

Calvary Chapel Portsmouth



Simply teaching the Bible, simply

REASONS
WE BELIEVE

LIFE'S

GREATEST

QUESTION



Scientists prove

In a 'quantum' leap in physics, scientists today claimed to have spotted a sub-atomic particle "consistent" with the Higgs boson or 'God particle', believed to be a

particle's properties, and is likely to shed light on other mysteries of our Universe," Heuer said. Joe Incandela, the leader of CMS, one of the two teams of the

Telescope tracks 35 million galaxies in Dark Energy hunt

By Pallab Ghosh
Science correspondent, BBC News

© 28 October 2019

f Share

What is Dark Energy?

The Big Bang theory of the creation of the Universe originally predicted that its expansion would slow down, and that it would possibly begin to contract as a result of the pull of gravity

However, in 1998, astronomers were shocked to discover that not only was the Universe continuing to expand, but that this expansion was also accelerating.

The most widely held view is that something is counteracting the pull of gravity - and that something has been termed Dark Energy



Dark Energy permeates the Universe and pushes galaxies apart

One possibility is that the vacuum pressure was much, much larger in the early Universe and now has dwindled to its current level.



MEHAU KULYK/SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY

Could our Universe be one of many in a grand multiverse?

If, however, astronomers discover that the vacuum pressure has stayed the same, then some more speculative theories come into play. One suggests that our Universe is one of many in a massive "multiverse". Ours has a tiny vacuum pressure while others may have the much larger pressure

IS ANYONE OUT THERE?



?ETI
● INSTITUTE



DOES

GOOD

EXIST



Apologetic Arguments

- 1) Cosmological
- 2) Teleological
- 3) Moral Argument
- 4) Anthropological Argument
- 5) Ontological Argument

The Classical A

- 1) Cosmological
- The world is...

Epistemology

- How do you know what you know?
- What basis do you have for what you know?

Calvary Chapel UK

School of Ministry

Basic Apologetics

Faith based

ly verified

ief

TS!!

n around

thropied by

e energy

Apologetics

- Apologetics is a Greek term from two root words meaning to 'speak away'
- Plato, in his famous book Apology recorded the defence of Socrates to the charges laid against him in 399 B.C.
- The term thereafter was given to any speech made by a defendant
- Apologetics has come to mean any reasoned and structured response to critics, detractors, antagonists or sceptics

Apologetics

- From a Christian perspective:
- The *“marshalling together evidence into a structure that will demonstrate in a clear, forceful yet sensitive way the credibility and reasonableness of the Christian faith”*
- Pastor Barry Definition:
 - “The art of causing people to think!”
 - People don’t reject Christianity because of the lack of evidence, but because they have been led to believe that no evidence exists!
 - People equate ‘belief’ with emotion, not facts

Apologetic Arguments

1) Cosmological

- The world & universe must have had an origin and cause
- Nothing cannot create everything!
 - Even if you give it billions of years!!
- But matter could not have been around for ever either!
 - If it had been it would have all entropied by now
 - There would be no more available energy and everything in the universe would be at a uniform temperature

Apologetic Arguments

2) Teleological

- We can observe design in nature
 - DNA / symmetry / complexity / diversity etc.
- If there is design, there must be a Designer who is outside of creation itself
 - Building = Builder
 - Painting = Painter
 - Creation = Creator

Apologetic Arguments

3) Moral Argument

- Man has an inbuilt sense of right and wrong
- These are non-physical attributes so cannot be the product of chemical or biological evolution
 - Love / Hatred / Justice / Righteousness etc.
- Our sense of morality must have come from a moral Creator

**“My argument against God
was that the universe
seemed so cruel and unjust.
But how had I got this idea of
just and unjust?**

**A man does not call a line
crooked unless he has some
idea of a straight line.
What was I comparing this
universe with when
I called it unjust?”**

C.S. Lewis

Apologetic Arguments

4) Anthropological Argument

- Man has an inbuilt sense of a 'higher power'
- In all cultures throughout all time there is some form of belief in God or gods
 - Man is prone to cry out to that which is outside himself both in regard to worship and also 'salvation'
- If we have this inbuilt capacity for 'God', Deity must exist in some form or another

Apologetic Arguments

5) Ontological Argument

- If we can conceive of a infinite or perfect being, yet we recognise we ourselves are imperfect and finite...
- The idea of an infinite being must have come from 'Him' rather than us

“I’m not a Christian today because I was raised that way or because it satisfies some need or accomplishes some goal.

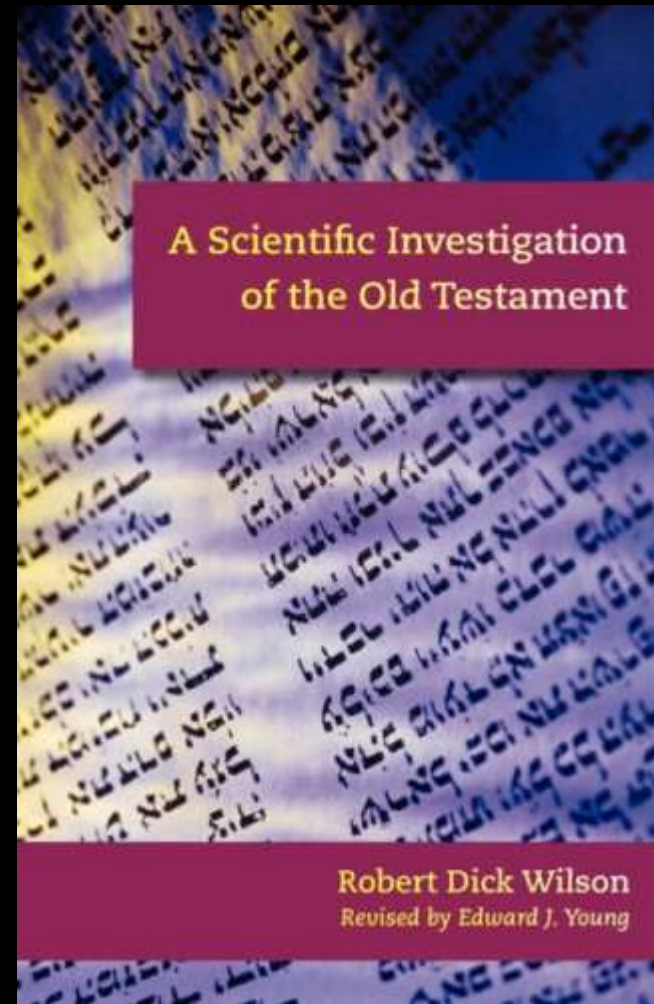
I’m simply a Christian
because it’s evidentially true.”

