

Some (you, perhaps?) think the Bible is bunk. Well, this will **Debunk the Bunk!**

A Pre-Study (to Pre-prepare for Other Studies) by
Marylynn G. Stults, Abraham Publishing, March, 2013

Prayerfully you, the reader of this (pre)study, will examine the Scriptures referenced here in context in your Bible asking the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart and teach you to greatly increase your faith and empower, enhance, and improve your life. Amen in Jesus' name.

Introduction

When Jesus becomes our Savior and we continue in Him to become a son of God according to the Word of God, the Holy Spirit is unified with our every breath and concerned with every detail of our lives. When we commune with Him, He will be our life's Helper.

This is such an amazing, true statement, I would think everyone would leap for joy and become a Christian; alas, not so.

(Wall painting showing the Cynic philosophers Crates and Hipparchia. From the garden of the Villa Farnesina, Museo delle Terme, Rome, 1st Century, author unknown; public domain)



Scripture is the sole basis for all of my studies. For those who don't believe or care that the Bible is The Word of God, a biblical foundation is meaningless; God speaking to us face-to-face might not even change such hardened hearts. History bears me out, for countless souls encountered, rejected, denied and, then, crucified Jesus. Whatever your heart's desire for Him – burning hot, tepid, or nonexistent – I invite you to read this information, although I am going to direct this pre-study primarily to the unbeliever. (I do want to suggest that even the staunchest Christian could find these facts remarkable as they are presented here in this format that I pray that the Holy Spirit directed.)

Jesus Christ *is* God Who, Himself, created all things (see John chapter 1 and this):

Ephesians 3:1-12 NKJV **The Mystery Revealed**

1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles—
2 if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you,
3 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already,
4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),

5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:
6 that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,
7 of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power.

Purpose of the Mystery

8 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ,
9 and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God **who created all things through Jesus Christ;**
10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places,
11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,
12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

Because these verses penned by the Apostle Paul to the Ephesians (and by God, to us) were profound and provocative, they might ignite interest in the confidently agnostic to think about looking into those “unsearchable riches of Christ”; presuming so – and that the rest of us are caught up in the Spirit – we’ll now factor in some incredible *natural* facts about the *supernatural* Bible to rouse the heart of unbeliever and believer alike.

How

All scripture in the Bible is given by inspiration of God and men wrote it down as moved upon by the Holy Spirit (2 Timothy 3:16 & 2 Peter 1:21). So, that’s what the Bible says about itself... and, we’re just to believe it?

Yup – believe *and* receive it by faith (John 17:8; Romans 10:17; Hebrews 4:2) – about which many thinking brains mistakenly think you must set aside yours to do.

The Bible is God-directed and I will show you how not only faith but intellectual study and thoughtfulness confirm its accuracy.

This first is a thinker. I submit to you this proposition:

Most of the Books of the Old Testament were written over the period between 1400 to 400 BC (the exception, the Book of Job, may have occurred even later – may have even been written by Job himself – 2100-1800 BC). Any thought about what communications’ technology the authors used? In fact, was there even writing as we know it today, then? See what Job said:

Job 19:23-24

23 Oh that my words were now written! oh that they were printed in a book!
24 That they were graven with an iron pen and lead in the rock for ever!

So there was writing then (not just oral tradition), thus a next logical question is how did the 40 +/- authors of the Bible in divergent times and places communicate with one another? In the beginning, did God say, "Let there be the World Wide Web!?" He Himself made clothes for the first couple; did He also make motorized chariots and time travel? I don't think so. Even when the New Testament books were written between 50 and 90 AD, there still were no planes, trains, or automobiles.

