

SERIES: Pursuing Spiritual Fitness SPEAKER: NAT CRAWFORD

Tuesday, August 1, 2023

Scripture: Proverbs 30:5 / Psalm 12:6 / Matthew 12:40

TITLE: Are There Errors in the Bible?

"Really?" That's what my youngest son says after I make some grandiose statement. "Really, Dad? No, really?" He sometimes knows my comments are funny or meant to get a response. So he has to say, "Really?" It's almost that "It's too good to be true." This explains why so many people suggest the Bible is full of errors. "It's just too good to true." Others just write the Bible off as fiction and fable. Others view it as a book that maybe was true, but over time has lost its validity.

But how should we view the Bible? Is it true? Is it without error? Will it remain reliable, or will time prove otherwise?

Well, let's consider what the Bible says here in Proverbs 30:5 (NLT):

Every word of God proves true. He is a shield to all who come to him for protection.

The writer says *every* Word proves true. In other words, if it's written in the Bible, you can bank on it being true - even things that point to the future. Did you know that the Bible contains over 2500 prophecies? There are prophecies about kings, kingdoms, world events, people, and even Jesus Christ. Out of those 2500 prophecies, 2000 have already been fulfilled. The remaining 500 are future events that have yet to come to pass. But the 2000 that have been fulfilled were fulfilled without error.

That's why we can trust claims like those found in Psalm 12:6:

The LORD's promises are pure, like silver refined in a furnace, purified seven times over.

What God promises, He will fulfill and will do so without error. God's Word never fails.

Not only that, but God's Word is without error. Some people try to point out apparent contradictions and errors in the Bible. When I hear that I just ask them, "Like what?" Most of the time, they can't point to one. One error people may point out is the claim of Jonah in the whale for three nights. They say, "It may be in the Bible, but surely it's not true." But I have to remind them that Jesus affirmed that was no error.

Jesus said in Matthew 12:40,

"For as Jonah was in the belly of the great fish for three days and three nights, so will the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth for three days and three nights."

People like Jesus. They trust Jesus. So when Jesus says, "No, really guys, that happened," you can believe it happened.

The Bible is without error and will never fail. So here's my challenge for you today. When you read the Bible, you can trust it to be without error and that it will forever be true. We don't need to question if a story is too fabulous to be true. We don't need to dismiss something as relevant 2,000 years ago but it is useless today. God's Word is reliable and timeless. So read the Bible with an open mind and open heart. Ask the Spirit for understanding and the power to obey it. So let's read the Bible with that posture to trust and obey. When we do, together we will win the day.

If you're struggling with trusting the Bible, I'd like to help. What are your doubts or questions? Ask them below, and let's find answers together.