J. WARNER WALLACE
COLD-CASE DETECTIVE
AND AUTHOR OF
COLD-CASE CHRISTIANITY

Basic Apologetics

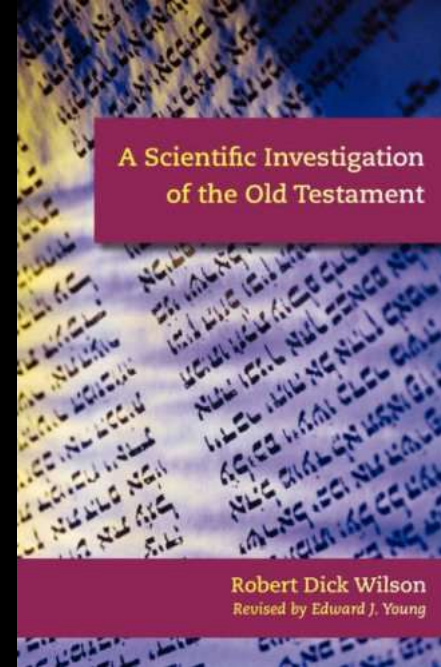
- Classical Arguments
- Historical
- Scientific
- Mathematical
- Geographical
- Biological
- Astronomical
- Archeological
- The Bible
- The Greatest Mystery?

- Professor Robert D Wilson
 - “Scientific Investigation of The Old Testament”
 - He could read & write 45 ancient Semitic languages
 - At 25 yrs old he could read the NT in 9 languages
 - He had memorised the NT from Matthew – Revelation
 - He also had many of the OT book memorised in Hebrew



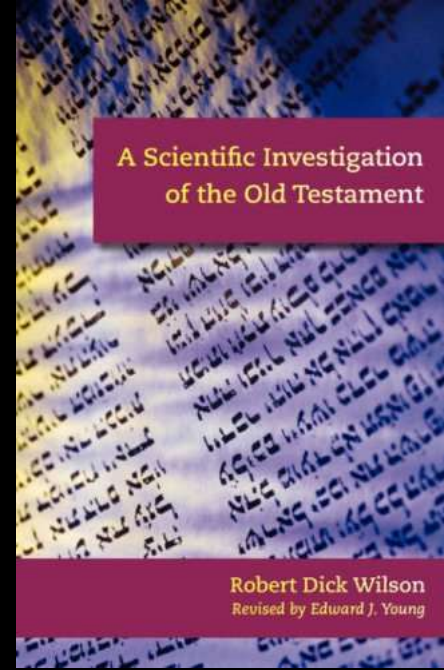
“For 45 years continuously I have devoted myself to one great study of the Old Testament. In all of its languages, in all of its archaeology, in all of its translations.

The critics of the Bible who go to it in order to find fault claims to themselves all knowledge, all virtue, all love of the truth. One of their favourite phrases is ‘*all scholars agree*’. Well, when a man says that I wish to know who the scholars are and what they agree on? Where do they get their evidence? I defy any man to make an attack on the Old Testament on the ground of evidence that I cannot investigate.”

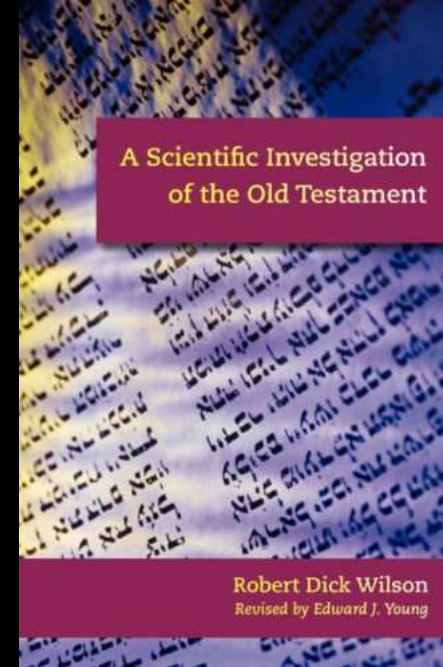


“After I learned the necessary languages, I set about the investigation of every single consonant in the Hebrew Old Testament – there are about one million, two hundred and fifty thousand of them.

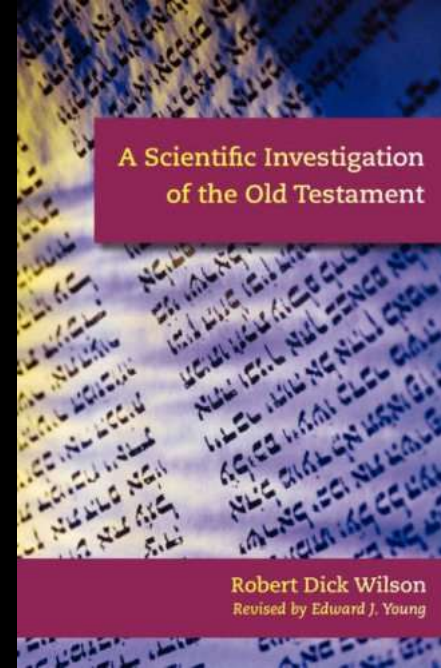
It took me many years to achieve my task. I had to observe variations in the text, in the manuscripts, notes of the masorites in all their various versions, parallel passages, and contextual emendations of critics; and then I had to classify the results of every character, every consonant, to reduce the Old Testament criticism to an absolutely objective science, something that is based on evidence and not opinion.



