

The Amazing Unity of the Bible

Rev. 22:1-4

The Bible Was Written Over A Period of 1500 years.

- The Law (Books of Moses) → 1400 B.C.
- The Book of Proverbs → 970 B.C.
- The Prophecy of Isaiah → 750 B.C.
- The Prophecy of Jeremiah → 600 B.C.
- The Prophecy of Malachi → 440 B.C.
- The New Testament → 50-95 A.D.

The Bible Was Written By More Than 40 Authors From Varied Backgrounds

- Moses → Raised as royalty, shepherd, national and religious leader and lawgiver.
- Joshua → Military commander.
- David → King, poet, musician, shepherd, warrior.
- Solomon → King and philosopher.
- Nehemiah → Cupbearer to King Artaxerxes
- Amos → A dresser of sycamore trees and herdsman
- Daniel → Vast secular education, powerful government official
- Matthew → Tax Collector
- Luke → Doctor
- Paul → Highly educated, tentmaker
- Peter → Little formal training, fisherman
- John → Little formal training, fisherman
- Etc...

The Bible Was Written From Different Places and Circumstances

- On three different continents:
 - Europe
 - Asia
 - Africa
- Under different circumstances:
 - Moses in the wilderness
 - Jeremiah in a dungeon
 - Daniel in a palace
 - Paul in prison
 - John while exiled on the island of Patmos

The Bible Was Originally Written In Three Different Languages

- **Hebrew** → בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ 1:1
- **Aramaic** → 24 ✧ חַבְּ סַבְּ כְּמָּ אֶשְׁמֵךְ אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתַי
לְחַבְּלֵי כְּפִסְבֵּי לִסְ מַלְלֵי כִסְּ כְּסֻזְלֵי סִבְּכֻזְלֵי לֵלֵלֵי
25 ✧ אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתַי לְחַבְּלֵי כְּפִסְבֵּי לִסְ מַלְלֵי כִסְּ כְּסֻזְלֵי
✧ אֱלֹהֵי אֲבֹתַי
- **Greek** → 8:1 ἐν ἔτει τρίτῳ τῆς βασιλείας Βαλτασαρ τοῦ βασιλέως ὄρασις ὤφθη πρὸς με ἐγὼ Δανιηλ μετὰ τὴν ὀφθεισάν μοι τὴν ἀρχήν

The Bible Was Written In Various Literary Styles/ Genres

- Historical Narrative
- Poetry
- Song
- Prophecy
- Parable
- Allegory
- Formal Systematic Expositions
- Personal Correspondence
- Law
- Biography
- Autobiography
- Satire
- Irony
- Romance

The Bible Deals With “Controversial” Subjects

- Origins
- Marriage and Divorce
- Gender and sexuality
- Homosexuality
- Authority
- The nature of truth
- The “Way” to God
- Role of women, etc.

The Bible Provides One Unified Message From Beginning To End

- God's Plan To Save/Redeem Sinners.
 - The need for salvation.
 - God's purpose, plan and preparation to send the Savior.
 - The coming and life of that Savior.
 - The forming/coming together of the body of the saved – the church. It's work and instructions.
 - The consummation of God's plan.

From Beginning To End – Genesis To Revelation

- Theme of Creation:
 - Genesis 1:1 → In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
 - Revelation 21:1 → And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

From Beginning To End – Genesis To Revelation

- Theme: Loss of the presence of God:
 - Gen. 3:23 → Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.
 - Rev. 21:3 → And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

From Beginning To End – Genesis To Revelation

- Theme: The curse:
 - Gen. 3:17 → And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life;
 - Rev. 22:3 → And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

From Beginning To End – Genesis To Revelation

- Theme: The Tree of Life:
 - Gen. 3:24 → So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.
 - Rev. 22:2 → In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, *was there* the tree of life, which bare twelve *manner of* fruits, *and* yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree *were* for the healing of the nations.

From Beginning To End – Genesis To Revelation

- Theme: Pain, Sorrow.
 - Gen. 3:17 → And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life; (cf. 3:16)
 - Rev. 21:4 → And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

How To Account For The Amazing Unity Of The Bible...

- Each word of scripture ultimately has the same author – God.
- II Pet. 1:20-21 → knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (cf. II Tim. 3:16; Eph. 3:3-5)