



SAVED!

A STUDY OF NEW
TESTAMENT CONVERSIONS
Week 2

Why do you believe
in God?

1. The complexity of life
2. The theory of evolution is flawed
3. The evidence of God in our Christian lives, healings, answered prayers, our personal testimony
4. The miracle of birth and near death experiences
5. The history of our nation
6. Our world and all that is in it

Any others?

Why do you believe
God is the God of
the Bible?

Buddhism

- 360 million followers
- Based on teachings of Siddharta Gautama (the Buddha) in 520 BC, NE India.
- gods Varies: Theravada monotheistic; Mahayana more polytheistic. Buddha taught nothing is permanent

Taoism

- 394 million of the Chinese religion in general are followers
- Based on teachings of Lao-Tzu, 550 BC, China.
- Pantheism - the Tao pervades all.
Yin-yang - opposites make up a unity

Hinduism

- 900 million followers
- Indigenous religion of India as developed to present day. (Roughly 1200 BC)
- One Supreme Reality (Brahman) manifested in many gods and goddesses

Islam

- 1.3 billion followers
- Based on teachings of the Prophet Muhammad; founded 622 AD in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.
- One god who they do not know the name of so they call him Allah (Which is God in Arabic);

Christianity

- 2 billion followers
- Based on life and teachings of Jesus Christ who's coming was prophesied in the Hebrew Bible which contains books written before 1500 BC
- There is only one God that is a Holy Trinity of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

To answer the
question we must
look at the Bible

But be warned, this
is becoming illegal.



This photo was taken after the Red Cross told the police captain he could not pray inside the shelter. The man he is praying with lost his home in the flood. (Clay Higgins)

Clay Higgins, a reserve city marshal dropped by after work to minister to evacuees at the Heymann Performing Arts Center on Aug. 19 when a volunteer approached Higgins and mentioned there was a problem.

“He said the Red Cross had an issue with me being there,” Higgins said. “So I asked him what the problem was. He looked down at my Bible and he gestured and said, ‘They have a problem with that.’”

Higgins said he was escorted to a Red Cross supervisor who asked him to leave.

During the conversation, a flood victim asked Higgins to pray. The captain was obliged but had to do so outside the Red Cross shelter.

Meanwhile, a pastor in the town of Albany stated that four families left a Red Cross shelter after they were told they could not pray or read their Bibles at their cots.

“They got upset and literally packed up their stuff and came right here,” said the pastor, who asked not to be identified. “A Red Cross worker told them they could not pray or read their Bible in public.”

University Installs Foot Baths For Muslims

Boston University Acknowledges Growing Population

UPDATED 6:18 AM EST Nov 29, 2011

Text Size: [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)

BOSTON — As the nation's Muslim population grows, so does debate over religious accommodation.

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In Boston, one university has taken steps to help Muslim students maintain an important ritual: bathing before prayer.

“Some of the foot baths in other states were built using public funds. The American Civil Liberties Union generally objects to public money being used for religious structures. But they don't take issue with the foot baths because, they say, anyone can use them.”

ACLU Again Threatens Kentucky Schools With Lawsuit Over Bible Distribution

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BY [KATHERINE WEBER](#), CHRISTIAN POST REPORTER

August 22, 2013 | 7:59 am

The American Civil Liberties Union has sent a letter to school districts in Kentucky, once again threatening legal action if they continue to allow the distribution of bibles to students through the group The Gideons International.

(Photo: Reuters/Chris Papp)

Air Force Officer Faces Review Over Bible



Todd Starnes | Posted: Aug 17, 2016 4:58 PM

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David Limbaugh

Karma for the Clintons at



The Military Religious Freedom Foundation is demanding an Air Force major be “aggressively punished” for having an open Bible on his desk at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Military burns unsolicited Bibles sent to Afghanistan

May 22, 2009 -- Updated 0624 GMT (1424 HKT)

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

- Unsolicited Bibles sent by U.S. church were confiscated about a year ago
- The Bibles were printed in two most common Afghan languages
- Military feared they could be used for proselytizing, which is forbidden to troops
- Military didn't want to risk any distribution of the Bibles and angering Muslims

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(CNN) -- Military personnel threw away, and ultimately burned, confiscated Bibles that were printed in the two most common Afghan languages amid concern they would be used to try to convert Afghans, a Defense Department spokesman said Tuesday.



