

The Uniqueness of the Bible

by Dennis Lange

Maybe someone was just inventive, dreamed up the things in the Bible, and wrote them down. Skeptics would like to dismiss the Bible that easily, but that's impossible when one considers the facts about the Bible. And that brings up another point showing its uniqueness, pointing again to its inspiration by God.

The Bible was not written by a single man. It was not written by a committee. Some of the people who wrote it didn't even know the others who wrote it. They even lived and wrote during many different time periods.

God's plan of salvation began to be revealed in the Old Testament and was fully manifested in Jesus in the New Testament as He lived among men and went to the cross to shed His blood for the forgiveness of sins.

The Bible consists of 66 books written by about 40 men over a period of about 1500 years. Moses lived 1450 years before Paul and 450 years before David. Some of the writers, like Paul, were highly educated. Some, like Peter who was a fisherman, had less training. Paul was a Pharisee. David was a king. Luke was a doctor, Matthew, a tax-collector. Nehemiah was a cupbearer. Ezra was a scribe. (I first recall reading some of this information in a Bible correspondence course and later in McDowell's Evidence That Demands a Verdict).

One man didn't invent the plan of salvation and write it down. One group of men didn't collaborate on it and write it down. And yet the Bible has one story with the only plan of salvation possible.

In the Old Testament, they repeatedly said "someone's coming". The New Testament gospels say, "He's here" and the rest speak of what He did and what men must do in response. They also say He's coming again.

Gen.3:15, the first prophecy in the Bible, contains the truth that is amplified in all the rest of the book. God said to the serpent about the sin situation, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise Him on the heel." That last sentence describes Calvary, where Jesus gave the serpent a head wound, ultimately fatal to all his power, while the serpent "bruised Jesus on the heel", wounding Him for 3 days till He rose again.

The victory of the cross was seen by Moses 1450 years before the fact, with a simple figure of the man stepping on the head of the snake and being bitten on the heel in the process.

The Bible is unique.

The reason it's unique is that it's from God.

Last eve I passed beside a blacksmith's door
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
When looking in, I saw upon the floor,
Old hammers worn with beating years of time.

"How many anvils have you had," said I,
"To wear and batter all these hammers so?"
"Just one," said he; then said with twinkling eye,
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."

And so, I thought, the anvil of God's word
For ages skeptic's blows have beat upon;
Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unharmed - the hammers gone.

("The Hammer and the Anvil" by John Clifford)