

## HOW CAN YOU BELIEVE THE BIBLE

Dear Friend:

On average, 100 million Bibles are sold in the world every year. To date it is believed that between 5-7 billion Bibles have been sold in history (probably closer to 7B, sales tracking is a relatively new idea). The Bible is the #1 best seller every year, it also is the most stolen book every year. (I wonder how many thieves have given the Bible back once they read "Thou shalt not steal")

A few more Bible facts: there are 66 books in the Bible. It was written over a period of 1,500 years by 40 authors, in 3 different languages and written on 3 different continents. Chapters and verses were not a part of the original writings. In short, 2 Catholic Cardinals divided books of the Bible into chapters (1277 AD). Rabbi Nathan divided the Old Testament into verses (1448) and Robert Estienne divided the New Testament into verses (1555). The first Bible to be written with both chapter and verse divisions was the Geneva Bible (1555).

This information is all well and good, but what makes the Bible anymore holy and believable than say, the Quran or the book of Mormon? Space doesn't allow the full story but here a few thoughts...the veracity of the Bible makes it more believable than any other holy book. No other holy book can claim the uniqueness of the Bible. The Book of Mormon was written by one man, Joseph Smith. The Quran is not clear about how many different authors compiled the book, but it was no more than 10. The fulfilled prophecies of the Bible clearly separate it from any other holy book. Conservatively Jesus fulfilled 300 prophecies in the Old Testament. The historical accuracy of the Bible is unparalleled among holy books. Lastly, the Bible isn't a science book but it's a book that contains scientific facts, spoken of before "proven" by scientist. Scientific facts such as; the world is flat, the earth revolves around the sun, and the life of animal and man is in the blood

How can you believe the Bible? The best way is to read it from cover to cover. I find it interesting that most people who tell me they don't believe the Bible have never read the Bible!

Christ's Love,  
Pastor Mike

Prayer: Carolyn Warren, Steve Derwent, Betty McCombs

