

# DISCOVERY 2000

**The Book - what evidence is there it can be trusted?**

## **Claims**

God said ...; The Word of the Lord came to ... Isaiah 1:10 (653)

-All inspired 2 Timothy 3:16 (1144)

Either it is, or it isn't!

If it isn't - this is a very bad book

If it is - it is more than just a very good book



## **Evidence**

### **1. Historical accuracy** - verified by:

Archaeology

Ancient secular historians

### **2. Morality**

Universal application

Higher than the practise of the people -letter / spirit

Tells truth about its characters

Has one man who kept it.

### **3. Fulfilled prophecy** - This book claims to be able to tell the future Isaiah 44:7 (699)

**Places**

Egypt

1. It will become a weak kingdom. Ezekiel 29:15 (832)

2. It will never rule over other nations. Ezekiel 29:15

3. It will not have a prince. Ezekiel 30:13

#### **Memphis**

1. To be laid waste and lie in ruins. Jeremiah 46:19 (779)

2. To be without an inhabitant. Jeremiah 46:19

3. Its images to be destroyed. Ezekiel 30:13 (833)

Ninevah

1. Destroyed in state of drunkenness Nahum 1:10 (906)

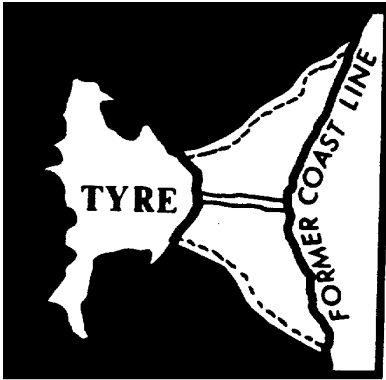
2. Destroyed by flood Nahum 1:8, 2:6

3. Would be burned Nahum 3:13

4. A ruin Zephaniah 2:13

5. A place for flocks to graze Zephaniah 2:13

## Tyre & Sidon



### Tyre

1. Many nations to come against Tyre. Ezekiel 26:3 (827)
2. Nebuchadnezzar to destroy Tyre. Ezekiel 26:7, 8
3. Scrape away her ruins and make her a bare rock. Ezekiel 26:4
4. Where fishermen dry their nets. Ezekiel 26:5
5. To be cast into the sea. Ezekiel 26:12
6. Will not be built again. Ezekiel 26:14

### Sidon

1. No mention of destruction
2. Blood in the streets. Ezekiel 28:23
3. Sword on every side. Ezekiel 28:23

## Babylon

1. To be like Sodom & Gomorrah Isaiah 13:19 (666)
2. Never inhabited again Isaiah 13:20
3. Tents will not be pitched there by Arabs Isaiah 13:20
4. Sheepfolds will not be there Isaiah 13:20
5. Will become a pile of ruins, Jeremiah 51:37 (791)
6. The thick wall will be completely pulled down Jeremiah 51:58
7. Covered with swamps of water Isaiah 14:23 (668)

## Petra & Edom

1. Become a desolation. Isaiah 34:13
2. Never populated again Jeremiah 49:18 (784)
3. Conquered by Israel Ezekiel 25:14 (827)
4. An empty ruin forever Ezekiel 35:7, 9
5. Cessation of trade

## Palestine

### Jerusalem

1. Destroyed and rebuilt many times
2. Temple destroyed and dismantled Matthew 24:2 (960)

### Chorazin, Bethsaida, Capernaum, Tiberius

1. Woes against Chorazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum. Matthew 11:21, 22
2. Tiberius was not condemned

## People

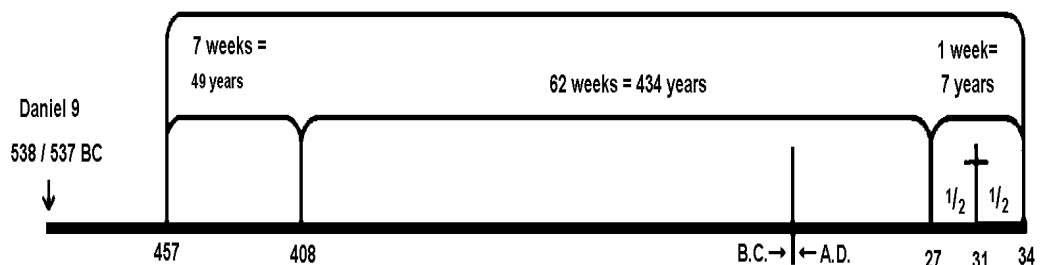
Cyrus

Isaiah 45:1, 4, 13 (701)

