



Romans 1:20 “*For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.*”

The Bible Part Two: The Look

I have three reasons why I find the Bible real to me. They are my reasons and my theories. As a science lover I have tested the Bible in my life lab. It works for me. The lack of concrete facts about authorship, interpretation, and the existence of God does not bother me that much. The Big Bang Theory lacks evidence and eye witness accounts. Yet, I believe it’s possible. It’s a good theory. The Bible is not proof there is a God. Yet, the fact that it has pointed to God for thousands of years is something to consider. Books and people come and go. How many civilizations have passed into history without a trace? We only know that someone existed because of headstones and dishes. Yet, much is missing. The Bible is still standing after all these years. Why does this book still exist? Here is my best take on why that is.

I want to give you an intriguing view on the three reasons I believe in the Bible. First and foremost, you must understand that until thirty-three years old I did not believe in this religious hoax. I was there with all the atheists. My first reason I believe in the Bible is in how it views itself. What I mean is the writers. These men are presumably Jewish. I suppose several are Hebrew. Yet, without exception they all call out their own religion. A dark light is cast on their actions. If the Bible was a joke then why would Jewish authors throw themselves and the

holiness of the Bible under the bus? Holiness? Yes! The Bible is a Holy God book on the relationship between God and humans. Yet, adultery, incest, rape, murder, and lying are all accounted for in the Bible. To highlight my first reason: would you write your own account that way? It does not look pretty.

Judges 4:21 *“But Jael, Heber’s wife, picked up a tent peg and a hammer and went quietly to him while he lay fast asleep, exhausted. She drove the peg through his temple into the ground, and he died.”*

Genesis 19:33 *“That night they got their father to drink wine, and the older daughter went in and slept with him. He was not aware of it when she lay down or when she got up.”*

This is your Bible folks. I could go on. This Holy book has some terrible chapters. So terrible, that radio evangelist J Vernon McGee tends to skip certain verses directly because it makes the Bible look bad. It clearly makes Jews and Christians look bad too. Why are these stories in here? Why does the Bible say God asked his people to kill entire nations? Did you know that prostitutes and non-Jews are in the lineage of Jesus? This book is not esthetically Jewish. It was not written to make the Jews look pretty. It’s not written to make God look perfect in our eyes either?

That’s one of the big reasons I believe the Bible. The intent is not to make God look super uber holy. He is uber Holy but it’s not the look we get. He allowed his own Son to be crucified! He allowed his most famous King David to be shown as a terrible father and husband. My goodness! David committed adultery, murder, and slept with many women. David is a great King but not that great a person. God says he made us in his own image. Combine that with all the terrible mistakes the Jews committed and God looks unholy.

To me, it's about authenticity. The Bible is written to show how it went. To show exactly what the Jews did. We see God making his decisions in his way. Our way? The Jewish way? Why would several different Jewish authors paint their own people as corrupt, depraved, and not worthy of God? Why would they paint God (by human standards) as uncaring (killing children, rape, and murder) and unethical? How so? Why did God allow these pictures of humanity in his Holy book? Some say that the biographies of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln are white washed. Meaning that these men look way better than they were. The Jews and Hebrews look horrible in the Bible. It's written that way.

So, I believe them all. It's an honest report to me. God has his reasons. Humans don't like it. Many characters in the Bible are horrible people or at-least unethical. People love to say Christians are too ridged or moralistic. The Bible has variety. God does what he thinks will work regardless of his reputation on TV. The Jews wrote this book regardless of the popularity poll. This ugly honesty within the Bible must count for something. The account in this book should be given credit for its blunt and candid honesty in its stories. Can the Bible be given credit for painting a true and honest picture of its characters? What would you believe more: blunt stories of failure and depravity or white washed fabricated descriptions of the golden boy?

So, first and foremost I believe the Bible is real because it looks real. Yes, people have their hang-ups on the miracles and Red Sea parting. Yet, the relationship between sinful humans and the Holy God is real. God is honest towards them. He rebukes and punishes his own children. He banishes his creation. Yet, David, Paul, and Peter (within their failings) are trying to search for God. To find common ground. God's love for them and their desire for God is evident within the messy stories. What makes the Bible real to me? It's a Holy God and sinful people trying to make it work. That's real to me.