The result of those 45 years of study which I have given to the text has been this:

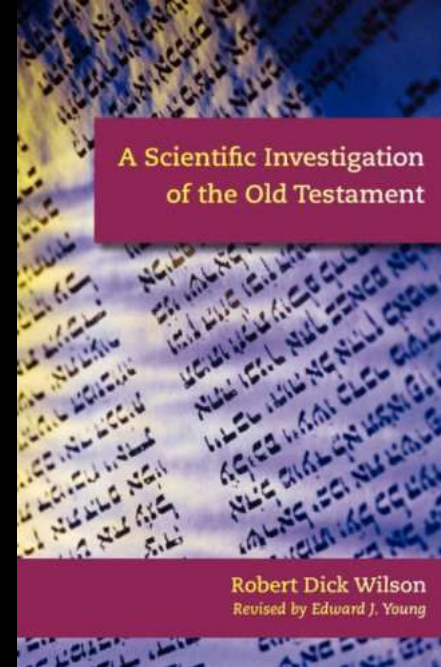


“I can affirm that there is not a page of the Old Testament concerning which you need have any doubt!”



“For example, to illustrate its accuracy: there are 29 ancient kings whose names are mentioned, not only in the Bible, but also on monuments we’ve uncovered of their own time.

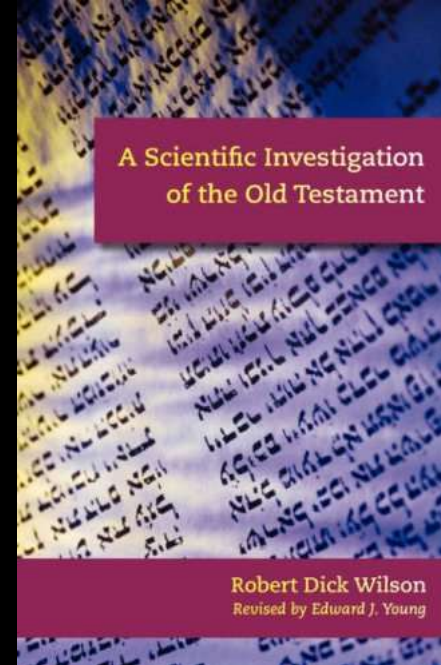
There are 195 consonants in those 29 proper names. Yet we find that in the documents of the Hebrew Old Testament there are only two consonants out of the 195 that have ever been called into question.”



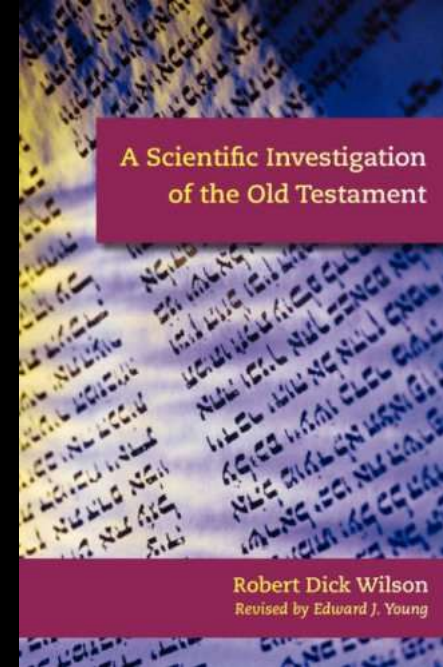
“[The names] are all in exactly the same way as they have been inscribed on their monuments which archaeologists have dated and discovered. Some of these go back four thousand years.

Compare this accuracy with the greatest scholar of his age, the librarian at Alexandria in Egypt, (200 B.C.) He compiled a catalogue of the kings of Egypt, 38 in all. Of the entire number only three or four were recognisable.

He also made a list of the kings of Assyria and in only one case can we tell who he's talking about - and that one is not spelt correctly!



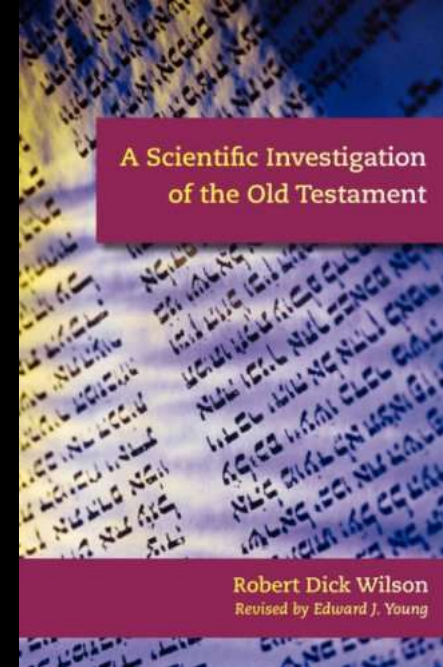
“Or take Ptolemy who drew up a register of eighteen kings of Babylon; not one of them is properly spelt. You could not make them out at all if you did not know some of the outside sources.”



