

How Do We Know The Prophecies Were Real?

(When I was working on my Master of Ministry degree at Freed-Hardeman University, a fellow classmate was Eric Lyons. Eric is now the Director of Apologetics Press, an organization set up for the defense of the New Testament. While studying for my sermon this morning, I found the following information written by Eric. I thought you may enjoy reading it, too.)

How do we know that the supposed prophecies of Isaiah were not simply made up in the first century? How can we know that Jesus and the New Testament writers did not fake the “future-telling” of Isaiah? Could it be that Jesus, Paul, and all other first-century apostles and prophets were mere con men who claimed Jesus fulfilled prophecies (that were never actually made)?

First, if Jesus and the Bible writers were liars, then they repeatedly pronounced their own destruction, for they claimed that lying is sinful and that all impenitent liars will suffer eternal punishment.

Second, the early audiences of Jesus and the New Testament prophets were devout Jews, who could have easily fact-checked their use of Isaiah and whether Jesus fit the description of the Messiah.

Third, non-biblical sources refer to and quote Isaiah. The first-century Jewish historian Josephus, for example, refers to “the book which Isaiah left behind him of his prophecies.” Josephus then quotes from and summarizes Isaiah 44.28-45.3 and notes how “this was foretold by Isaiah one hundred and forty years before the temple was demolished” (in 586 B.C.). Indeed, Josephus believed that Isaiah lived, prophesied, and wrote his book long before the New Testament was penned.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, we have tangible, verifiable archaeological evidence that the book of Isaiah was in existence in its totality long before Jesus or any New Testament writer ever could have invented the many Messianic prophecies in Isaiah. Among the Dead Sea Scrolls (discovered in the 1940s and 50s) were 19 different manuscripts of Isaiah, as well as five commentaries on the book. Most scholars acknowledge that these manuscripts were made several decades or even a century or two before Jesus began His ministry around A.D. 27, well before the first New Testament books were penned around the middle of the first-century A.D. One manuscript of Isaiah, known as the “Great Isaiah Scroll” (1QIsa^a), contains the book of Isaiah in its entirety. What’s more, the scroll is conservatively dated to **at least 100 B.C.** (and very possible as much as 200 B.C.).

Though skeptics may reject that the Messianic prophet Isaiah actually prophesied in the 8th century B. C. (in the days of Jewish kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, as Isaiah 1.1 claims), they cannot justifiably dismiss the hard evidence among the Dead Sea Scrolls. Verifiable proof exists that the New Testament writers did not invent the Isaiah prophecies and mislead simpletons about Jesus’ alleged Messiahship. On the contrary, it was largely an in-depth study of the Old Testament scriptures that led many thousands of first-century Jews (as well as countless Gentiles) to acknowledge Jesus’ fulfillment of the many Messianic prophecies.



Is The Bible Real?

2 Timothy 3.16, 17

1. How do we know the Bible is real?
2. There has been widespread deterioration of _____ and _____ the Bible in America for the past fifty years.
3. How do we defend the Bible?
4. First, must we not be _____ ourselves of the validity of the Scriptures?

I Know The Bible Is Real Because Of...

I. Its Claim Of _____.

- A. Do the Scriptures teach its own inspiration? (2 Timothy 3.16, 17; 2 Peter 1.21; John 10.35; 17.17)
- B. Where is the proof of the Bible's inspiration?
 1. 1st—_____.
 2. 2nd—the _____ of the _____.
 3. 3rd—the Bible's _____ of the heroic men including their _____ and _____ just as we experience.
 4. 4th—_____.
- C. Is this _____?

II. _____ of _____

Authors.

- A. _____
- B. The _____
- C. _____

III. _____.

- A. The nation of the _____ mentioned in the Old Testament.
 1. Who were the Hittites according to the Bible?
 2. Skeptics, denying the _____ of the Bible, insisted the Hittites never because there was no evidence to prove it.
- B. The _____.
 1. It was a victory stone erected by King Mesha of Moab.
 2. The Bible records the same incident (2 Kings 3).
- C. _____.
 1. King Hezekiah built the tunnel due to a military threat from the Assyrians.
 2. Hezekiah's tunnel still _____ to this day.

