

God Wrote a Book: The Bible is Infallible and Inerrant

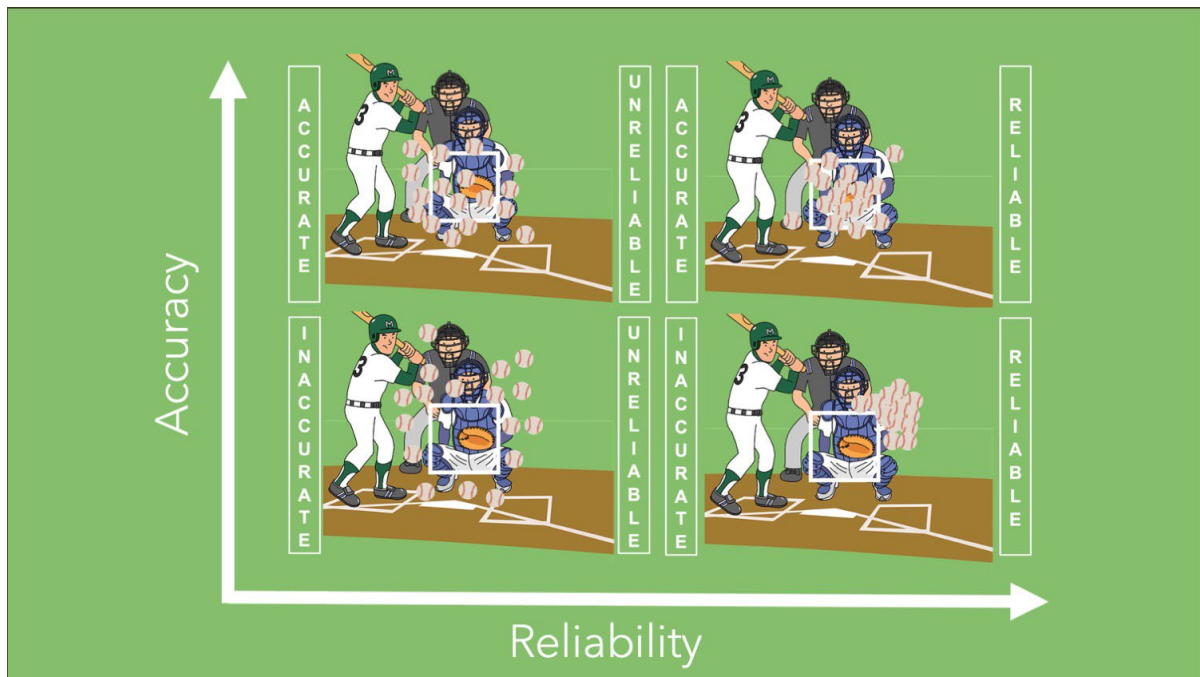
Opening Discussion

1. What is the difference between accuracy and infallibility?
2. What's the difference between infallibility and inerrancy?
3. Why is it important to say the Bible is not only accurate but infallible and inerrant?

The Bible is God's Word. Therefore, it is completely true in everything it intends to say and it will never fail.

Definitions:

- Reliable: The Bible's is consistent.
- Accurate: The Bible's message is true.
- Infallible and Inerrant: The Bible is truth without any mixture of error and therefore cannot and will not fail.



1. The Bible is God's Word.

- The Bible claims to be God's Word.
 - The Old Testament claims to be God's Word.

"In the Old Testament, you will find phrases like 'the Word of the Lord' or 'the Word of God' or 'God spoke' or 'the Lord said' used 3,808 times." Adrian Rogers

- Jesus said the Old Testament was God's Word.

Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Matthew 5:17-18

You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God. The Law and the Prophets were until John; since then the good news of the kingdom of God is preached, and everyone forces his way into it. But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one dot of the Law to become void. **Luke 16:15-17**

For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban" ' (that is, given to God)— then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, thus making void the word of God. **Mark 7:10-13**

But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? **Matthew 22:29-32**

- Was Jesus only referring to the Torah? No:
 - In Luke 6:1-4 Jesus references events recorded in 1 Samuel 21:1-6 as an authoritative source for determining matters of the Law.
 - In John 10:34, Jesus quotes from Psalm 82 and refers to it as the Law.
- The New Testament authors assumed and stated that the Old Testament was God's Word.
 - There are over 295 quotations to the OT in the NT.
 - Every book in the OT is quoted in the NT except:
 - Ruth
 - Ezra-Nehemiah (one book in Hebrew)
 - Esther

- Ecclesiastes
- Song of Solomon
- There are thousands of allusions to the OT in the NT.
- Quotations are often introduced with phrases such as:
 - He (God) said/says

He appoints a certain day, “Today,” saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.” For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on.

Hebrews 4:7-8

- The Holy Spirit says (Hebrews 3:7)
- As it is written (verb form of word often translated “Scripture”)
- The New Testament directly states that the OT is God’s Word

All Scripture is breathed out by God. **2 Timothy 3:16**

No prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. **2 Peter 1:20-21**

- The New Testament authors stated that the New Testament was God’s Word.

Our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, ¹⁶ as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. **2 Peter 3:15-16**

For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,” and, “The laborer deserves his wages.” **1 Timothy 5:18 citing Luke 10:7**

- Those in the church immediately following the completion of the New Testament treated it as God’s Word.
 - See session 5
 - This happened from the earliest moments recorded after the completion of the New Testament.
- The Bible proves its claims:
 - Through its reliability, accuracy, and prophecies
 - By the proclamation of Jesus

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son. **Hebrews 1:1-2**

- Who was raised from the dead
- This gives Him the authority to make such claims

- By the authority of Jesus extended to the apostles

I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. **John 16:12-13**

You will be my witnesses. **Acts 1:8**

And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.

Acts 10:39-42

How shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will. **Hebrews 2:3-4**

“The Apostles received the Gospel for us from the Lord Jesus Christ; Jesus Christ was sent forth from God. So then Christ is from God, and the Apostles are from Christ. Both therefore came of the will of God in the appointed order. Having therefore received a charge, and having been fully assured through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and confirmed in the word of God with full assurance of the Holy Ghost, they went forth with the glad tidings that the kingdom of God should come.”

1 Clement 42 writing circa 96 AD.

2. Because God cannot lie, the Bible does not contain any errors.

In hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior. **Titus 1:2-3**

3. Because God will never fail, the Bible will never fail.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. **Isaiah 55:10-11**