

Why Do We Believe the Bible is Communication from God

The Bible plays a central role in the Christian faith. But why believe that these specific texts actually constitute a communication from God, our Creator? Three main arguments for the Bible as God's Word will be presented and analyzed.

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I. Introduction

A. Believe in a person or in a text?

B. Bibliolatry; the difference between the Quran and the Bible

II. A Cumulative Case: Six reasons we believe the Bible is communication from God

A. Intellectual Reasons: The Bible explains the world

1. A biblical worldview:

a. The universe as a creation

b. Humans as the image of God

c. The world as fallen

B. Historical Reasons: The Bible reports real events

1. OT examples: The House of David, King Belshazzar

C. Authority as a Reason: Jesus – the Son of God – confirms the Bible

1. The role of authority
2. Jesus as Authority for our view of the Bible
3. John Stott and the accusation of circular reasoning

D. Prophetic Reasons

1. A pattern of promises through many centuries

E. Internal Claims as a Reason: Inspiration of the Holy Spirit

1. Four claims found in different texts:
 - a. God has spoken to humans
 - b. God has spoken through humans
 - c. God has commended humans to write down what He has spoken to and through humans
 - d. The text they wrote down is inspired by the Holy Spirit

F. Personal Reasons: The existential dimension of God's voice

1. Scripture as self-authenticating