IV. Conclusion.

- A. The first step in developing one's faith in God is to know beyond a shadow of a doubt that the Bible is real.
- B. Will you let its inspiration move you to obey it?
- C. Do you need to express your faith in Jesus today?

C O N N E C T I O N

C O N N E C T I O N C O R N E R

Good morning church family! Today we feature Dan and Betty Kille in our Connection Corner.

Dan and Betty both were born and raised in Austin where they attended Austin High School. Dan had to grow up early, as his father had brain cancer, so Dan took a paper route job as a way to help out the family. At 13, he had to drive his parents to Houston so his dad could receive treatment. He ran cross-country track for the school as well. Betty played clarinet in the marching band and sang in the chorus.



Dan and Betty met in the 10th grade, began dating, and married following their 11th grade year. Dan joined the Air Force as an airplane mechanic and later became an electrical engineer. After a year in San Antonio, they were stationed in Amarillo, and while there, they were blessed with the birth of two daughters. Dan was deployed to Vietnam and, upon his return, was stationed back in Austin. Next stop for the family was Alaska and during their time there, two sons were added to the family. While they loved Alaska, they longed to return to Texas and family, but the Air Force, in its wisdom, sent them to Plattsburg, NY. (Betty cried and thought she was being punished by being sent to NY!!) You need to ask them about their drive from Alaska; talk about an adventure! A seven day drive ended up taking eighteen days! From NY, they were sent to the Philippines. While they loved all of the churches at all of their stations, they say the church there was "like the first century church"; we were together with church members every single day. Talk about connections!!

From there, the Killes were relocated to Carswell AFB in Fort Worth where Dan finished his 21 year career in the Air Force. He also obtained his Bachelor's degree from TCU. He then went to work for GD/Lockheed for 25 years until he retired. After the kids were grown, Betty went to work in the floral business and continues to make and sell arrangements, create gardens, and set up Christmas décor for homes and businesses. Both Dan and Betty are avid tennis and pickle ball players and love to fellowship and play games.

Their church life has always been important and they have served WH as teachers, bus drivers for kids, and decorating for all kinds of fellowships and events. Dan has served as a deacon and currently as an elder. As with so many of our long time members, I don't have space to share all that they have done for the WH family through the years. They have four generations of girls now that are members of WH.

I encourage you to get to know them and hear some of these wonderful stories, too. You'll be blessed!

Les Keele



SHEPHERDS

Greg Ball	214-801-7375
*Russ Bartee	817-938-5825
Dan Kille	817-793-7493
Chuck Meyer	682-553-5444
Ross Tomlinson	682-429-1983
John Walton	817-441-0000

**Shepherd of the month*

MINISTERS

Gary Williams:	662-321-3208
<i>Pulpit Minister</i>	
Les Keele:	817-808-0566
<i>Associate Minister</i>	
James Bowie:	817-944-4492
<i>Youth Minister</i>	
John Boundtaroth:	817-891-2132
<i>Laotian Minister</i>	
Ken Intharansy:	817-501-6838
<i>Laotian Minister</i>	

DEACONS

Jon Bartee	817-889-2686
James Bowie	817-944-4492
Brandon Duncan	903-603-1059
Jay Garner	817-205-2070
Ben Meyer	817-673-8557
Robert Scott	817-246-0911
Matt Sloan	405-471-3404
Steve Taylor	817-291-2065
Buck Thomas	817-733-2620
Arthur Torrez	817-721-2726

MORNING WORSHIP (10 AM)

Welcome - Steve Taylor

Song Leader - Jonny Bartee

Song - How Majestic Is Your Name

Song - Jesus, Hold My Hand

Song - There Is A Habitation

Prayer - Adam Powers

Scripture - 2 Timothy 3:16, 17

Song - Have You Seen Jesus, My Lord?

Lord's Supper - James Bowie

Prayer for Contribution - James Bowie

Song - Just A Little Talk With Jesus

Is The Bible Real? - Gary Williams

Song - Have You Been To Jesus?

Announcements - Les Keele

Shepherd's Prayer & Dismissal - Russ Bartee

Donate by QR Code?
Here is ours:
Thank You!