GETTY IMAGES

Afghan workers enter a walkway on March 3, 2009, at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

The unsolicited Bibles sent by a church in the United States were confiscated about a year ago at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan because military rules forbid troops of any religion from proselytizing while deployed there, Lt. Col. Mark Wright said.

Such religious outreach can endanger American troops and civilians in the devoutly Muslim nation, Wright said.

"The decision was made that it was a 'force protection' measure to throw them away, because, if they did get out, it could be perceived by Afghans that the U.S. government or the U.S. military was trying to convert Muslims," Wright told CNN on Tuesday.

Troops at posts in war zones are required to burn their trash, Wright said.

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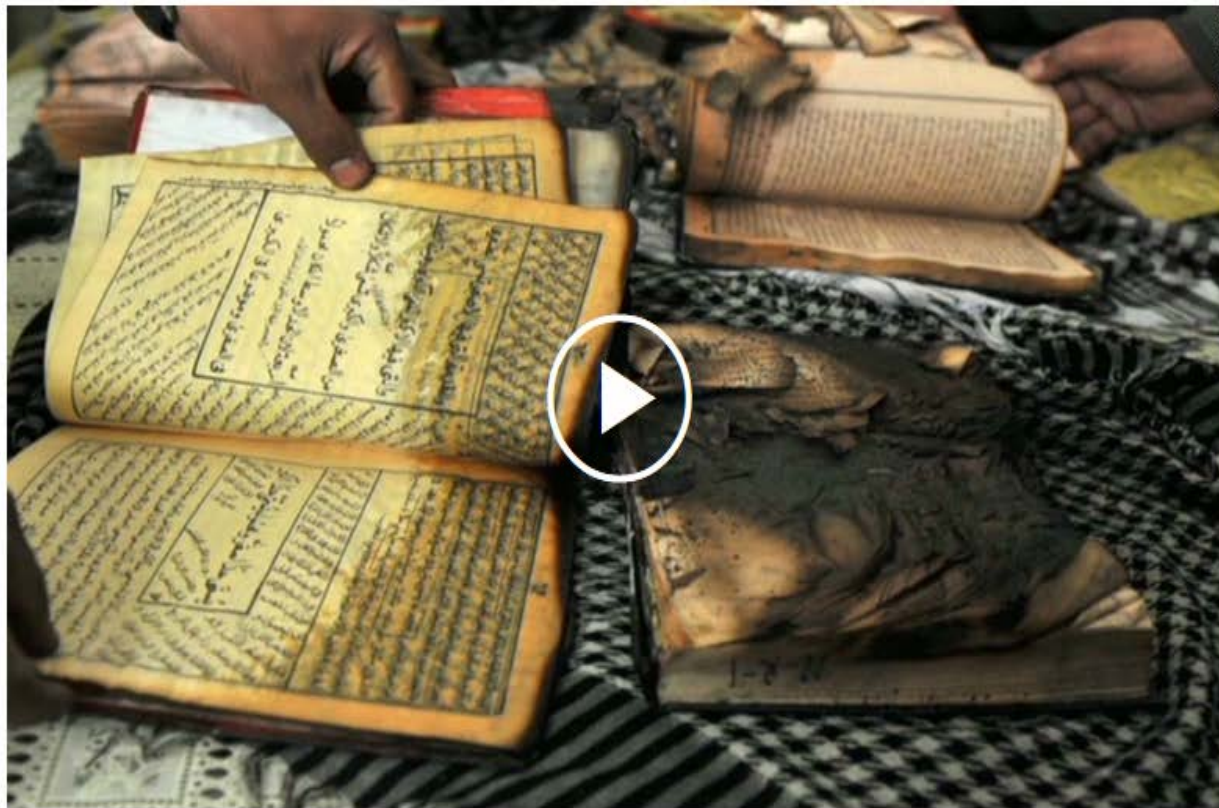
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Obama apologizes to Afghanistan for Quran burning

From Masoud Popalzai and Nick Paton Walsh, CNN

🕒 Updated 7:45 PM ET, Thu February 23, 2012



CNN recommends



Indians: End 'degrading' rape exam

Advocates say the exam includes unnecessarily invasive and irrelevant procedures -- like a so-called "two finger" test.



Capital goes hungry amid carnage

Supplies of food, clothing and fuel are running short in Damascus and people are going hungry as the civil war drags on.