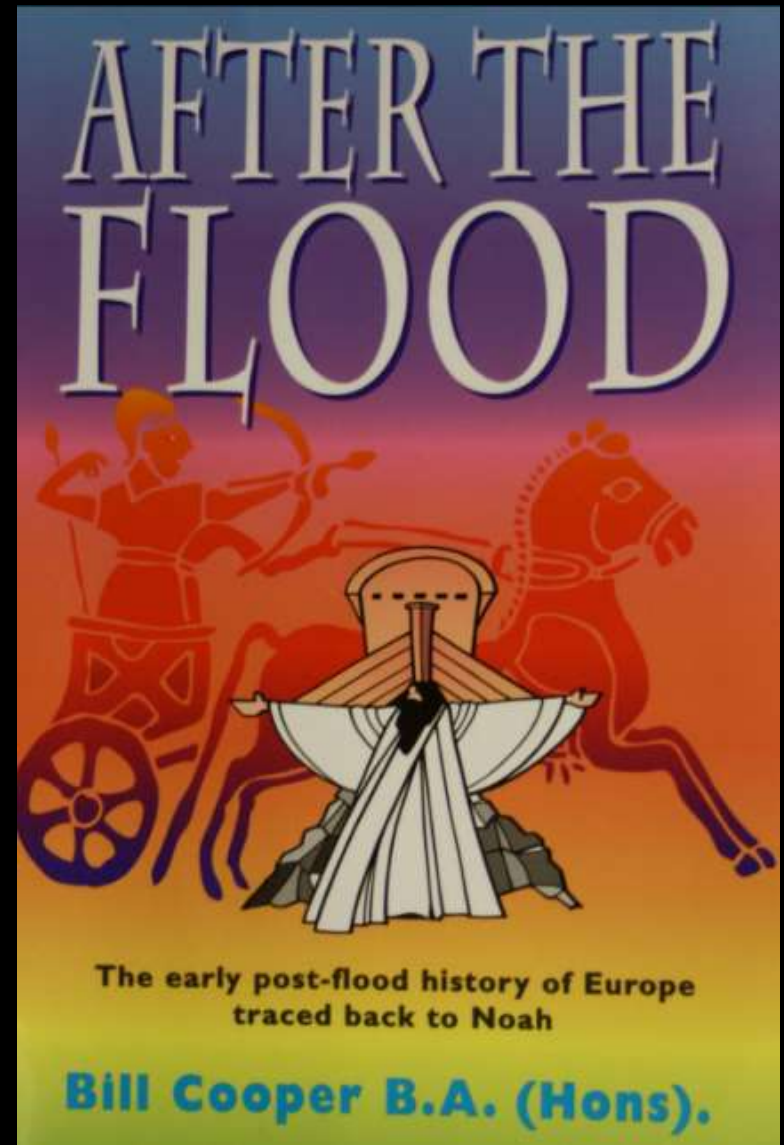
“If anyone talks about the Bible, ask him about the kings mentioned in it. There are 29 kings referred to, 10 different countries among these 29, all of which are included in the Bible and on the monuments.

Every one of these is give their right name in the Bible, their right country and their right place in correct chronological order.

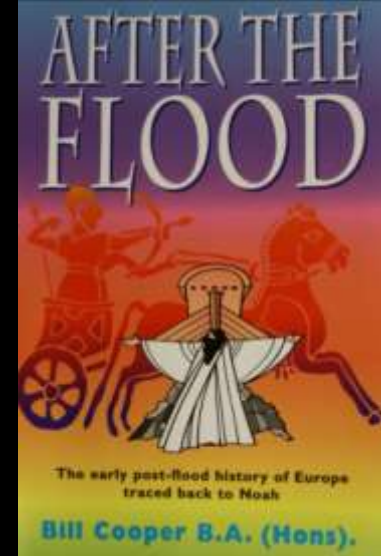
Think what this means!”



- **Dr Bill Cooper**
- Dr Bill Cooper is a Vice President of the Creation Science Movement in England. He also serves as an Adjunct Professor on the Master Faculty at the Institute for Creation Research School of Biblical Apologetics.
- Bill's in-depth research have led to some ground-breaking discoveries.
- In this book Bill traces the kings and queens of England all the way back to Noah & demonstrates the historical accuracy of the Biblical record.

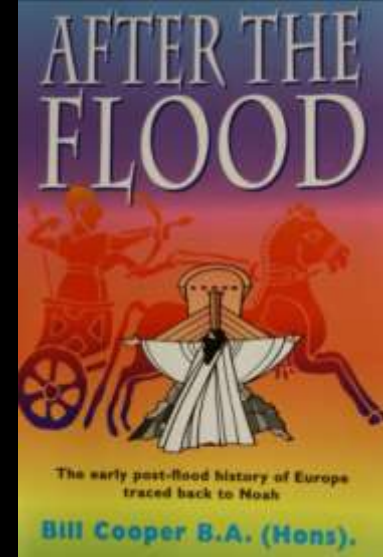


- Dr Bill Cooper
- It is commonly thought in this present age that nothing is worthy of our belief unless first it can be scientifically demonstrated and observed to be true.
- ...it was assumed without further enquiry that nothing in especially the earlier portions of the biblical record could be demonstrated to be true and factual. This applied particularly to the book of Genesis.
- In other words, we were solemnly assured in the light of modern wisdom that, historically speaking, the book of Genesis was simply not worth the paper it was written on.



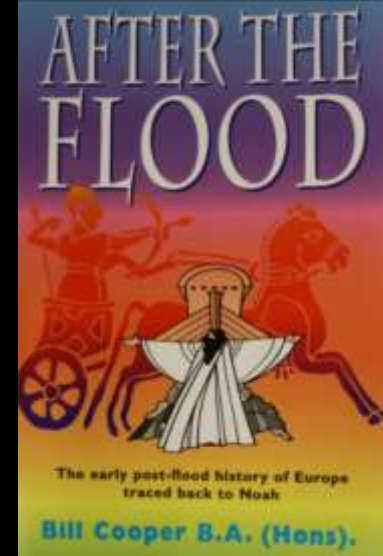
On the one hand I had the Bible itself claiming to be the very Word of God, and on the other I was presented with numerous commentaries that spoke with one voice in telling me that the Bible was nothing of the kind. It was merely a hotch-potch collection of middle-eastern myths and fables that sought to explain the world in primitive terms.

