

# **MAPS: The Reliability of the Bible**

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## **1. M – Manuscripts**

The Bible has better, earlier, and more accurate manuscript evidence than any other book from the ancient world.

### a.) Old Testament = Dead Sea Scrolls

- Over 900 texts found, plus thousands of fragments
- Dated from 250 BC to 68 AD
- Over 98% accurately preserved.

### b.) New Testament

- Over 24,000 manuscripts found in varying languages
- Dated from within 30 years of original events
- Over 95% accurately copied.

## **2. A – Archaeology**

No archaeological find has ever contradicted the Biblical record.

### a.) Old Testament

- Over 115 places named in the Bible found
- 60+ OT people verified with external evidence (inscriptions, seals, coins, etc.).

### b.) New Testament

- Over 75 sites found
- 30+ NT people verified with external evidence (inscriptions, coins, secular historians, etc.).

*Info from: The Popular Handbook of Archaeology and the Bible. (Holden and Geisler, 2013), Discoveries That Support the Reliability of the Bible. (Graves, 2019), On the Reliability of the Old Testament. (Kitchen, 2006)*

## **3. P – Prophecy**

“Approximately 2,500 prophecies appear in the pages of the Bible, about 2,000 of which already have been fulfilled to the letter (with no errors). The remaining 500 are still in the future and may be seen unfolding as days go by.” ~ Dr. Hugh Ross.

<https://reasons.org/explore/publications/tnr/b/read/tnr/b/2003/08/22/fulfilled-prophecy-evidence-for-the-reliability-of-the-bible>

## **4. S – Science**

The Bible has been proven to be accurate every single time it gives an explanation for how the world works, thousands of years ahead of scientific discoveries.

<https://reasons.org/explore/blogs/todays-new-reason-to-believe/read/tnr/b/1976/01/01/biblical-forecasts-of-scientific-discoveries>

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