

Lesson 22: Atheists and Agnostics Part 2

One of the many positive things about being a Christian is that when you are going through rough times, you have many different options for support. You have your church, your fellow believers, and the Lord Himself to call upon for strength. But imagine going through a trial, and having no one to turn to for support? Welcome to the life of an atheist. They can't call up their friend and say "Pray for me." They don't have the support of a group of like-minded believers to lean on.

Living a life that has no meaning, a life where everything is pure chance, would be a terrible life to live. While the life of the believer is not free from heartache and pain, there is comfort in knowing that there is a God Who has ordained your trial for your good, and will never leave you or forsake you in that trial. We will see in this lesson that there is no reason to live as an atheist. The Bible offers many infallible proofs that it is the inspired Word of God that "...liveth and abideth for ever." (1 Peter 1:23)

Lesson 22: Atheists and Agnostics Part 2

Topic 1: Reasons to believe the Bible (continued)

No Myths or Fantasies

The Earth is Hung Upon Nothing

Topic 2: Scientific Facts in the Scriptures

Evidence in the Globe (Job 26:7, Isaiah 40:22, Proverbs 8:27)

Energy and Matter are Interchangeable($E=MC^2$) (Jeremiah 10:12)

Effects of Atomic Radiation (Zechariah 14:12)

Evidence in Space (Isaiah 50:3; Job 25:5, Job 28:5; Jeremiah 33:22)

Evidence in Nature and Man (Ecclesiastes 1:6; Jeremiah 5:22, Jeremiah 6:22; Leviticus 17:11; 1 Corinthians 15:39)

Topic 3: Proof of Messiah

Probability of Fulfilled Scripture

The Dead Sea Scrolls



Many a child has grown up listening to fantastic stories and rhymes that involve cows jumping over the moon, turtles and rabbits racing each other, or boys planting “magic” beans and climbing the giant beanstalk the very next day. Now no child ever grew up believing that the cow really did jump over the moon. But many religions will offer strange and fantastic ideas of the origin of the world and its existence.

This is where the Bible stands apart. While the Bible does not claim to be a book of science, whenever the Bible does mention science, it has always been proven to be scientifically accurate.

No Myths or Fantasies

Assignment

- Memorize Isaiah 55:8

I remember the first time I ever had anybody ever go over what I'm going to go over with you tonight, and I was so excited, I could hardly stand it. The Bible gives us some prewritten history of the Jew. I want you to think on this. I want you to think about the things that weren't put in the Bible. The things that—how do you think this Bible was written if it wasn't divinely inspired of the Ancient of Days? This book being written, the Old Testament, thousands of years ago, —proved that by the Dead Sea Scrolls—how do you think it did not put fantasies in it? Now let's just look at what some of the others, 1,500 years before Christ. He's saying He stretched out the earth and hung it up on nothing. You say, “Well, what's the big deal?” Well, the Hindus said that the earth was on the back of an elephant, and the elephant was standing on a turtle, and the turtle was swimming in a cosmic sea. That's the Hindus belief. The Bible—now what if the Bible had made one statement like that, that the earth was on the back of a turtle, or the back of an elephant, the elephant was standing on a turtle, and the turtle was swimming? Now what if the

Bible, just one time, had come up with something like that? It didn't. Now I want you to see that what I'm trying to say, that's an incredible proof of the Bible. I think that's one of the greater proofs that people kind of overlook. The Egyptians said the earth was resting on the top of five posts. They thought the earth was flat. The Greeks [thought] it was on the back of Atlas, all by himself. What kept these myths out of the Bible? Why didn't they have a myth like that, that the earth was on the back of an elephant, or the earth was held up by some giant?

QUESTION 1

The Bible could not have been written if it was not _____ .

