



Apologetics 101

The Reliability of Scripture

BBC Beliefs Regarding Scripture

The beliefs of Brentwood Bible Church are posted on our website. Part I, The Scriptures, states:

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

How Important is it to be able to trust scripture? _____

What in your life is built upon scripture? _____

What False Prophets are Saying

- We can say now with considerable confidence that the Bible is not a history of anyone's past. – Thomas Thompson, *The Bible in History*, London, 1999
- For them (the majority of scholars) – in the absences of archeological evidence – the Exodus – like the story of Joshua's conquest – remains an exploded myth. – Matthew Sturgis, *It Ain't Necessarily So: Investigating the Truth of the Biblical Past*, London, 2001
- Unable to withstand the contradiction (between faith and modern biblical scholarship) most men of faith consciously avoid biblical scholarship in order to safeguard their traditional belief. – Matthew Sturgis, *It Ain't Necessarily So: Investigating the Truth of the Biblical Past*, London, 2001
- The quest for the historical Moses is a futile exercise. He now belongs only to legend. – John Van Seters: Moses in M. Eliade, *Encyclopedia of Religion*, Vol 10 (New York, 1987) p. 13

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Linking the Timelines

1 Kings 14:25-26

²⁵*It happened in the fifth year of King Rehoboam that Shishak king of Egypt came up against Jerusalem.*

²⁶*And he took away the treasures of the house of the Lord and the treasures of the king's house; he took away everything. He also took away all the gold shields which Solomon had made.*

Who was Shoshenq I?

- Campaigned in the Northern Kingdom of Israel, never in Judah.
- An enemy of the Northern Kingdom, not an ally as Shishak.

Who was Shishak?

- According to the battle reliefs of Karnack, he campaigned extensively in Judah, at a time when Judah possessed chariots. They had no chariots in the days of Joshua (Joshua 11:6). Israel had no chariots until the days of King David.
- He never campaigned in the Northern Kingdom as he was allied with Jeroboam (1 Kings 11:40)

He fought the battle of Kadesh against the Hittites. The treaty names him as: Wash-mua-ria-shatap-na-ria Ria-mash-shisha-me-amana

- We know him as Ramesses II, which means he could not have been the Pharaoh of the Exodus. He has been dated 300 years too early.

How could the Israelites have built the store city of Ramesses?

- They built the City of Avaris. Ramesses was built on top of Avaris. A scribe updated the name of the City built by the Israelites so readers would know where the city was located.

Proto-Sinaitic Script

- Oldest alphabetic script, dated to the 12th Egyptian Dynasty
- When we adjust the timelines by aligning Ramesses II with Shishak, correctly reflect the year of the Exodus, and show Joseph coming into Egypt 215 years before the Exodus, he arrives during the 12th Egyptian Dynasty
- Moses had a written alphabet available to him, and he would have been trained in Egyptian hieroglyphics. Egyptian hieroglyphics contained around 700 symbols, while Moses would have had 22 symbols in his writing making it easy for all to learn to read and write.

Do you have difficulty believing any part of scripture? _____
