

WHAT DID JESUS BELIEVE ABOUT SCRIPTURE

He knew the Scriptures thoroughly

As a child

- Luke 2:45-49 When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. 46 After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. 47 Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. 48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you." 49 "Why were you searching for me?" he asked. "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?"

As a young man

- John 7:14-15 Not until halfway through the Feast did Jesus go up to the temple courts and begin to teach. The Jews were amazed and asked, "How did this man get such learning without having studied?"

As prophecies that pertained to his coming

- Luke 24:44-48 44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. 46 He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

He spoke of the Old Testament stories and characters as historical fact

The creation of man (Adam and Eve) vs man evolving from ape-like creatures

- Mat 19:4-5 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' (5) and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'?"

The flood during the days of Noah vs a mythical story produced among many cultures

- Luk 17:26-27 "Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. (27) People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.

The judgment upon Sodom and Gomorrah vs a parable

- Mat 11:23-24 And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would

have remained to this day. (24) But I tell you that it will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment than for you."

Jonah being swallowed by the great fish vs a story for children

- Mat 12:40-41 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. (41) The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now something greater than Jonah is here.

Sodom and Gomorrah

Mat 10:15 Truly I tell you, **it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment** than for that town.

Manna

John 6:31, 49 & 58 **Our ancestors ate the manna** in the wilderness; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"49 Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died 58 This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

The serpent on the pole

John 3:14 **Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness**, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,

Jonah

Mat 12:39-40 He answered, "A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. **For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish**, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

He believed the Old Testament was spoken by God Himself, or written by the Holy Spirit's inspiration, even though the pen was held by men

Quoting Gen 1:27 and Gen 5:2

- Mat 19:4 "Haven't you **read**," he replied, "that at the beginning **the Creator 'made them** male and female,'

Moses wrote it, but God said it.

- Mat 22:31-32 But about the resurrection of the dead--**have you not read what God said** to you, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not the God of the dead but of the living."
- Luk 20:37 But in the account of the burning bush, **even Moses showed that the dead rise**, for he calls the Lord 'the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.'

David wrote this in Ps 110:1

- Mat 22:43 He said to them, "How is it then that David, **speaking by the Spirit**, calls him 'Lord'? For he says,

He based his teaching on Scripture

Mat 7:12 So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for **this sums up the Law and the Prophets.**

Mat 19:17-19 "Why do you ask me about what is good?" Jesus replied. "There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, **keep the commandments.**" "Which ones?" he inquired. Jesus replied, "'You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother,' and 'love your neighbor as yourself.'"

Mat 22:40 **All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.**"

Mar 7:9 And he continued, "You have a fine way of **setting aside the commands of God** in order to observe your own traditions!

Mar 7:13 Thus **you nullify the word of God by your tradition** that you have handed down. And you do many things like that."

Mar 12:24-25 Jesus replied, "Are you not in error because **you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God?** When the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.

Luk 16:29-31 "Abraham replied, '**They have Moses and the Prophets**; let them listen to them.'"
"No, father Abraham,' he said, 'but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'
"He said to him, 'If they do not listen to **Moses and the Prophets**, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

He warned against replacing it with something else

Mat 5:17 "**Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets**; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

Mat 15:3-9 Jesus replied, "And why do **you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?** For God said, 'Honor your father and mother' and 'Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.' But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is 'devoted to God,' they are not to 'honor their father or mother' with it. Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: "'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.'"

He urges us to teach and obey the scriptures

Mat 5:19 NIV Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 7:24-27 NIV "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. (25) The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. (26) But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. (27) The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

He used scripture when combatting the temptation of Satan

- Mat 4:3-10 NIV The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." 4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. 6 "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" 7 Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. 9 "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." 10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

Summary Jesus' view of Scripture

The Lord committed the task of all writing of the Word of God to fallible men—guided by the infallible Holy Spirit. Jesus honored those Scriptures as the word of God. We should do the same.

By the time Jesus was born, the most recent Old Testament book (Malachi) had been copied and recopied over a span of more than four hundred years; the books that Moses wrote had been copied this way for more than fourteen hundred years.

Jesus and the Apostles studied, memorized, used, quoted, and read most often from the Bible of their day, the Septuagint. When Jesus quotes the Old Testament in Matthew, He uses the Hebrew text only 10% of the time, but the Greek LXX translation 90% of the time!

Jesus had full confidence that the Scriptures He used were authoritative

It was just like the Bible each of us holds in our hands, not the original Hebrew Old Testament, but a translation of the Hebrew into Greek. But it was based on exactly the same original and inspired words, and reads just like the Bible we hold in our hands today.¹

Jesus Primarily Used a Translation

Jesus and the Apostles: studied, memorized, used, quoted, and read most often from the Bible of their day, the Septuagint. Since Matthew wrote primarily to convince the Jews that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed their promised Messiah, it follows as a matter of course that his Gospel is saturated with the Hebrew Scriptures. Yet, when Jesus quotes the Old Testament in Matthew, He uses the Hebrew text only 10% of the time, but the Greek LXX translation—90% of the time!

Amazingly, Jesus and Paul used the LXX as their primary Bible. It was just like the Bible each of us holds in our hands, not the original Hebrew Old Testament, but a translation of the Hebrew into Greek. But it was based on exactly the same original and inspired words, and reads just like the Bible we hold in our hands today.

He taught the bible is:

Sufficient

- Luk 16:31 NIV "He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Complete and Inspired

- Mat 4:4 NIV Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on **every word** that comes **from the mouth of God**.'"

Enduring & Reliable

- Mat 5:17-18 NIV "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. (18) For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

Is Unified

The whole of the Bible speaks and witnesses to the person and work of Christ

- Luk 24:44-47 NIV He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." (45) Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. (46) He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, (47) and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

Without Error

- Mat 22:29 NIV Jesus replied, "You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God.

¹ Taken from "What Bible Did Jesus Use?" by Discover the Book Ministries

- Joh 17:17 NIV Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

Infallible (error means there ARE no errors, infallible means there CAN BE no errors)

- Joh 10:35 NIV If he called them 'gods,' to whom the word of God came--and **Scripture cannot be set aside--**

At the end of the day it is a book that is believed by faith

- 2 Timothy 3:15-17... from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, **which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.** All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work”.
- Heb 11:3 NIV By **faith we understand** that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.
- Rom 10:17 NIV Consequently, **faith comes from hearing the message,** and the message is heard through the word about Christ.
- Joh 20:30-31 NIV Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But **these are written that you may believe** that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
- 1Th 2:13 NIV And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but **as it actually is, the word of God,** which is indeed at work in you who believe.