The face that launched 1,000 myths?

Supporters of Richard III want

Obama apologizes to Karzai for burning 02:52

According to The Washington Post:

The Pentagon issued detailed rules for handling the Koran at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, requiring U.S. personnel to ensure that the holy book is not placed in 'offensive areas such as the floor, near the toilet or sink, near the feet, or dirty/wet areas.'

...only Muslim chaplains and Muslim interpreters can handle the holy book, and only after putting on clean gloves in full view of detainees.

The detailed rules require U.S. Muslim personnel to use both hands when touching the Koran to signal "respect and reverence," and specify that the right hand be the primary one used to manipulate any part of the book "due to cultural associations with the left hand." The Koran should be treated like a "fragile piece of delicate art," it says.



Handling the Quran



- Non-Muslims **should not handle** a Quran
- Non-Muslims are permitted to handle a translation of the Quran, i.e. an English translation of the Quran
- US Service Members and civilians who are required to handle a Quran in the performance of their duties should do so using a clean cloth or clean gloves
- Any copy of a Quranic verse containing the name of Allah is an equally sacred text and should be handled the same as a Quran



UNCLASSIFIED

Disposal of Islamic Religious Materials



- The proper disposal of Islamic Religious Materials **SHOULD NOT be performed by US personnel**
- Only unusable/damaged/worn-out Qurans should be disposed of—with proper procedures
- Only Muslims should dispose of Qurans and/or other Islamic Religious Materials
- Methods include: wrapping the Quran in a pure cloth and burying it in a grave or fastening the Quran with a heavy object like a stone and placing it respectfully in flowing water
- All US Islamic Religious Support Materials will be retrograded during unit redeployment in accordance with Appendix 8, Annex D, USFOR-A Retrograde EXORD

UNCLASSIFIED

Ever wonder why an ancient book is so hated nearly 2000 years after the last chapter was written?

John 15:18

"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first."

Ever wonder how an ancient book written over a span of more than 2000 years by multiple authors is in total agreement and flows seamlessly as if it was written by one author?

Ever wonder how an ancient book could be reproduced so accurately by hand that the ancient dead sea scrolls read exactly as the Bible you now hold after being copied numerous times by hand prior to the printing press?

Ever wonder how an ancient book could predict the future with 100% accuracy and after thousands of years no man has ever been able to find any errors?

Want proof of God?
Just look to the Bible

What is Prophecy?

Prophecy – the future told in advance by God through a prophet

The reliability of the Bible is confirmed by the accuracy of its prophecies

Cannot be said of any other “sacred writings”

Other writings make great claims but contain no prophecy unique to them that establishes “truth”

Joseph Smith (Mormonism) - "My unborn child shall be called David, and will be Church President and King over Israel."

Other Religious Prophecies

Prophecy of the Fifth Karmapa, Doshin Shekpa (Buddhist scripture): "At that time happiness, like beholding the sun, in this Tibet will occur, I think"

Errors in the Quaran

Quran 7: 54 Your guardian-Lord is Allah who created the heavens and earth in Six Days

Quran 10: 3 Verily your Lord is Allah, who created the heavens and earth in Six Days

Quran 11:7 He it is Who created the heavens and earth in Six Days

Quran-25:29: He Who created the heavens and earth and all that is between, in Six Days

Errors in the Quaran

Quran 41: 9 Is it that ye deny Him who created the earth in Two Days ?

Quran 41: 10 He set on the (earth) Mountains standing firm high above it, and bestowed blessing on the earth, and measured therein all things to give them nourishment in due proportion, in FOUR DAYS...

Quran 41: 12 So He completed them (heavens) as seven firmaments in Two days and

Test of a True Prophet

Deut. 18:22, “When a prophet speaks in the name of the Lord, if the thing does not happen or come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord has not spoken; the prophet has spoken it presumptuously; you shall not be afraid of him.”

True Prophet – prophecy is fulfilled

Why Did God Use Prophecy?

Is. 48:3-5, “I have declared the former things from the beginning; they went forth from My mouth, and I caused them to hear it. Suddenly I did them, and they came to pass. Because I know that you were obstinate, and your neck was an iron sinew, and your brow bronze, even from the beginning I have declared it to you; before it came to pass I proclaimed it to you, lest you should say, ‘My idol has done them, and my carved image and my molded image have commanded them.’”

