**Christian Evidences: The Bible is God’s Word**

1. Internal: Claims of Inspiration

* 2 Timothy 3:16 (encompasses all of scripture, old and new testaments)
  + Old Testament
    - Exodus 11:1; 12:1; 13:1 (the Lord said)
    - 2 Samuel 23:2 (David); Jeremiah 1:7-9
  + New Testament – 2 Timothy 3:16 (Scripture inspired by God – Paul writing)
    - 1 Corinthians 2:6-16; 14:37
    - Ephesians 3:1-5
    - 1 Thessalonians 2:13

1. Internal: Prophecy Fulfilled

* God spoke through the prophets – Luke 1:68-70; Acts 3:18; Jeremiah 28:9; Deuteronomy 18:21-22
  + The Fall of Babylon (in power 626-539 B.C.) – Isaiah 13:17-22 (740-700 B.C.); Jeremiah 50:22-24 (627-585 B.C.) [Prophecy 200 yrs before]
    - Isaiah 45:1 – Medo-Persian Ruler, Cyrus, to conquer.
    - Fulfilled – 539 B.C. Cyrus the Mede captured Babylon.
      * Greek historian Herodotus (484 – 425 B.C.) reports that Cyrus had his men to divert the water which flowed under the city walls around the city. The invaders then went in under the city wall and surprised the Babylonians who were having a drunken party (Herodotus. i. 191)(Jeremiah 50:24 – a snare)
      * Edward Chiera (archeologist – 1920’s) *“On all sides is desert…The large network of canals…is now represented by a series of small mounds of dirt, running in all directions. Even the Euphrates has abandoned this land by changing its course. A dead city. Not a column or an arch still stands to demonstrate the permanency of human work. Everything has crumbled into dust. Under my feet are some holes which have been burrowed by foxes and jackals.” (Isaiah 13:20-22)*
  + Messianic Prophecies
    - Birthplace – Micah 5:2 (735-700 B.C.); Matthew 2:1-6
    - Despised and rejected – Isaiah 53:3 (740-700 B.C.); John 1:11; 12:37
    - Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem – Zechariah 9:9 (520 B.C.); Matthew 21:1-9
    - Death
      * “My God, My God, Why have you forsaken me?” – Psalm 22:1 (1,000 B.C.); Matthew 27:46
      * Bones were not to be broken – Psalm 34:20 (1,000 B.C.); John 19:33, 36
    - Resurrection – Psalm 16:10 (1,000 B.C.); Acts 2:24-32

1. External: Scientific Accuracy
2. Nature in the Bible

* Shape/position of earth
  + Fear of sailing off the edge of the earth.
    - Earth is round (Isaiah 40:22) – 700 B.C.!
  + The earth is being held up by what?
    - Hindu – Earth on the backs of 4 giant elephants, standing on the back of a giant turtle who was swimming in a sea of milk.
    - Japanese – Earth on the back of a giant catfish.
    - Greeks – Atlas had it on his back.
    - Bible tells us – Job 26:7 (over 4,000 yrs ago!)
* Water Cycle (Job 36:27-29; Amos 9:6)
* Expanding universe (Job 9:8; Psalm 104:2)

1. Health in the Bible

* 90% household dust is skin cells. (Genesis 3:19)
* All races have similar proportions to the four basic blood types. Discovered in 1900 by Karl Landsteiner. (Acts 17:25-26)
* Circumcision is safe by the eighth day due to the proper concentration of vitamin K and prothrombin. (Genesis 17:12)
* Life in the blood. (bloodletting – Egyptian practice) Moses didn’t do it. Leviticus 17:11, 14
* Leprosy (It is not clear how the leprosy germ is spread, but household and prolonged close contact is important. The germs probably enter the body through the nose and possibly through broken skin. The germs get in the air through nasal discharge of untreated lepromatous patients.) Leviticus 13:45

**Conclusion**

*Last eve I passed beside a blacksmith’s door*

*And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;*

*When looking in I saw upon the floor*

*Old hammers worn with beating years of time.*

*“How many anvils have you had,” said I,*

*“To wear and batter all these hammers so?”*

*“Just one,” said he: then said with twinkling eye,*

*“The anvil wears the hammers out, you know.”*

*And so I thought the anvil of God’s word*

*For ages skeptics blows have beat upon;*

*Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard,*

*The anvil is unharmed – the hammers gone!*