

God Wrote a Book: The Bible is Accurate

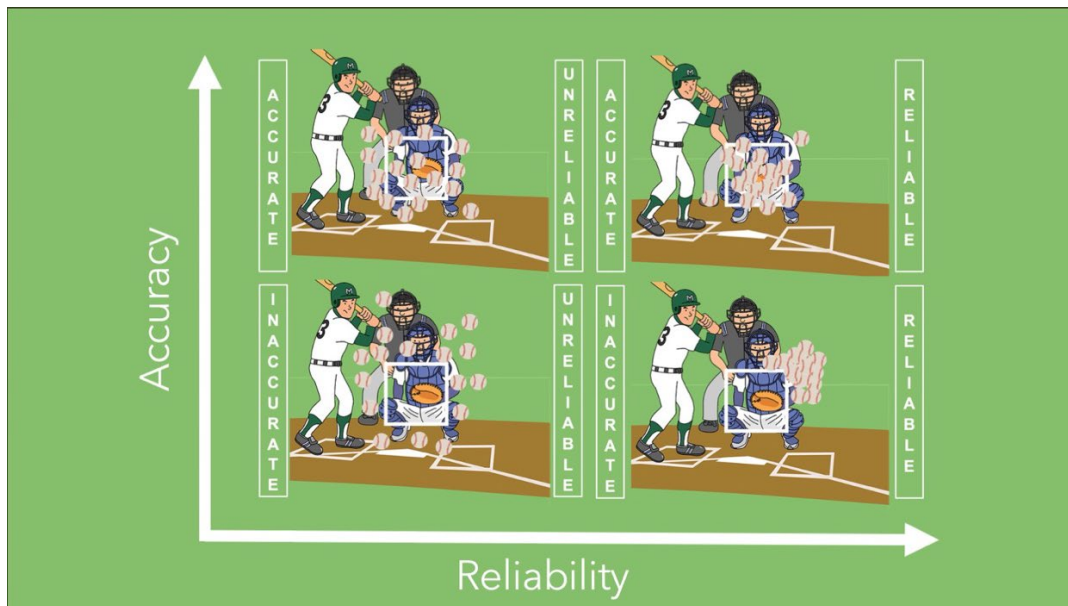
Opening Discussion

1. Who is your favorite meteorologist or sports commentator?
2. Is he or she accurate? Is he or she infallible?
3. What is the difference between accuracy and infallibility?
4. Why might it be helpful to discuss the Bible's accuracy before discussing its infallibility?

The is Bible _____ in everything it intends to say.

Definitions:

- Reliable: The Bible's is consistent.
- Accurate: The Bible's message is true.
- Infallible: The Bible is truth without any mixture of error.



1. The Bible is _____ accurate.
 - The Bible's description of city locations is very accurate.

Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles (15 stadia) off. **John 11:18**

- The Bible's description of routes and traveling times is very accurate.

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. **Acts 1:12**

- The Bible's description of geographical features is very accurate.

"Together with other Jewish archaeologists, I would take the Bible as a faithful guide to instruct me in the work of excavation." Yigael Yadin, a leading 20th century Israeli archeologist

"I work with the Bible in one hand and the tools of excavation in the other." Eilat Mazar, Known as the Archeologist of Jerusalem

2. The Bible is _____ accurate.

A few important discoveries:

- The Cylinder of Cyrus, 1879
- Hezekiah's Tunnel, 1880
- The Goliath Inscription, 2005
- The Tel Dan inscription, 1993
- David's Palace, 2006
- Gideon's Jug, 2021
- The Pilate Stone, 1961

3. The Bible is _____ accurate.

The Bible tells us about:

- The free floating earth (Job 26:7)
- The round earth (Isaiah 40:22)
- The water cycle (Amos 9:6)
- Stars that cannot be numbered (Jeremiah 33:22)
- Blood as the source of life (Leviticus 17:11)
- Hands being washed to stop the spread of disease (Leviticus 15:13)

4. The Bible is _____ accurate.

- Genesis 3 describes all the foundational issues of marriage and family.
- Romans 1 describes what happens to a culture that rejects God.
- Romans 1-3 describes the universal nature of sin.
- Romans 7 describes the human struggle with sin.
- 1 John 2:16 describes the three major types of sin
- The 10 Commandments cover the human condition of sin very well.

5. The Bible is _____ accurate.

Sources:

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Fill in the Blank Answers:

The Bible is completely accurate in everything it intends to say.

1. geographically
2. historically
3. scientifically
4. spiritually
5. prophetically

Non-Jewish Officials Mentioned in the Old Testament and Confirmed by Non-Biblical Sources

	Name	Position	Time Period (BC)	Bible Reference
Egypt	Shishak	pharaoh	945–924	1 Kings 11:40ff
	So	pharaoh	730–715	2 Kings 17:4
	Tirhakah	pharaoh	690–664	2 Kings 19:9ff
	Necho II	pharaoh	610–595	2 Chronicles 35:20ff
	Hophra	pharaoh	589–570	Jeremiah 44:30
	Mesha (Moab)	king	early to mid-9 th century	2 Kings 3:4–27
Aram-Damascus	Hadadezer	king	early 9 th century to 844/842	1 Kings 11:23ff
	Ben-hadad,	king	844/842	2 Kings 6:24ff
	Hazael	king	844/842–c. 800	1 Kings 19:15ff
	Ben-hadad,	king	early 8 th century	2 Kings 13:3ff
	Rezin	king	mid-8 th century to 732	2 Kings 15:37ff
Assyria	Tiglath-pileser III	king	744–727	2 Kings 15:19ff
	Shalmaneser V	king	726–722	2 Kings 17:3ff
	Sargon II	king	721–705	Isaiah 20:1
	Sennacherib	king	704–681	2 Kings 18:13ff
	Adrammelech	Sennacherib's son/assassin	early 7 th century	2 Kings 19:37ff
	Esarhaddon	king	680–669	2 Kings 19:37ff
Babylon	Merodach-baladan II	king	721–710 and 703	2 Kings 20:12ff
	Nebuchadnezzar II	king	604–562	2 Kings 24:1ff
	Nebo-sarsekim	official of Nebuchadnezzar II	early 6 th century	Jeremiah 39:3
	Nergal-sharezer	officer of Nebuchadnezzar II	early 6 th century	Jeremiah 39:3
	Nebuzaradan	officer of Nebuchadnezzar II	early 6 th century	2 Kings 25:8ff, Jer. 39:9ff
	Evil-merodach	king	561–560	2 Kings 25:27ff
	Belshazzar	Son/co-regent of Nabonidus	c. 543?–540	Daniel 5:1ff
Persia	Cyrus the Great	king	559–530	2 Chronicles 36:22ff
	Darius the Great	king	520–486	Ezra 4:5ff
	Tattenai	Trans-Euphrates governor	late 6 th to early 5 th century	Ezra 5:3ff
	Xerxes I/Ahasuerus	king	486–465	Esther 1:1ff
	Artaxerxes I	king	465-425/424	Ezra 4:7ff
	Darius II	king	425/424-405/404	Nehemiah 12:22

This information was adapted from two articles published in Biblical Archeological Review by Purdue University scholar Lawrence Mykytiuk, *Archeology Confirms 50 Real People in the Bible* (2014) and *Archeology Confirms 3 More Bible People* (2017).