Now, it simply was not possible for both these claims to be valid. Only one of them could be right...



So it was then that I decided to select a certain portion of Genesis and submit it to a test which, if applied to any ordinary historical document, would be considered a test of the most unreasonable severity. And I would continue that test until either the book of Genesis revealed itself to be a false account, or it would be shown to be utterly reliable in its historical statements.

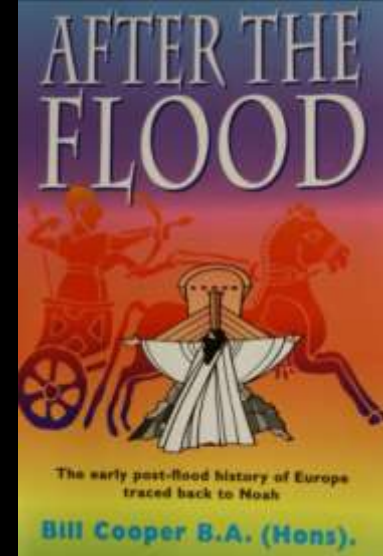
What I had not expected at the time was the fact that the task was to engage my attention and energies for more than twenty-five years...



The test that I devised was a simple one. If the names of the individuals, families, peoples and tribes listed in the Table of Nations were genuine, then those same names should appear also in the records of other nations of the Middle East.

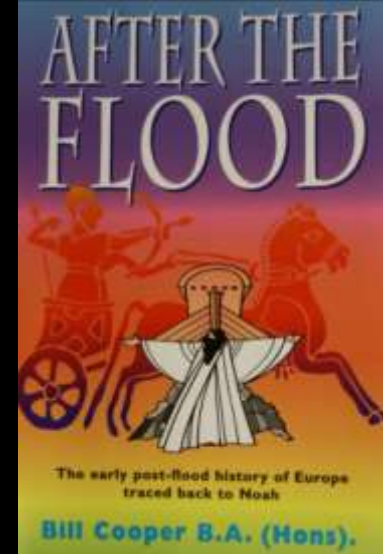
It simply was not realistic to expect that every name would have been recorded in the annals of the ancient Middle East and would also have survived to the present day.

I therefore would have been content to have found say 40% of the list vindicated.



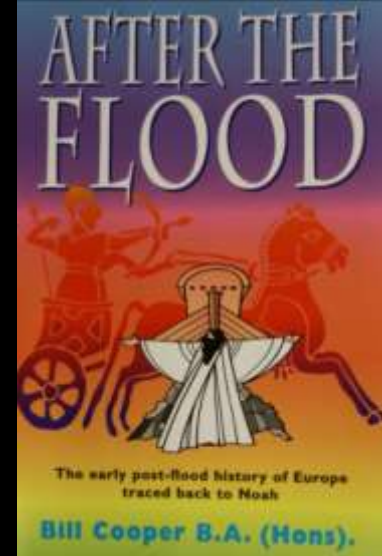
In fact that would have been a very high achievement given the sheer antiquity of the Table of Nations itself and the reported scarcity of the surviving extra-biblical records from those ancient times.

But when, over my twenty-five years of research, that confirmatory evidence grew past 40% to 50%, and then 60% and beyond, it soon became apparent that modern wisdom in this matter was wide of the mark. Very wide of the mark indeed.



Today I can say that the names so far vindicated in the Table of Nations make up over 99% of the list,

...and I shall make no further comment on that other than to say that no other ancient historical document of purely human authorship could be expected to yield such a level of corroboration as that!



Basic Apologetics

- Classical Arguments
- Historical
- Scientific
- Mathematical
- Geographical
- Biological
- Astronomical
- Archeological
- The Bible
- The Greatest Mystery?

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth

Genesis 1:1

- **Time** = past, present & future; **Space** = length, width & height; **Matter** = solid, liquid & gas.

6 The wind goeth toward the south, and turneth about unto the north; it whirleth about continually, and the wind returneth again according to his circuits.

7 All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea is not full; unto the place from whence the rivers come, thither they return again.

Ecclesiastes 1:6-7

- The worlds first meteorologist?
- The hydro cycle summerised in c1000 B.C.
- No other writings of antiquity are so full of scientifically verifiable facts

Technology Statements

- Weapons Technology
Matt 24:22; Jer 50:9
- Medical Hygiene
Ex 15:26; Deu 23:12,13
- Circumcision
Gen 17:10-12
- Pathways in the Sea
Ps 8:8; Isa 43:16
- Meteorological Cycle
Ecc 1:6,7; Job 36:27,28
- Global TV Coverage
Matt 24:15; Rev 11:8-10
- Electronic Funds Transfer
Rev 13:17
- Round Earth
Job 26:7; Isa 40:22;
Luk 17:34-36
- Sub-atomic Particles
Heb 11:3

Basic Apologetics

- Classical Arguments
- Historical
- Scientific
- Mathematical
- Geographical
- Biological
- Astronomical
- Archeological
- The Bible
- The Greatest Mystery?

Mathematical Structure

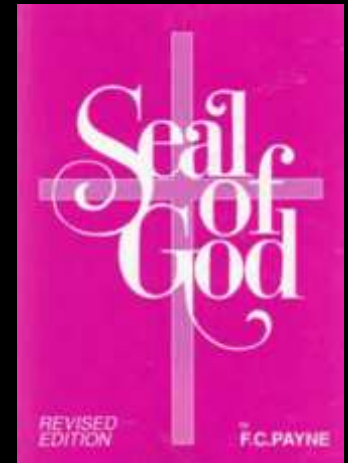
- Numbers are often used to represent concepts and ideas throughout the Bible
- The number 7 (and multiples thereof) is always associated with 'complete'
- This is another evidence of deliberate supernatural design throughout the Bible.

