

Scripture - John 18 Jesus Before Pilate Part 2 - Truth: Is Everything in the Bible True? (Inerrancy & Inspiration)

This fall for our Bible study we're asking - what is the Bible? So we're asking all these fun, hard questions about the Bible.

The question today is about the truth of the Bible: **is everything in the Bible true?**

To answer that let's look at Jesus on trial. Jesus was praying in the garden of Gethsemane and then Judas shows up with Jewish religious leaders and a mob to "arrest" Jesus. Now they put Jesus on trial before the Roman governor, Pilate.

Let's read John 18:33-38a

[Jn 18 Context] In this trial Pilate is trying to figure out what the big deal is with this Jesus and why he's got everyone so mad and upset. Pilate keeps asking Jesus, *"Do you really think you're a king?"* And Jesus says, *"Yeah, you said it. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."* And all Pilate can come back with is, *"Well, what is truth?"*

Do you think Pilate is really asking Jesus, *"Hey Jesus, what is truth? I really want to know."*?

No! Pilate is really saying to Jesus that, *"Nobody knows what truth is!"*

The question is: *"How do you KNOW what is true?"*

Jesus said it, *"Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."* Because Jesus is God he can only speak truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to God and his word. The church believes that everything in the Bible is true because it is the Word of God.

But a lot of people in the world don't believe the Bible is true.

Problem: *"The Bible must have mistakes because:*

-it's got all these miracles in it and I've never seen a miracle;

-it's the stuff of legends

-the Bible was passed along forever by word of mouth so it's like a really long game of telephone. No way the Bible hasn't been changed over the years."

Best Answer: We know the Bible is true because it's God's Word! It is **inerrant**.

[Inerrancy] The **inerrancy** of the Bible means it has no errors. The Bible has no mistakes. When the Bible tells us history it tells us what really happened. What the prophets and apostles wrote down under the divine inspiration of God - all of it is entirely truthful.

QUALIFIER - the Bible is not the only thing that can be inerrant. Can anyone here say something totally true with no mistakes? "I live in Houston." "I'm sitting inside a building." People make true statements all the time. Students score 100s on tests.

[Infallibility] BUT unlike human beings, the Bible is **infallible**! The **infallibility** of the Bible means the Bible is not ABLE to be wrong.

Is there anything God can't do?

Yes. God cannot lie. God cannot sin. God cannot not be God! There's plenty of stuff God can't do. God cannot make a mistake!

Humans can make **inerrant** statements but it's still always possible for us to make a mistake when we're making those statements. Sally may make a 100 on a test but it was still possible she might miss one of the answers.

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But when God inspired his prophets and apostles to write the Bible it was impossible for them to make an error and say something not true.

Problem: *"SO, how do you know Christianity is true and every other religion is wrong?"*

Answer: Because the Bible says so.

Problem: *"But how do you know the Bible is true?"*

Answer: Because the Bible is the Word of God.

Problem: *"But how do you know the Bible is the Word of God?"*

Answer: By faith alone! You can only know the Bible is the Word of God by faith. Not because you're so smart. If you know the Bible is God's Word it is because God has given you the faith to believe the Bible is his Word.

SO the gospel of the Bible that claims that Jesus Christ lived and died to save you from your sin and death - you know that is true by faith!

The **inerrancy** and **infallibility** of the Bible are a claim of faith that because the Bible is God's Word it must be true.