**AND YET, THE BIBLE IS AMAZINGLY
CONSISTENT, COHERENT, AND COHESIVE**



("Allegory of Arithmetic": The importance of the intellect was often celebrated in representations of the Seven Liberal Arts: Grammar, Rhetoric, Logic, Geometry, Arithmetic, Astronomy, and Music. They could be personified as poised young women in a setting and clothing suggestive of ancient Greece, the homeland of Western abstract thought. On the book held by Arithmetic is the name of the Greek mathematician Pythagoras, while on the worksheet are the primary mathematical functions: addition, subtraction, and multiplication. La Hyre produced at least two such series--including the "Allegory of Grammar" -- Walters 37.862--as decoration for the homes of the wealthy. He conveys this classical theme with the cool, rounded, carefully balanced forms of the new idealized style inspired by Raphael and Greco-Roman sculpture. 1650; public domain.)

Biblical naysayers speak of contradictions and inconsistencies. While I will show you some things that God knew long before people figured them out, I want to first reference these points that Paul made to the Corinthians (and, again, that which God has made known to us):

1 Corinthians 1:25-29 and 2:1-16

- 25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
- 26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:
- 27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;
- 28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:
- 29 That no flesh should glory in His presence.
- 2:1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.
- 2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.
- 3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.
- 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:
- 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

6 Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:
7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:
8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.
10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.
11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.
12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.
13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.
14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.
15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.
16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct Him? but we have the mind of Christ.

So while you contemplate these logical thoughts in this pre-study and think on them in your own understanding, consider how much more you could glean through the Spirit of God were He to dwell (or, if you are saved, *since* He dwells) in you and brings to you the ability to meditate with the mind of Christ. (I've tried mine; His is vastly superior.)

#1 The great Physician at work!

God commanded Abraham over 4,000 years ago, "And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you" (Genesis 17:12a). Our eighth day is the first time that it's certain the clotting vitamin K2 in blood is manufactured in our intestinal tract in normal amounts. Even more astonishing, prothrombin, also required for blood clotting, decreases in an infant in the first three days of life, then suddenly SPIKES to a maximum level on the eighth day...**and never again will it be this high!** God is omniscient.

#2 The World is Round!

The prophet Isaiah spoke of the CIRCLE of the EARTH about 2,200 years before Magellan sailed around the world and came to learn the earth *was* round (Isaiah 40:22 about 700 BC; Magellan sailed in the 1500s).

#3 Atlas – Knowledge wayyyyy ahead of its time:

The Bible says the earth "hangs on nothing"; this was written 3,500 to 4,000 years ago when many believed a god named Atlas held the earth on his shoulders (Job 26:7).



#4 Dirt

In Genesis 2:7, God says that He made us from the dust of the ground, but only in recent times have we learned that the same essential chemical elements in man and animal life are those in the soil.

#5 Ancient medical microbiology

Moses wrote in Leviticus 15:13 that we were to wash infected flesh in running water long before science had awareness about germs. It was the late 1800s when modern medical microbiology was founded.

#6 Light

Job 38:19: God spoke of “THE WAY” – not place like the sun – “where light DWELLS,” interesting because Einstein discovered light is always moving.

#7 The life is in the blood

In Leviticus 17:11 written about **1490 BC**, God directed Moses to write that the life of the flesh (creatures) is in the blood...yet only in the last 100 years has science discovered the full scope of this Truth. Throughout recorded history, bloodletting (removal) was a major medical practice. It is thought President George Washington died as a result of bloodletting when doctors took five pints of his blood as a treatment for pneumonia!



Now we know scientifically (not just because God said so) that the blood carries on all the body's life processes, including: builds new cells, grows bone and flesh, stores fat, makes hair and nails; feeds and supports all the organs of the body; repairs the body; and fights disease. God's word confirmed.

Messianic Prophecies Fulfilled

Again, please consider those 40 amazing biblical prophets collaborating in their think tanks over thousands of years via email, cell phone, and time travel to coordinate the 66 books of the Bible. (Well, do you have a better idea how biblical history came together?) Or was, perhaps, the Bible *supernaturally God-inspired?*

Furthermore, while most of the prophets didn't even know one another, they yet wrote of a coming Messiah – Christ Jesus – with agreement and precision as God gave them prophetic utterance.