Mathematical Structure

- We find a 7 day week,
- 7 colours in the rainbow,
- 7 branches on the Menorah (Jewish lampstand)
- the 7 years of plenty and the 7 years of famine in Egypt,
- the 7 priests and 7 trumpets marching around Jericho,
- Solomon's building the Temple for 7 years
- Naaman's washing in the river 7 times,

Mathematical Structure

- 7 kingdom parables in Matthew 13,
- 7 letters to 7 churches in Revelation,
- 7 seals, 7 trumpets, 7 thunders, 7 bowl judgments
- However those are just the ones we observe *on the surface* of the text.
- Russian born **Dr Ivan Panin** spent over 50 years of his life painstakingly exploring the numerical structure of the Scriptures,
- He generated over 43,000 detailed, hand-penned pages of analysis.



F.C Payne
Seal of God
(ISBN 0 908208 03 0)

Mathematical Structure

- 7 kingdom parables in Matthew 13,
- 7 letters to 7 churches in Revelation

“The marvellous things God has permitted to be revealed in recent years has placed the Bible like a beacon high above the crumbling ruins of the theories of its critics. Any person who scoffs at the Bible today is simply manifesting their ignorance of revealed facts”

F.C. Payne

50 years of his life painstakingly exploring the numerical structure of the Scriptures,

- He generated over 43,000 detailed, hand-penned pages of analysis.



F.C. Payne
Seal of God
(ISBN 0 908208 03 0)

Mathematical Structure

- His findings showed that not only the surface text is filled with numerical patterns, but the very words and letters themselves are specifically chosen to fit mathematical models.
- Jesus was really not joking when He said that not even a jot or tittle will pass from the law until all be fulfilled!

Assignment 4

Design Challenge:

- Write out a genealogy (real or imaginary)
- A few conditions:
 - The number of **words** must be divisible by 7, evenly.
 - The number of **letters** must also be divisible by 7, evenly.
 - The number of **vowels** divisible by 7
 - The number of **consonants** divisible by 7.

Assignment 4

Design Challenge:

- Write out a genealogy (real or imaginary)
- A few conditions:
 - The number of words that **begin with a vowel** must be divisible by 7.
 - The number of words that **begin with a consonant** must be divisible by 7.

Assignment 4

Design Challenge:

- Write out a genealogy (real or imaginary)
- A few conditions:
 - The number of words that **occur more than once** must be divisible by 7.
 - **occur in more than one form** must be divisible by 7.
 - **occur in only one form** must be divisible by 7.

Assignment 4

Design Challenge:

- Write out a genealogy (real or imaginary)
- A few conditions:
 - The number of **nouns** shall be divisible by 7.
 - Only 7 words shall **not be nouns**.
 - The number of **names** shall be divisible by 7.
 - Only 7 **other kinds of nouns** are permitted.

Assignment 4

Design Challenge:

- Write out a genealogy (real or imaginary)
- A few conditions:
 - The number of **male names** shall be divisible by 7.
 - The number of **generations** shall be divisible by 7.

Assignment 4

Design Challenge:

- Write out a genealogy (real or imaginary)
- A few conditions:
 - Who thinks they could do this?
 - It has been estimated that to ‘accidentally’ create a genealogy like this with 34 features...
 - If you could complete 400 million attempts per second!
 - It would still take 1,000,000 supercomputers 4,300,000 years to achieve this!

Every Detail by Design

*This is the
genealogy of Jesus
Christ as found in
Matthew 1:1-11!*

(in Greek)

- *Ivan Panin has identified 75 features in Matthew!*

Undeniable Evidence

- Based on his 50 years of research...
- Dr. Ivan Panin stated that:
- *“The Bible could not possibly have been written except by the inspiration of God Himself”*
- This claim was investigated by the Nobel Research Foundation of Los Angeles
- Their verdict was:
- *“So far as our investigation has proceeded, we find the evidence overwhelmingly in favour of such a statement”*

Basic Apologetics

- Classical Arguments
- Historical
- Scientific
- Mathematical
- Geographical
- Biological
- Astronomical
- Archeological
- The Bible
- The Greatest Mystery?

Matthew Fontaine Maury

- Matthew Fontaine Maury was born in Spotsylvania County, Virginia, in 1806.
- As an avid Bible reader, he was struck by a reference to “the paths of the seas”

Psalm 8

- He also noticed that Isaiah wrote of a “path through the mighty waters”

Isaiah 43:16

- Are there pathways in the seas? Who could imagine such a thing? The pursuit of this enigma became Maury’s lifetime quest.

C. L. Lewis, *Matthew Fontaine Maury: Pathfinder of the Seas*, U.S. Naval Institute, Annapolis, Maryland, 1927.

Matthew Fontaine Maury

- He entered the Navy in 1825 as a midshipman.
- By 1842 he was placed in charge of the Depot of Charts and Instruments, out of which grew the U.S. Naval Observatory and Hydrographic Office.
- To gather information on maritime winds and currents, Maury distributed to ship captains specially prepared logbooks from which he compiled pilot charts, enabling him to shorten the time of sea voyages.



Matthew Fontaine Maury

- In 1848 he published maps of the main wind fields of the Earth.
 - Maury was ultimately able to produce charts of the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans, a profile of the Atlantic seabed, and the first modern oceanographic text.
- He is internationally recognized as the “Father of Oceanography,”
 - Maury Hall at the U.S. Naval Academy is named in his honor.
- All because of a *remez*, a hint of something deeper, in a verse in the Psalms.

Basic Apologetics

- Classical Arguments
- Historical
- Scientific
- Mathematical
- Geographical
- Biological
- Astronomical
- Archeological
- The Bible
- The Greatest Mystery?

Basic Apologetics

- Classical Arguments
- Historical
- Scientific
- Mathematical
- Geographical
- Biological
- Astronomical
- Archeological
- The Bible
- The Greatest Mystery?