Messiah

- Virgin Birth Isaiah 7:14
- Birth Place Micah 5:2 (903)
- Dates Daniel 9 (867)
- Rejected Isaiah 53 (710)
- Betrayal price, what happened to the money Zechariah 11:12, 13 (925)
- Crucifixion Psalm 22:16 (524)
- Bones not broken Psalm 34:20

70 weeks = 490 years



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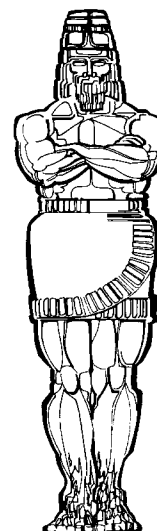
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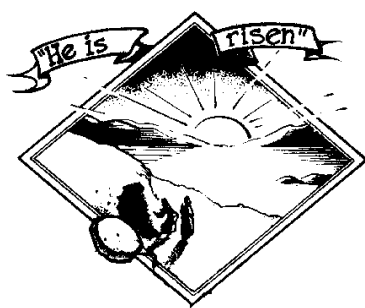
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## 4. Resurrection of Jesus



### Recorded facts

1. Jesus died.
2. Before He died He predicted He would rise again
3. He was put in a tomb. A stone covered the entrance.
4. A guard of Roman soldiers was set.
5. The tomb was empty Sunday morning.
6. The disciples began to preach "He has risen!"

**What happened?** Who moved the stone? Who removed the body?

**The possibilities:**

**i. Jesus didn't really die**, He only fainted, and later revived in the tomb.

a/ He had been beaten, crucified, had a spear put into his side. Who moved the stone?

b/ How did He get out of the material He was wrapped in?

**ii The Jewish authorities moved the body**

a/ then why didn't they produce the body to discount the stories of the resurrection?

**iii The Roman soldiers moved the body**

a/ Why didn't they produce the body to discount the stories of the resurrection?

**iv The disciples stole the body so they could say "He is risen".**

a/ The disciples had fled in fear when Jesus was arrested

b/ They were hiding in fear in an upper room with the doors barred

c/ When the resurrection story came through, they were slow to believe it.

d/ How did they get past the Roman soldiers guarding the tomb?

e/ If the Roman soldiers were asleep, how did they know who took the body?

f/ These disciples who were so timid suddenly become bold saying "He is risen!"

g/ Many of the disciples were killed for holding to the story of the resurrection. Lies are normally told to get out of trouble, not to get into it.

h/ How did they get the body out and leave the grave clothes there?

**v The women and disciples went to the wrong tomb.**

a/ It is unlikely that the authorities and soldiers went to the wrong tomb

b/ Why would the Jewish authorities bribe the soldiers unless the real tomb was empty?

**The other option:**

**vi He did rise from the dead**

Consider: a/ The change in the disciples b/ The rise of the Christian church

**5. World View** The Bible answers the important questions:

Where did I come from

Why am I here

Where am I going

**6. Changed lives**

**7. Personal Experience** - it can change your life.

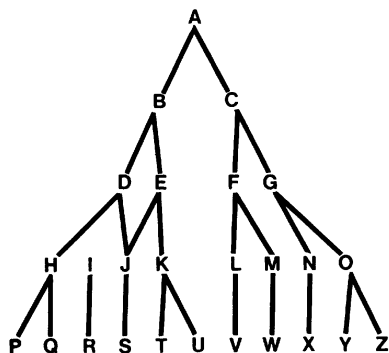
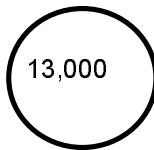
**How do we know it hasn't been changed over the centuries?**

**We have:**

1. The Dead Sea Scrolls - We have copies of Old Testament books dating to before the time of Christ

2. Multiplicity of copies of New Testament books

<u>Author</u>	<u>Written</u>	<u>Earliest Copy</u>	<u>time span</u>	<u># copies</u>
Caesar	100-44 BC	900 AD	1000 yrs	10
Plato	427-347 BC	900 AD	1200 yrs	7
Pliny	61-113 AD	850 AD	750 yrs	7
Herodotus	480-425 BC	480-425 BC	1300 yrs	8
Bible (NT)	50-90 AD	135 AD	45 yrs	13,000



Starting with manuscripts "P-Z" we can reconstruct the original manuscript "A"

3. Early translations into Syriac, Coptic, Latin, Georgian

4. Quotations in early church writers