Because the Bible was written to present the Messiah, here are just a few of **over 300 examples** about the coming of Christ which the birth, life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus have fulfilled.

- The Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (written in Micah 5:2 about 700 BC; fulfilled Matthew 2:1). He was.
- His would be a virgin birth (Isaiah 7:14 about 650-750 BC; fulfilled Luke 1:27). It was.
- His lineage would be from Abraham (Genesis 12:3), from Judah (Genesis 49:10), and from Jesse's son, David (Isaiah 11:1 and Jeremiah 23:5). It was.
- He would bear our sorrows and sicknesses (Isaiah 53:4-5 about 712 BC fulfilled Matthew 8:17 and 1 Peter 2:24). He did.
- He would be rejected by His brethren (Psalm 69:8 about 993 BC fulfilled John 5:7); He most certainly was.
- He would be rejected by rulers (Psalm 118:22 about 1018 BC fulfilled Matthew 21:42, 45, and Acts 4:11-12); yes, He was.
- He would be forsaken by His disciples (Zechariah 13:7 about 494 BC fulfilled Mark 14:27 and 50); they did forsake Him.
- He would be sold for 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12 about 494 BC fulfilled Matthew 26:15); yes, Judas Iscariot did this, and the one below.
- Says Psalm 41:9, He would be betrayed by a friend – one whom He trusted; “he who shared My bread...” it says – wow! – all precisely as it happened (John 13:26).
- His price was to be given to purchase potters field (Zechariah 11:13 about 494 BC fulfilled Matthew 27:3-8). It was.
- He was to be smitten, spit on, mocked, and beaten (Isaiah 50:6 about 712 BC fulfilled John 5:7; Psalm 22:7 about 993 BC fulfilled Matthew 27:43; and Micah 5:1 about 712 BC was fulfilled in Mark 15:3-5). All was so.
- Lots would be cast for His vesture (Psalm 22:18 about 993 BC fulfilled Matthew 27:35). They were.
- His blood would make atonement (many Scriptures including Isaiah 52:15 about 700 BC; fulfilled also in many including Revelation 1:5),
- and yet none of His bones would be broken (Psalm 34:20 about 1029 BC fulfilled John 19:33-36), all exactly as it was written.

More? My goodness, yes!

Important Notes:

All Scripture references are King James Version (KJV) unless other noted. The Amplified Bible often gives us a greater understanding of the words used; other versions, such as the NIV (New International Version), New King James Version (NKJV), and New Living Bible (NLB) can help us to have greater understanding by simplifying the English; and the Strong's Concordance has assigned a number that provides the definition of the original Hebrew (Old Testament) and Greek (New Testament) words.

Research reveals as many as 41,000 Christian denominations exist – mind boggling, huh? – so there are at least that many ways man has found to present God's word. By sheer volume, many conflict, yet each believes theirs is the correct interpretation; therefore, you may or may not agree with my studies which most certainly is your prerogative, but I offer them to you in love and prayerful hope that they are beneficial to you in your Salvation walk. If, through A Christian Study from Abraham Publishing, only one person comes to know Jesus as LORD and Savior, my life and this effort will have been worthwhile.

Receiving Christ as your Savior and becoming a Christian – one born of God – doesn't lessen life's trials; it opens your eyes to realize what Jesus has done to help you overcome them even while you are a mortal being, as your faith grows through prayer, reading the Bible, and fellowship. As you mature in Christ, you begin to love as He loves and to see beyond the material realm; you commune with the Holy Spirit, God present both in and with you, Who teaches you, and even empowers you, when you are willing and desirous; hungry for God and the Love only He represents.

I believe The Apostle's Creed which states: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and only Savior, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy universal church that Jesus Christ established through the Apostles and Disciples; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

Love in Christ and Amen in the name of Jesus,
Marylynn G. Stults * abrahampublishing@gmail.com * www.achristianstudy.com