

# The Path - Christian Apologetics

## Day 20: Biblical Testimonials

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Jesus accepted the Old Testament as inspired scripture. He never questioned it. He continually quoted it as the Word of God. He consistently treated the Old Testament narratives as an unadulterated record of fact. Consider the following list of Old Testament people and places Jesus referred to:

1. Abel (Luke 11:51)
2. Noah(Matthew 24:37-39)
3. Abraham (John 8:56)
4. The institution of circumcision (John 7:22)
5. Sodom and Gomorrah (Matthew 10:15)
6. Issac and Jacob (Matthew 8:11)
7. The Manna (John 6:31)
8. The wilderness and the serpent (John 3:14)
9. David eating the showbread (Matthew 12:3)
10. David writing the Psalms (Matthew 22:13)
11. Solomon (Matthew 6:29)
12. Elijah (Luke 4:25,26)
13. Jonah (Matthew 12:39-41)
14. Zechariah ( Luke 11:51)
15. Moses as the giver of law (Matthew 8:4)
16. The suffering of the prophets (Matthew 5:12)
17. The popularity of false prophets (Luke 6:26)
18. Genesis chapters 1 and 2 (Matthew 19:4,5)

Jesus gave the Old Testament His total endorsement in different ways. First, as you can see from the scriptures above, He quoted it extensively, quoting from 22 of the 39 Old Testament books. Second, He foretold the fulfillment of the entire law. Jesus taught that nothing could pass from the law, until it all had been fulfilled. (Matthew 5:17-20) Jesus did not attack the law, but accepted without question the authority of the law. When he was asked by the rich young ruler: “What must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus reminded him that he knew the commandments. The rich young ruler informed him: “these have I kept from my youth, what lack I yet?” Third, He taught

that scripture could not be broken. (John 10:35) He always used the Word as the final authority on any dispute. Fourth, He said in St. John 17:17

“Thy Word is \_\_\_\_\_.”

If we believe in Jesus as our Lord, we likewise need to, as He did, accept the Old Testament as the inspired Word of God.

Apostle Paul said in 2 Timothy 3:16-17

“All scripture is given by \_\_\_\_\_ of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

“All” means 100%

Apostle Peter referred to Apostle Paul’s writings as scripture in 2 Peter 3:15-16

“Even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you...which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other \_\_\_\_\_, unto their own destruction.”

In John 17:20 Jesus prayed :

“Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through \_\_\_\_\_ word.”

Jesus specifically sent the Apostles with the truth that He had taught them. He instructed them to give that truth to all people. John 17:18

“As thou hast sent me into the world, even so I have I also \_\_\_\_\_ them into the world.”



Jesus sent them with His message and He trusted them to give His message to all who would listen. If Jesus believed in them, and completely trusted them to relate His truth to the world, so should we.

J.R. Ensey in “The Book We Call the Bible” says: “The Christians in the three centuries following the apostolic period believed the written Word. They quoted the scriptures so often and so accurately that except for about a dozen verses, the entire New Testament could be reproduced from their writings.”

**Discussion:**

- 1. How does Jesus’ extensive quoting of the Old Testament text authenticate it?**
- 2. Why is it significant that Jesus used the Word of God as the final authority in any dispute?**
- 3. In what other ways did Jesus authenticate the Old and New Testaments?**
- 4. Can we depend upon the Word of God as absolute truth? Why or why not?**
- 5. How do we know that we can believe in the New Testament as truth?**