

Archaeology and Observational Science

Another external evidence supporting the validity of the inspiration of Scripture is the study of archaeology. Archaeology has confirmed the accuracy of many historic facts contained in the Bible. In fact, not one example from archaeological finds has ever contradicted any statement in the Bible! While unbelievers often attack the Bible and mock parts of its history they later are made to recant when archaeology confirmed those same facts (Two examples would be the confirmation by archaeology of the *Hittites* and the reign of *King David*). As someone well said, “the rocks cry out” in support of a verbally inspired, authoritative Bible.

The next great support for our confidence the Bible is the Word of God is *observational science*. If the Bible is the inspired Word of God, then we would expect it to be *true to the way things are*. The statements of Scripture should be supported by what we actually *observe* in the real world. For example, if the Bible described the earth in such a way as to infer it exists in the form of a *cube* then the Bible would be wrong. We now know the earth is round. However, the Bible speaks of the *circle of the earth* in Isaiah 40:22. Thus, the Bible’s indication the earth is round is true to the way things are. There are many other examples from observational science that in similar fashion confirm the truthfulness of the Bible.

It is helpful to pause here and review the definition of science. According to the American Heritage College Dictionary science is *the observation, identification, description, experimental investigation, and theoretical explanation of phenomena*. The key word in the definition is *observation*. Science involves observing things in the real world and attempting to explain how they work. The *scientific method*

involves *the observation of phenomena, the formation of a hypothesis concerning the phenomena, experimentation to test the hypothesis, and a conclusion that validates or modifies the hypothesis* (The American Heritage College Dictionary).

The collective knowledge gained by observational science through the scientific method has *never* contradicted the Bible. The Bible is true to the way things are in the real world. This fact is another validation of the Bible's internal claim to be the inspired Word of the living God. The Bible's harmony with the real world is exactly what we would expect if it is the Word of our Creator.

Review Activities

What is archaeology?

How does it support the inspiration of Scripture?

What is observational science?

How does it support our conviction that the Bible is the Word of God?
