

Do We Still Have  
The Word of God?

# I. Jesus Endorsed O.T. Record

- Mt.5:18, letters
- Mt.11:20-24, cities
- Mt.12:38-42, Jonah...
- Mt.15:7 (Jn.12:38-40), Isaiah
- Mt.19:4-5, creation
- Mt.22:23-32, genuineness, authenticity
- Mt.24:37-39, flood
- Mt.26:24, *as it is written*
- Lk.4:24-27, famine...cure
- Jn.3:14-16, snakes

- Mt.5:18
- Mt.11:20-24
- Mt.12:38-42
- Mt.15:7 (Jn.12:38-40)
- Mt.19:4-5
- Mt.22:23-32
- Mt.24:37-39
- Mt.26:24
- Lk.4:24-27
- Jn.3:14-16

Many NT  
quotations taken  
from LXX.

Original document  
actually inspired.

Accurate translation  
virtually inspired.

I. Jesus Endorsed O.T. Events & Record

**II. Determining Authenticity And  
Genuineness Of NT Documents**

# *Who Really Wrote The Book Of Mormon?*

- No cities, person, place, nation, name vital to Book Of Mormon has been found.
- Solomon Spaulding
  - “Nephi” (2 Maccabees 1:36)
  - “Lehi” (jawbone of donkey, Jgs.15)
- Sidney Rigdon . . . Joseph Smith
- *Wayne Cowdrey, Howard Davis, Donald Scales* – 12 pages . . . handwriting analysis

# *Chauncey Sanders – military historian*

## 1. Bibliographical

- Examines textual tradition by which document reaches us

Number of  
documents

Quality of  
documents

- How reliable are the copies?

Book	Date	Earliest Copy	Number
Herodotus	450 BC	AD 900	9
Xenophon	370 BC	AD 1320	6
<b>NT</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Century	AD 125	5800+

In addition: 10,000 Latin  
9300 quotes, lectionaries  
**Total: 25,100**



# Summary

- No classical scholar doubts authenticity of Herodotus because earliest MSS are 1300+ years later than originals

To be skeptical of NT is to allow all of classical antiquity to slip into obscurity

# Sir Frederick Kenyon

“The interval then between the dates of original composition and the earliest extant evidence becomes so small as to be in fact negligible, and the last foundation for any doubt that the Scriptures have come down to us substantially as they were written has now been removed. Both the authenticity and the general integrity of the books of the NT may be regarded as finally established”

1. Bibliographical

2. Internal

- Benefit of doubt given to document itself, not arrogated by critic to himself

1. Bibliographical

2. Internal

Lk.1<sup>1</sup> Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us, <sup>2</sup> just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us, <sup>3</sup> it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an orderly account, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed.

1. Bibliographical

2. Internal

- Jn.19<sup>35</sup> And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe...

1. Bibliographical

2. Internal

Jn.21:20-24

Jn.21<sup>20</sup> Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, “Lord, who is the one who betrays You?”

<sup>21</sup> Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, “But Lord, what about this man?” <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, “If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me.” <sup>23</sup> Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, “If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you?” <sup>24</sup> This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true.

1. Bibliographical

2. Internal

- Jn.13<sup>23</sup> Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved . . . (Mk.14:17, one of the twelve)
- 19<sup>26</sup> When Jesus therefore saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing by, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!"
- 20:2-10 [knew value of firsthand testimony]
  - Inner circle – <sup>1</sup>Peter, <sup>2</sup>James, <sup>3</sup>John



1. Bibliographical

2. Internal

- Ac.2<sup>22</sup> “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know...”
  - Hostile audience (cross examination)
  - Means, motive, opportunity

1. Bibliographical

2. Internal

- Ac.26<sup>26</sup> For the king, before whom I also speak freely, knows these things; for I am convinced that none of these things escapes his attention, since this thing was not done in a corner

1. Bibliographical
2. Internal
3. External

- Does historical testimony confirm or deny internal testimony?
  - Papias: “bishop” of Hierapolis, AD 130
  - Polycarp: *Philippians*, AD 115
  - Josephus: AD 37-100
  - Tacitus: AD 55 (?) -117