The Importance of Prophecy

Is. 46:9-10, “Remember the former things of old,
For I am God, and there is no other; I am God,
and there is none like Me, Declaring the end from
the beginning, And from ancient times things that
are not yet done, Saying, ‘My counsel shall stand,
And I will do all My pleasure.’”

Unique among all books ever written, the Bible accurately foretells specific events—in detail—many years, sometimes centuries, before they occur. Approximately 2,500 prophecies appear in the pages of the Bible, about 2,000 of which already have been fulfilled to the letter—no errors.

Since the probability for any one of these prophecies having been fulfilled by chance averages less than one in ten (figured very conservatively) and since the prophecies are for the most part independent of one another, the odds for all these prophecies having been fulfilled by chance without error is less than one in 10^{2000} (that is 1 with 2,000 zeros written after it) in other words it is statistically proven impossible by man unless divinely inspired!

Ezekiel's prophecy

1. Many nations will fight against Tyre

Ezekiel 26:3 - thus says the Lord GOD, 'Behold, I am against you, O Tyre, and I will bring up many nations against you, as the sea brings up its waves.'

Attackers/conquerors, from Encyclopedia Britannica - Nebuchadnezzar (573BC), Alexander the Great (332BC), Seleucids (200BC), Romans (64BC), Crusaders (1124AD), Muslim Arabs (1291AD)

Ezekiel's prophecy

2. Nebuchadnezzar will attack the mainland portion of Tyre

Ezekiel 26:7-8 I will bring against Tyre from the north Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon... He will slay your daughters on the mainland with the sword:

Encyclopedia Britannica -

After a 13 year siege (585-573 BC) by Nebuchadnezzar II, Tyre made terms and acknowledged Babylonian rule.

Ezekiel's prophecy

3. The debris from the buildings will be thrown in the water

Ezekiel 26:12 They will...throw your stones and your timbers and your debris into the water.

Encyclopedia Britannica -

Alexander the Great... completely destroyed the mainland portion of the town and used its rubble to build an immense causeway (some 2,600 feet long and 600-900 feet wide) to gain access to the island section.

Ezekiel's prophecy

4. Tyre will be made a bare rock
5. Fishermen will spread their nets over the site

Ezekiel 26:14 And I will make you a bare rock; you will be a place for the spreading of nets.

...[Tyre] never regained the place she had previously held in the world. The larger part of the site of the once great city is now bare as the top of a rock - a place where the fishermen that still frequent the spot spread their nets to dry. - Philip Myers, *General History for Colleges and High Schools*, 1889, pg 55

Ezekiel's prophecy

6. Tyre will not be re-built
7. Tyre will never retain its former glory

Ezekiel 26:14 - you shall never be rebuilt, for I the LORD have spoken,' says the Lord GOD.

Ezekiel 26:20-21 "I shall bring terrors on you, and you will be no more; though you will be sought, you will never be found again"

Encyclopedia Britannica - Captured and destroyed by the Muslim Mamluks in 1291, the town never recovered its former importance.

The Port of Tyre

VirtualTourist

Hard to believe, but it is from this tranquil fishing port that Phoenician Tyre ruled the Mediterranean Sea around 950 BC. At the time, Tyre was still an island, but since Alexander the Great's conquest in 332 BC, the island has been a peninsula connected to the mainland. Nowadays, the port hosts nothing but small wooden fishing boats, and the area around it is a pleasant place for a stroll and a meal.



The Jewish Nation

Deut 28:64 - "Then the LORD will scatter you

am Noted Christian author David Hunt: "The to

the fulfillment of hundreds of specific

prophecies in the ancient and modern

Eze history of the Jewish people is God's among

the great sign to mankind--a sign that no ng

the one can mistake or deny...Jewish history in the

cou stands as a universal visible monument us

says to God's existence" s,

scat n

Prophecies of the Crucifixion of Jesus

(Psalms 22:16)

Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet.

(This was written roughly 1000 BC which was before crucifixion existed as the first historical record of Crucifixion was about 519 BC)

(Isaiah 53:12)

Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

(Psalms 41:9)

They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.

Prophecies of the Crucifixion of Jesus

(Psalms 22:7-8)

All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads: 'He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him

(Isaiah 53:5)

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed

(Psalms 41:9)

Even my close friend, whom I trusted, he who shared my bread, has lifted up his heel against me.