

DARE TO WONDER:

Who Can I Trust?

2 Timothy 3:14-17

- i. In a world of tsunami like change, who can I trust?
- ii. In a world of news cycles and spin, who can I trust?

WE CAN TRUST THE WORD FOR THESE 3 REASONS...

I. THE DATA AUTHENTICATES

A. The sheer number of copies

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|--|----------------------------|
| 1. Extra Biblical Literature | 2. The New Testament |
| a. Plato—7 copies | a. Greek 5633 |
| b. Caesar—10 copies | b. Latin and Syriac 24,633 |
| c. Livy—20 copies | *1/5 of 1% distortion rate |
| d. Aristotle—49 copies | |
| e. Sophocles—193 | |
| f. Homer—643 copies | |
| *Distortion rate is 4.9% | |
| **10 copies are considered reliable by science | |

B. Shortest time interval

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|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Extra Biblical Literature | 2. The New Testament |
| a. Aristotle—1400 years | 15-20 years ONLY |
| b. Herodotus—1300 years | |
| c. Plato—1200 years | |
| d. Tacitus—950 years | |
| e. Caesar—850 years | |
| f. Homer—450 years | |
| g. Virgil—250 years | |

II. THE SCRIPTURES DECLARE (2 Timothy 3:16)

- A. God-breathed
- B. Ruah - Elohim

III. JESUS PERFORMS (John 1:1 and 10:30)

- A. We worship Jesus not the Bible
- B. We know God by knowing Jesus. We know Jesus by knowing Scripture as carried by the Holy Spirit and guided by our context and tradition.