tagious diseases, the eighth day as ideal for circumcision (because Vitamin K and prothrombin, coagulating factors, are at their highest levels on that day) (Genesis 17:12; Leviticus 11-13; Deuteronomy 23; Numbers 19).

#### The Bible Reveals the Great Moral Truths

The "Ten Commandments" in the Old Testament (Exodus 20) are primarily statements of truth: it is inherently wrong to take something belonging to someone else, to lie, to kill, to join one's body to another human to whom one is not married, to covet what belongs to someone else, etc. In the New Testament, Jesus enlarged on these truths, showing that having such sin even in one's heart is a violation of truth. Jesus' statements in Matthew 5-7 begin with "happy" or "blessed" is the person who lives by the truths. He is spared the destructive consequences of a life committed to sin, and his life is filled with good things that come as a direct result of righteous living. These are inherent results of good and evil in one's life.

#### The Bible Is Humanity's Sole Reliable Spiritual Guide

People question, "But there are so many religions in this world, so many claims to 'truth'. How can I know what is right? How can I know which is the true God — if there is only *one* 

God? How can I know which 'scripture' is actually reliable as a guide in life and in death?"

The answer can be obtained in two possible ways: study **the writings** and **the effects** of those writings in the lives of the followers. If the New Testament is read and obeyed, one will find that *everything it asks the individual to do results in ultimate good. Everything it forbids is harmful and must be avoided if one is to have the best life in this world.* 

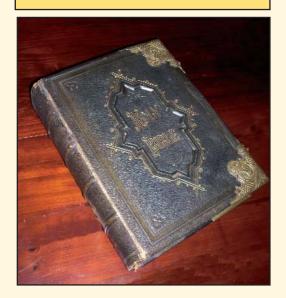
A careful study will show that no other book can make such a claim. There are tenents of all other major religions that have very bad results even in this life: lying, hatred, killing, human sacrifice, sexual immorality, etc. Obviously, if they are not reliable guides for this present world, they cannot be the guide we need for preparation for the promised eternal life after the death of these physical bodies.

#### WORLD EVANGELISM TRACTS

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Choate@WorldEvangelism.org
www.WorldEvangelism.org
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# Is the Bible the Word of God?

**Betty Burton Choate** 



### Is the Bible the Word of God?

#### **Betty Burton Choate**

The Bible is a treasure within itself. If the biblical record had never been given to mankind, we would not know how the universe, our world, or humanity came into existence. We would not know how sin developed, with the resulting struggle between good and evil.

The Hindu scriptures, called the Rig Veda, state the mystery that would surround our very existence if we did not have the biblical record of beginnings: "Creative force there was, and fertile power. Below was energy, above was impulse. Who knows for certain? Who shall declare it? Whence was it born, and whence came this creation? Gods were born after this world's creation; then who can know from whence it has risen? No one knoweth whence creation has arisen and whether He has or has not produced it, He who surveys is in the highest heaven. He only knows or haply He may know not."

The Bible claims for itself the inspiration of God, that is, that the very words were revealed to humanity by God Himself. But can the Bible be believed? Is it only a myth among many others, or is its message verifiable when put to the test? Emphatically, YES! It stands the test!

#### The Bible Gives a Coherent Account of History

Contrary to the ideas of evolutionists, that early humans were little more than brute beasts and that all people were naked nomads living in caves and other temporary shelters, the Bible says that Adam and Eve and their early descendants were not only fully human but that they were capable and intelligent. They built cities, were farmers and herdsmen, they developed musical instruments, they worked in bronze and iron, and were even instructors in these skills (Genesis 4:16-22). Of course, the picture given in Genesis is actually only a very abbreviated outline of all that took place during those early centuries, because the purpose of the writing was not to give a complete history but to lay the foundation upon which God's message to humanity could be built.

## The Biblical Account Is Corroborated by Archaeology

In Genesis 11, a "table of nations" is listed, telling of several generations of descendants of the sons of Noah, where they settled, and the nations of peoples developed through their lineage. These names and nations can be verified by historical records, corroborating the biblical account. In addition, archaeology has revealed cities and peoples mentioned in the Bible that

were unknown in any other written history until their remains were unearthed.

#### True Science Corroborates the Bible

The Bible speaks of the "circle" of the earth, the "paths in the seas" (Psalm 8:8), the treasures in snow (Job 38:22), the fact that the stars "sing" (Job 38:7), and many other scientific truths unknown to man at the time the Bible was written. Behemoth, as described in Job 40:15, is a word picture of a dinasaur.

#### The Prophecies of the Bible Were Fulfilled

Old Testament prophecies concerning the nation of Israel were made many years before their fulfillment: Amos 3 and 5-9 tell of the Babylonian and Assyrian captivities; Isaiah 44:28-45:3 names Cyrus as the king who would authorize the return of the people of Judah to their homeland, centuries before he lived; Daniel 8 describes in detail four world empires — the Babylonian, the Medo-Persian, the Greek, and the Roman — before the coming of the spiritual kingdom of Christ, again, centuries before the unfolding of that history in its entirety.

#### **Medical Truths Corroborate the Bible**

In the medical commandments listed in what is known as "The Law of Moses", God gave explicit directions concerning the burial of human waste, the isolating of people with con-