

# The Reason for God *Belief in an Age of Skepticism*

## "Can You Really Trust the Bible?"

Luke 1:1-4 (Pew Bible Page 723) & Luke 24:13-32 (Pew Bible Page 749)

*The Skeptic believes the Bible is... "good, but not reliable,  
not to be taken literally and therefore, not to be trusted."*

### THREE REASONS YOU SHOULD TRUST THE BIBLE

#### FIRST, you can trust in the Bible HISTORICALLY

*The Skeptic believes the Bible and its stories were made up and added to the Bible much later.*

1. The New Testament was written TOO EARLY to be legend

*"I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good to me to write an orderly account." Luke 1:3*

*"After that, Jesus appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living..." 1 Corinthians 15:6*

2. It is too COUNTERPRODUCTIVE to be legend.
3. It is too DETAILED to fit the ancient style of legend.

#### SECOND, you can trust the Bible CULTURALLY

*The Skeptic believes the Bible seems primitive, culturally regressive and out of touch with our day.*

*"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing..." 1 Corinthians 1:18*

### THREE THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN YOU ARE OFFENDED BY THE BIBLE

1. The Bible might not teach what you THINK IT DOES

*"...we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel..." Luke 24:21*

Example: Genesis and polygamy

2. You might be experiencing cultural BLINDNESS

*"Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures." Luke 24:45*

Example: Slavery

3. You might have an unexamined sense of cultural **SUPERIORITY**

Example: Compare the attitudes of America and Mid-East concerning sex and forgiveness

The Bible is God's Word. As some point it will contradict **EVERY** culture.

**THIRD**, you can trust the Bible **PERSONALLY**

*The Skeptic says to submit to the total and absolute authority of the Bible is legalistic.*

*"They asked each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us...and he opened the Scriptures to us.'" Luke 24:32*

*"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself." Luke 24:27*