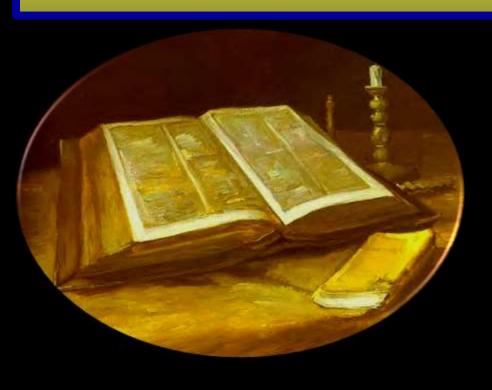
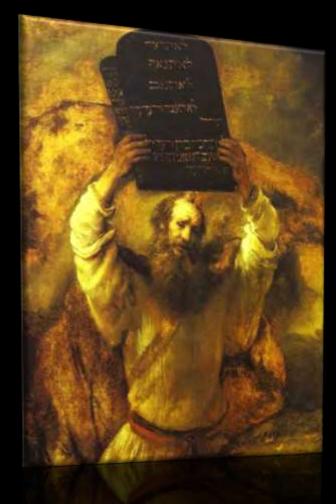
How Do We Know the Bible is the Word of God?

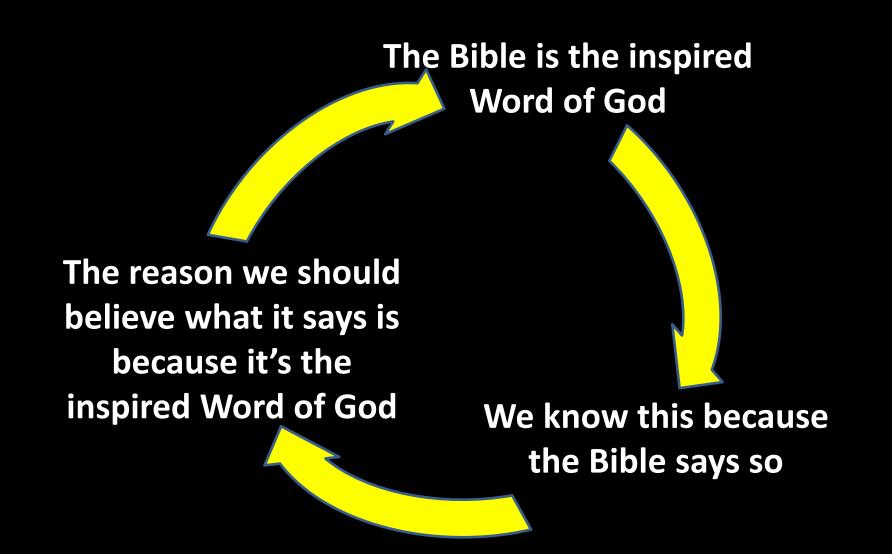




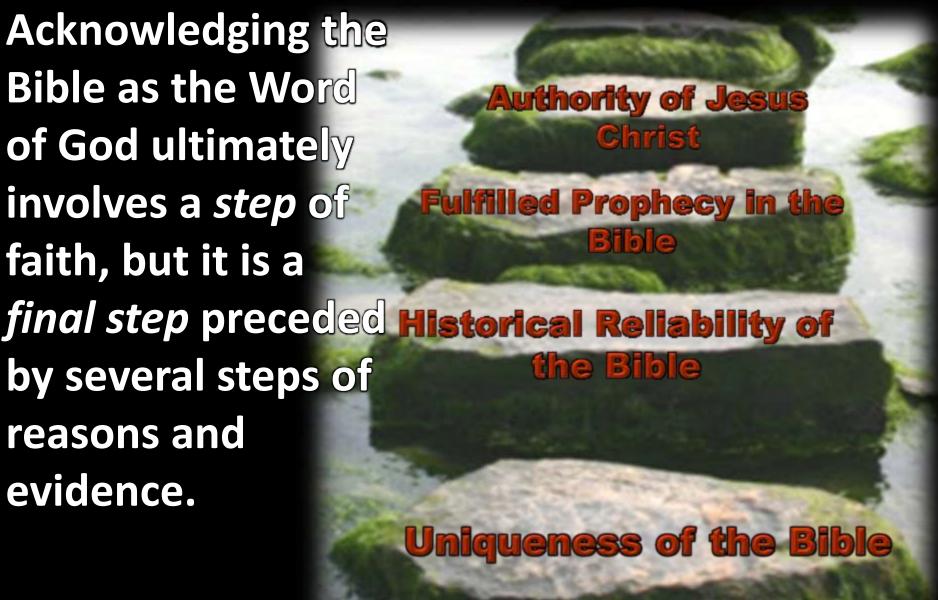
What does it mean that the Bible is the Word of God?

To call the Bible the "Word of God" is to affirm the Bible speaks as God speaks. Whatever the Bible affirms as true is true, because the Bible is inspired by God (1 Tim. 3:16).

We must avoid <u>circular reasoning</u> when claiming that the Bible is the Word of God



Acknowledging the Bible as the Word of God ultimately involves a step of faith, but it is a by several steps of reasons and evidence.



The Uniqueness of the Bible

The Bible is unique in its . . .

Unity and continuity Circulation **Translation** Survival **Teachings** Influence on literature Influence on civilization

see Josh McDowell, New Evidence That Demands a Verdict

The Historical Reliability of the Bible

The Bible is historically reliable . . .

It is true to its original writing
It is free from contradictions
It is confirmed by archaeology and
extra-biblical documents

Fulfilled Prophecy in the Bible

The Bible records prophecies accurately fulfilled . . .

In the history of ancient Israel and the surrounding nations

In the identification of Jesus of Nazareth as Israel's promised Messiah



The Authority of Jesus Christ

The Bible is affirmed to be the Word of God by Jesus Christ, whose testimony and authority are established by his resurrection from the dead.





THE INNER TESTIMONY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Inner Testimony of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit indwells believers, testifying to them that they are children of God and that God's Word can be trusted (see Rom. 8:9-16; 2 Peter 1:20-21)



The "Liveability" of the Biblical Worldview

The Bible—its story and its worldview—can be lived like no other worldview because it is true to reality and true to who we really are.