing the verses in the Book of Books.

Why hasn't the Bible been destroyed? You can't destroy God, and the Bible is the Word of God (John 1:1; 2 Tim. 3:16). You can no more destroy His Word than you can destroy the God who spoke that Word.

Answers Life's Questions. The greatest questions anyone can ask are these: Who am I? Where did I come from? Why am I here? Where am I going? Neither science nor social studies can answer them adequately.

Only the Bible gives the world an intelligent origin. What does it say? "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). This wonderful book is the key that unlocks all human mystery. If we would only follow its directions, we would find order, beauty, love, happiness and eternal life inside.

I believe the Bible is divinely inspired. Wise men of all ages have studied it and said so. W.E. Gladstone, one of England's greatest statesmen, said, "I have spent seventy years of my life studying that Book to satisfy my heart; *it is the Word of God*. I bank my life on that statement." Andrew Jackson, the seventh president of the United States, wrote: "The Bible is the rock on which our republic rests." And Ulysses S. Grant, the eighteenth president, said, "Hold fast to the Bible as the sheet anchor of your liberties."

Is Beyond Human Invention. I believe that the Bible is beyond human invention. No group of men anywhere could write another book with the logic, beauty, mystery, truth and the way of salvation that are found in the Bible, unless they were divinely inspired. This book is God-given.

Is **The Greatest Source Book.** I believe the Bible is inspired because it is the finest of all literature. Where did Wordsworth get his songs of joy, Tennyson his triumph of love, Browning his courage of faith, and Longfellow his psalms of life? From the Bible! And what did the English author, Ruskin, write? “Whatever I have done in my life has simply been due to the fact that when I was a child, my mother daily read with me a part of the Bible, and daily made me learn a part of it by heart.” Froude, the English historian, referred to the Bible as “a literature of itself, the rarest, richest thought which exists.” For these reasons, I believe the Bible to be the fountainhead of all great literature.

Saves **And Satisfies.** In conclusion, I believe the Bible to be divinely inspired because it satisfies the human heart as nothing else can. The British essayist, Thomas Carlyle wrote: “It is the one book wherein, for thousands of years, the spirit of man has found light and nourishment, and a response to whatever was deepest in his heart.”

After all, the questions we must ask ourselves are: “Am I giving the Bible a chance to

prove itself in my life? Is it a comforter for me in time of trouble, need and sadness?” The Bible is our hope. What do we have to live for, if it is not for the Christ who not only put us here, but also saved us and gave us a guidebook that we may not falter or stumble?

I believe the Bible is the inspired Word of the one true God, because it is the only book that promises: “Whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:15).

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