

The Bible - Part V

"You don't know what you don't know" Pastor Bob Balian

I. BIBLICAL AFFIRMATION

1. With regard to ancient history, the standard is whether or not the <u>evidence</u> supports a historic event.

2. THE BIBLE IS REMARKABLE BECAUSE:

- A. The Bible is remarkable in its <u>CIRCULATION</u>.
- B. The Bible is remarkable in its TRANSLATION .
- C. The Bible is remarkable in its DURABILITY .
- D. The Bible is remarkable in its <u>IMPACT</u>.

"Caesar realized that he could not win power without a loyal army. So he made himself Proconsul of Gall, a region that is today known as France. In his 10 years as Proconsul, Caesar, brought all of Gall under Roman rule, and showed his superb abilities as a Roman leader and organizer. Caesar issued written reports about his campaigns and victories to keep the people of Rome informed. Students in Latin can still read these clearly detailed reports in what is known as the Gallic Wars." (*History Books on Roman History*)

II. WHY is there PAIN AND SUFFERING in the world?

1. God's lack of <u>cooperation</u> in your life is not an argument for or against His existence.

"For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God." *Romans* 8:20-21

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified." *Romans 8:28-30*

2. We need to trust God to <u>balance</u> our <u>burdens</u> and our <u>blessings</u>.

"For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son" *Romans 8:29*

3. Sometimes God's greatest gifts are wrapped in crises.

"...those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified." *Romans 8:30*

Study Helps:

Harper Collins Bible Dictionary The Liquid Bible, Paul Thome How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth, Gordon Fee Searching the Scriptures, Charles R. Swindoll Life Application Study Bible The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict, Josh McDowell

Quick Overview of the Bible:

- The Big Picture.
- Why Should I read the Bible?
- Overview of the Old Testament.
- Overview of the New Testament.
- LINK: www.dougbrittonbooks.com/bible-overview

How to Study the Bible:

- Make a plan.
- Be an active reader.
- Open your heart.
- Bring the Bible into your daily life.
- LINK: www.dougbrittonbooks.com/bible-how-to-study

Suggested books of the Bible to read first:

John, Luke, Matthew, Mark, Phillipians, Ephesians, Colossians, Romans, Genesis, Psalms