The Mazaroth

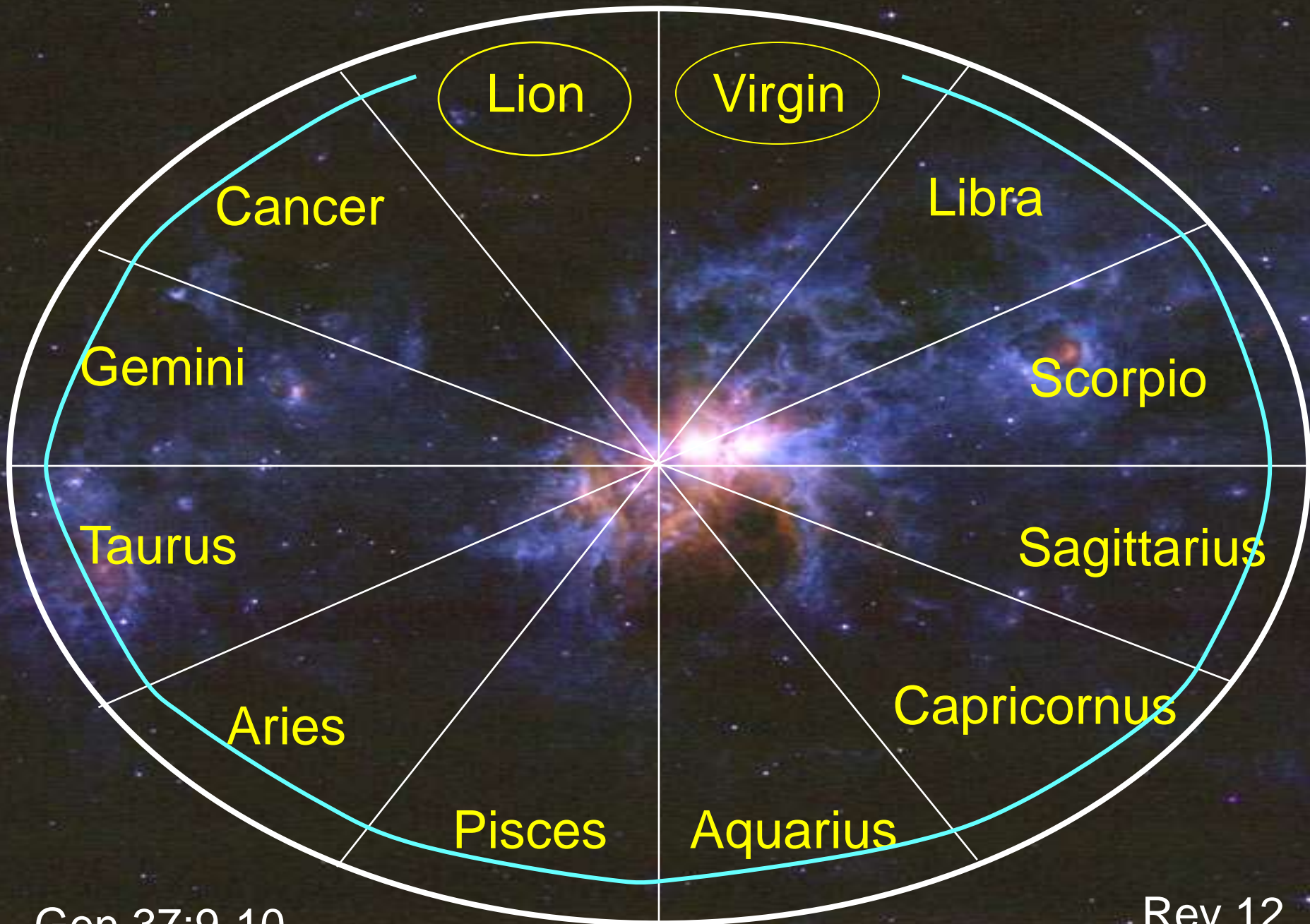
- Each constellation is made up of a groups of stars

- The stars have names –

Ancient Persian & Arabian tradition ascribe the invention of astronomy to Adam/Seth/Enoch

- The names tell a story

- The picture is an aid to help remember the star names



Gen 37:9-10

Rev 12

The Heavens Declare

“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows his handywork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night shows knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun, Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, and rejoices as a strong man to run a race. His going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.”

Basic Apologetics

- Classical Arguments
- Historical
- Scientific
- Mathematical
- Geographical
- Biological

- Astronomical

- Archeological

- The Bible

- The Greatest Mystery?

Basic Apologetics

- Classical Arguments
- Historical
- Scientific
- Mathematical
- Geographical
- Biological
- Astronomical

• Archeological

• The Bible

• The Greatest Mystery?

Faithful Transmission

- The Talmud lists more than a dozen rules for copying the Torah
- Built-in security system!
- If even just one of these factors is lacking, it does not possess the sanctity of a Torah scroll, and is not to be used for a public Torah reading.
- The meticulous process of hand-copying a scroll takes about 2,000 hours (a full-time job for one year).
- Throughout the centuries, Jewish scribes have adhered to the following guidelines:

Faithful Transmission

- 1. The parchment must be made from the skin of a clean animal (clean meaning ceremonially clean according to the Old Testament sanitary laws); must be prepared by a Jew only, and the skins must be fastened together by strings taken from clean animals.
- 2. Each column must have no less than forty-eight, nor more than sixty lines.
- 3. The entire copy must be first lined.

Faithful Transmission

- 4. A Torah Scroll is disqualified if even a single letter is added.
- 5. A Torah Scroll is disqualified if even a single letter is deleted.
- 6. The scribe must be a learned, pious Jew, who has undergone special training and certification.
- 7. All materials (parchment, ink, quill) must conform to strict specifications, and be prepared specifically for the purpose of writing a Torah Scroll.