Food Bank Stats - July 2023

255 - Families Served

\$464.94 - Cost to WHCOC

3,785 pounds - Estimated Weight of Food

For our members and visitors with hearing difficulties, we now provide single side in-ear mono earbuds with a personal receiver for your convenience. Please see the sound booth at the back of the auditorium for one.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, September 4

Jeremiah 31 - 33

Tuesday, September 5

Jeremiah 34 - 36

Wednesday, September 6

Jeremiah 37 - 39

Thursday, September 7

Jeremiah 40 - 42

Friday, September 8

Jeremiah 43 - 45

Saturday, September 9

Jeremiah 46 - 48

Sunday, September 10

Jeremiah 49 - 52

Last Week

Bible Class:	129	Wednesday:	102
AM Worship:	206	Contribution:	\$ 7,442.24
PM Worship:	53	Budget:	\$ 12,978.00

Times of Assemblies

Bible Class:	9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:00 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening:	7:00 PM

SUNDAY MORNING FALL QUARTER CLASSES
YOUNG ADULTS/YOUNG MARRIEDS: SONG OF SOLOMON: A BOOK OF ROMANCE: LES KEELE
AUDITORIUM: 2 CORINTHIANS: GARY WILLIAMS

SUNDAY NIGHTS

PLAN TO ATTEND EVENING WORSHIP FOR A CLASS ON:

EVANGELIZING YOUR COMMUNITY: TOOLS TO SHARE THE GOSPEL WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS

TAUGHT BY GARY AND LES

ONE BOOK PER FAMILY PROVIDED



Men's Class and Ladies' Class will Resume

Tuesday, September 12

10:00 AM

Men's Topic: Test The Spirits - Roger Omer

Ladies' Topic: 1 Peter - Paula Pauley

Wednesday

7 PM

Ecclesiastes

Les Keele

BYO Brown Bag Suppers continue on Wednesday nights. Please bring your family's meal and we will enjoy a time of fellowship before evening services and classes. The building will be opened at 6 PM.

Ladies, if you would like to share prayer time and gain strength by coming together with your sisters, come to the Library on Wednesday nights at 6:40 PM



Children's Bible Hour begins today: September 3, 2023.



If you would like to help or teach, please sign the clipboard in the foyer.

If you have children between 3 years old and 2nd grade, please complete an attendance form which is also located in the foyer.

Should you have any questions, please see Vickie Bowers.

Keith and Debbie Turner: 2928 Whitetail Chase Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108. Their phone number is 940-452-2727 and their email is: keitht336@gmail.com

Missy Hall: 5601 Westhaven Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76132. Her phone number is 817-870-6647 and her email is: missyhall14325@gmail.com.

Laura Pace: 2001 Aden Road, #155, Fort Worth, Texas 76116: Her phone number is 817-602-7018.

Please welcome these to our fellowship and add them to your directory.



**Mary Ann Wagner has a new phone number:
817-647-6204**

Please make this change in your directory.



Please pick up your cans for Foster's Home for Children in the foyers. The cans will be picked up sometime in November.

MAKE PLANS NOW

SEPTEMBER 24

BLOOD DRIVE



Attended Nursery: After communion, we have an attended nursery available for ages birth to 3 years. There is also a cry room available if needed.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Members

