FOLLOWING JESUS Knowing Why You Believe "The Word" Pt. 2

2 Peter 1:16-21 & Various Scriptures

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Bottom Line:

Following Jesus is most effectively done when we understand the authority and the power behind the Word of God which emanated directly from the living "Logos" of God!!

1. What you need to know about the Bible!

- -The Bible = 66 books: 39 OT, 27 NT
 - 1600 years to write (3 continents)
 - 3 languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, & Greek) 40 authors
 - Yet totally consistent throughout.

Inspiration: 2 Timothy 3:16

God guarantees an accurate recording of His revelation to us by guiding the selection of the very words to be written and by so doing "breathing out" what He wanted known.



A. Preservation of the Bible



B. Prophecies and the Bible

- 1) Odds of Jesus fulfilling just some: Odds 48 of the 61 major ' prophecies = 1 in 10 to the 157th power!!
- 2) Virgin Birth. Isaiah 7:14 fulfilled in Matthew 1:18-25

- **3)** Born in Bethlehem. Micah 5:2 fulfilled in Matthew 2:1
- 4) Preceded by a messenger. Isaiah 40:3 fulfilled in Matthew 3:1-2
- 5) Side Pierced. Zechariah 12:10 fulfilled in John 19:34

6) Crucifixion details. Psalm 22:16-18 fulfilled in Luke 23:33

C. Archaeology and the Bible

Dr. Nelson Glueck, probably greatest authority on Israeli archaeology:

"<u>No archaeological discovery has ever controverted a Biblical</u> <u>reference.</u>

Scores of archaeological findings have been made which confirm in clear outline or in exact detail historical statements in the Bible."

2. What Jesus taught about the Bible!

Matthew 5:18

For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, <u>will pass from the Law until all is accomplished</u>. Luke 24:44

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: <u>Everything must be fulfilled</u> that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." (Jesus included all three sections of the Hebrew Bible)

- 3. What the apostles believed about their own writings!
 - Paul called his own words:
 - "commandments of the Lord" (I Cor. 14:37)
 - "...not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God" (1 Thess. 2:13)

-Peter included Paul's epistles with "the other Scriptures"

(2 Peter 3:16)

-Peter placed himself (and other apostles) on the same level as the O.T. prophets. (2 Peter 3:2).

-John claimed to write info given to him by God. (Rev.1:1)