Faithful Transmission

- 8. The scribe may not write even one letter into a Torah Scroll from memory. Rather, he must have a second, kosher scroll opened before him at all times.
- 9. The scribe must pronounce every word out loud before copying it from the correct text.
- 10. Every letter must have sufficient white space surrounding it. If one letter touched another in any spot, it invalidates the entire scroll.

Faithful Transmission

- 11. If a single letter was so marred that it cannot be read at all, or resembles another letter (whether the defect is in the writing, or is due to a hole, tear or smudge), this invalidates the entire scroll.
- 12. Each letter must be sufficiently legible so that even an ordinary schoolchild could distinguish it from other, similar letters.
- 13. The scribe must put precise space between words, so that one word will not look like two words, or two words look like one word.

Faithful Transmission

- 14. The scribe must not alter the design of the sections, and must conform to particular line-lengths and paragraph configurations.
- 15. The ink must be of no other colour than black, and it must be prepared according to a special recipe.
- 16. He must reverently wipe his pen each time before writing the word for "God" (Elohim), and he must wash his whole body before writing the name "Jehovah" (LORD in KJV), lest the Holy Name be contaminated.

Faithful Transmission

- 17. Each Hebrew letter has a numerical value; each column when completed must be added up and be the exact numerical value as the scroll you were copying from.
- 18. Each page must also add up numerically
- 19. The revision (to correct any errors) of a roll must be made within thirty days after the work was finished; otherwise it was worthless.
- 20. One mistake on a sheet condemned the entire sheet. If three mistakes were found on any page, the entire manuscript was condemned.

Preserved

- Critics favourite challenge:
“you can’t trust the Bible, it’s been changed so many times”
- 304,805 letters in the Torah
- How many errors in 1900 years?

Preserved

“The fact is, that after all the trials and tribulations, communal dislocations and persecutions, only the Yemenite Torah scrolls contain any difference from the rest of world Jewry. For hundreds of years, the Yemenite community was not part of the global checking system, and a total of nine letter-differences are found in their scrolls.

These are all spelling differences. In no case do they change the meaning of the word.”

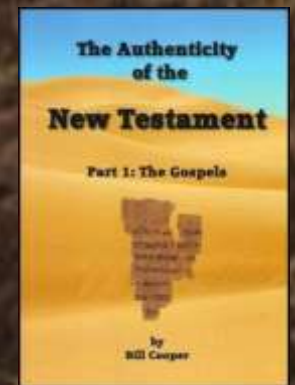
The Dead Sea Scrolls

- What have they told us?
- Discovered between 1947 and 1956
 - In caves in Qumran in southern Israel
- They comprise some 800 documents
- ...dating from around 250 BC to 68 AD
- Among the Scrolls are partial or complete copies of every book in the Hebrew Bible
 - except the book of Esther



The Dead Sea Scrolls

The caves at Qumran are famous for the hoard of Old Testament and other manuscripts that have been found there. But the thing which receives the least publicity (if any publicity at all) is the fact that the caves have also yielded fragments of New Testament books. This absence of publicity – this blanket denial of their identity – is not to be wondered at.

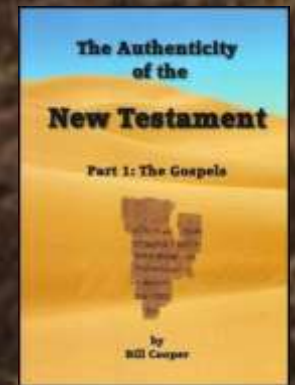


Dr Bill Cooper

– The Authenticity of the New Testament, Part 1

The Dead Sea Scrolls

It was really most awkward. In fact, it still is very awkward for them, for it means that the fragments must have been written out – copied from even earlier exemplars – well before A.D. 68, which undermines everything that the critics have been claiming all these years.

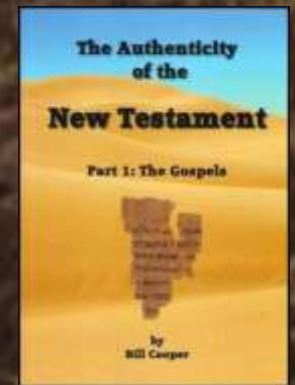


Dr Bill Cooper

– The Authenticity of the New Testament, Part 1

The Dead Sea Scrolls

The fact of the matter is this, that these manuscripts were deposited in the caves at Qumran by the year A.D. 68 at the very latest, when Qumran and the surrounding area was overrun by the Roman 10th legion, and according to the critics, the New Testament – especially the Gospels – had not been written by that time.



Dr Bill Cooper

– The Authenticity of the New Testament, Part 1

Conclusion?

- The Scripture has been faithfully preserved and passed down to us.
- The Old Testament has been painstakingly copied and preserved...
- The New Testament has now been shown to have been written in the 'eye witness period'
 - The Gospel (probably Matthew's) was in circulation, and had made its way to this country within just a few years of the resurrection!

Basic Apologetics

- Classical Arguments
- Historical
- Scientific
- Mathematical
- Geographical
- Biological
- Astronomical
- Archeological
- The Bible
- The Greatest Mystery?

THE

GREATEST

MYSTERY



THE Greatest MYSTERY

- What if there was a mystery that spanned the ages?
- A mystery birthed in a Middle Eastern desert over three thousand years ago that is now determining the events of our day?
- What if I told you this mystery involves global leaders, heads of state, presidents, and many others who have all been working to a pre determined timetable?

THE Greatest MYSTERY

- What if I could show you that this mystery has decided world events down to the year, the month and even the very day of their occurring?
- What if I showed you that everything that ever has been and all that will be are connected to and are part of this mystery?
- What if I showed you that you don't need faith to believe this mystery, because it is etched as a silent witness into our past, present and future?

T O

B E

CONTINUED...



calvary
chapel
portsmouth

www.calvaryportsmouth.co.uk



Calvary Chapel Portsmouth



Simply teaching the Bible, simply



**From all at Calvary Chapel Portsmouth,
to...**