September 3, 2023

NAME	SITUATION	PRAY FOR
Tom Pauley 08/27/2023	I need your help. I have been in a battle with the demons of hell and I need prayers. Please pray for me. I love you more than words can say. 4620 Ocean Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76123	Strength to fight the good fight; peace, comfort from God
Ken Intharansy 08/25/2023	Had a pacemaker inserted due to low heart rate on August 31, 10:30 AM, Medical City Fort Worth. 7137 Bob Hanger Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76179	A successful procedure and healing
Kitti Davis 08/20/2023	Has gone to the doctor regarding her auto-immune disease and her recent Parkinsons diagnosis. 812 Ala Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108	For the doctors to have knowledge, wisdom, and skill to prescribe the best treatments
Nancy Moody 08/21/2023	Her sister, Shirley, passed away on Monday, August 21. She was also the daughter of Polly McCarty. 917 Willow Way, Fort Worth, Texas 76126	The family's comfort and peace
	Drought.	For rain in all the areas that need it so badly
Missy Hall 08/20/2023	Has returned home to live.	Please pray for guidance in her return home here and with favor for a job/home
Bridgett Yawn 08/13/2023	Has a staff infection in her leg. 9213 Idaho Street, Joshua, Texas 76058	Healing
Joe Gentry 08/09/2023	His granddaughter, Michelle Taylor, who moved to Alaska to teach in a small fishing village, was found deceased in her home. Her celebration of life was held last Saturday. 408 Rim Rock Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76108	Comfort and peace for the family and for all who knew Michelle and her parents
Bob Howard 08/09/2023	It has been determined that he has had a non-debilitating stroke. 6075 FM 1189, Weatherford, Texas 76087	Healing and rehab
Evelyn Woolsey 08/04/2023	Is in City View Rehab, Room 447, following a fall which resulted in a broken arm. She would love visitors according to her son, Stephan (505-321-9082).	Healing and strength
Bob Willyerd	Had emergency surgery for a spinal fluid leak on Monday, August 28. He still is scheduled for his second back surgery later this month. He is in Harris Downton, Room 816, Justin Tower. 3704 Guadalupe Road, Fort Worth, Texas 76116	To recover for his next surgery
Wincie Neusse 7/17/2023	Is still in Harris Downtown, Room 815, Harris Tower. She may be moved to rehab this week. 3425 Riveroad Court, Apartment # 2318, Fort Worth, Texas 76116-1114	Healing
Kham Intharansy 7/6/2023	Had a stent graft procedure for her dialysis on July 6. 7137 Bob Hanger Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76179	Successful surgery and quick healing

PRAYER REQUESTS
Family & Friends
September 3, 2023

NAME	REQUESTED BY	SITUATION	PRAY FOR
Michael Griffin, nephew of	Shirley Bennett and Minnie Collins	Michael is near death from bone cancer. He is also the cousin of our Missy Hall.	Comfort and peace for the family and a gentle passing for Michael 08/30/2023
Glenda Corley, sister of	Johnie Wright	Has been placed on hospice in her own home.	Peace for her and her family 08/28/2023
Sue Roden, aunt of	Debbie Rollins	Was admitted to the hospital on Saturday, August 19, with several health issues.	Healing and recovery 08/20/2023
Kevin, neighbor of	Zach Brookshire	Had brain surgery Friday, August 18. The family has visited with us on several different occasions.	Recovery and healing 08/18/2023
Kyla Anderson, family member of	Auna Walton	She has been battling leukemia. All treatments have been stopped in an effort to build her up.	For her numbers to be where they need to be so her treatments can continue 08/010/2023
DeAnn Trevino, friend of	Leah Bowie	Has been diagnosed with cancer and will need chemo before they can perform surgery to remove the mass.	Peace, comfort, healing, skilled doctors 08/02/2023
Candy (Kumcha Amre)	Candy	She has not been well. 7832 Chapin Road, #310, Fort Worth, Texas, 76116.	Quick healing 7/9/2023

All prayer requests will remain on the list for 30 days. Following that time, the request will be removed unless the office is notified differently. Thank you.

Happy September Birthdays!

1 BOB HOWARD

2 JENNIFER DUNCAN

4 NANCY WRIGHT

5 JOHNNIE WRIGHT

6 MICHAEL DAVIS

7 JOE GARCIA

7 NATHAN RUTLEDGE

8 THONGLE SIHARATH

10 AMBER GRIER

16 ISAIS TORREZ

18 JILL SLOAN

18 NATHAN BOWIE

18 STANLEY GISH

19 SUE CARPENTER

19 SUE SMITH

19 LEANN FISHER

20 JUDY BLAIR

20 PETER BROWN

23 FRANKIE SMITH

25 DEBBIE ROLLINS

25 DAVID WILMINGTON

26 ROY EUBANKS

26 MARY EAST

28 SUSIE STEADMAN

29 WRAY GRIER

30 ROBERT SCOTT

30 DANA SABA

CHILDREN

1 LILAH BOLT

15 GAVIN GRIER

17 XAYDEN HUPP

25 ANDREW SCOTT