

Reliability of The Bible

Both the authenticity and the general integrity of the books of the New Testament may be regarded as finally established. – Sir Frederic G. Kenyon

1. **Historically Valid: Where it can be checked it is found truthful**
 - A. **Old Testament: Artifacts such as the Moabite Stone, The Babylonian chronicles, And Lachish Reliefs authenticate events in 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles.**
 - B. **New Testament: Luke as a credible historian, the discovery of the Pilate Stone, and the discovery of the Pool of Bethesda authenticate events throughout the NT.**
2. **Accurately Transmitted: Faithfully preserved over time**
 - A. **Old Testament: The Dead Sea Scrolls took the dating of available biblical manuscripts back a thousand years or more, and closely matches what used to be some of our earliest texts.**
 - Ex. **Two copies of the Book of Isaiah, a thousand years apart, were found practically identical. Differences were only because of slips of the pen and spelling.**
 - B. **New Testament: Compared to virtually every other ancient document the NT has significantly far more copies. There is also much less time between the original writings and when they were copied.**

New Testament (24,000 Copies): Jesus Ascension (A.D. 33), NT Written (A.D. 60), and Copies of NT Written (200 A.D.)

Tacitus Greek History (33 Copies): Events Occured (650 B.C), Originally Written(A.D. 100), Earliest Copy (850 A.D.)

*** There are 750 years between when the events actually occurred in Tacitus Greek History and when it was first written. There are 750 years between when Tacitus Greek History was first written and when we find the earliest copy. There are only 33 Copies.**

*** There are roughly 30 years between Jesus' ascension and when the NT was written. There are 140 years between when the NT was written and our earliest copy. There are 24,000 copies.**

Tacitus Greek History is regarded as historically reliable by scholars of any background. The New Testament then far surpasses the test for a historically reliable document and should be regarded as such by scholars and laymen alike.