- A. On paper
- B. Divinely inspired
- C. Perfectly dictated
- D. Ultra-exhaustive

QUESTION 2

Approximately 1500 years before Christ, man knew that the world rested on nothing. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

The Earth Hung Upon Nothing

Why did Job write that the earth was [hung] upon nothing? See, because Job was a man of God, and Job wrote as God led him to write. And he was a man that loved God, and that's why the erroneous theories were kept out of the Bible. Look at Job—and I've got it listed in your verses—Job 1:20 through 22, "Then Job arose and rent his mantle and shaved his head and fell down upon the ground and worshipped. And he said, Naked came on I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither. The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord. In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly." Job never blamed God. Job stood up and said, "I came in the world with nothing. I'm going to leave with nothing, and I'm not going to slander my God." Oh I tell you, we moan and weep, and we say, "Oh God, why don't You do this for me?" God's already done so much things for us. And see, Job was that kind of a man, and God allowed him to be the one used with the book of Job. What does it mean? You know the whole concept of redemption was foolishness to man. Redemption by a God that would send a Son, Jesus, to die upon a cross, that was foolishness to man. If you'll look at 1 Corinthians 1:18, it says, "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish, foolishness. But to us which are saved, it is the power of God." Isaiah 58:8, it says, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord, for as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Boy, I tell you, God had all these things. He lined them all out, and He gave us—only a Bible could give us salvation by grace, because all the religions of the world have salvation by works.

QUESTION 4

Job wrote that the earth was hung upon nothing because he didn't believe in superstition. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 5

Even though he was left with nothing, Job's attitude was that he would not slander his God *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 6

To the unsaved man, the preaching of the cross is _____ .

- A. Interesting
- B. A Fable
- C. Foolishness
- D. Something to be mocked

Topic 2: Scientific Facts in the Scriptures

When a jury considers the reliability of a witness, it will often look at statements that witness has made. If he has a history of fabrication, the testimony of that witness will have cause to be doubted. But if the witness has shown reliability in previous statement, it will lend much credence to his testimony.

The Bible was never meant to be a science textbook. You wouldn't take it to school to use for science class. But every time the Bible mentions science, or naturally occurring phenomena, it has always been proven to be accurate. In this topic we will take a look at several of these scientific phenomena that were written of thousands of years ago, and some which have only in recent years discovered to be



scientifically accurate.

In the same way a jury considers the testimony of a witness, we can consider the witness of the Word of God, and find truth in the declaration that "I, even I am the LORD; and beside me there is no savior." Isaiah 43:11

Evidence in the Globe

Well, let's give you some scientific facts, and we'll show you the verses. Okay, we already talked about Job 26:7, but it has two things. It says there's an empty place in the North, and it says the earth is hung upon nothing. Well, they know now that there is a great empty place in the North. It's called a Black Hole. And kind of an interesting thing that the Bible says it thousands of years ago. Doesn't it? Isn't it? How about Isaiah 40:22? We have it here, and I want us to be able to see it. I think it's interesting that the earth is round. Isaiah 40, verse 22, if you'll look, "It is he that sitteth on the circles of the earth, and the inhabitants [thereof] are as grasshoppers, and stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as to a tent to dwell in." He sitteth upon the circle of the earth. Isn't that incredible? You say, "Wait a minute, the Bible says 'the four corners'." Well, we have the four corners, North, South, East, and West. But always the Bible refers to the earth as being round. This isn't the only place. I'm going to show you another one when we get toward the end. But I think that's an interesting thing, isn't it? [A] very interesting thing. Now I want you to look at this next verse. You've got to think about it a little bit, Proverbs 8:27, but it says the waters are round. You say, "Wait a minute now, Pastor, if the earth is round, the waters is round." It's kind of interesting that the Bible says it thousands of years ago. It says, "When he prepared the heavens, I was there. When he set a compass upon the face of the depth. That is very easily translated to be "round". The waters are round. Isn't that amazing?

QUESTION 7

Scientists have discovered a great empty place in the north that they call the _____ .

- A. Great Abyss
- B. Sea of Tranquility
- C. Great Empty Place
- D. Black Hole

QUESTION 8

The Bible always refers to the earth as being round. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

Energy and Matter Are Interchangeable

Okay, how about Einstein's Theory of $e=mc^2$? Well, look at Jeremiah 10:12. Now you know the Bible wasn't written as a science book, but the Bible is scientifically accurate. "He hath made the earth by his power." Isn't that something? How'd He make it? By His power. "He has established the world by his wisdom, and has stretched out the heavens by his discretion." How'd He make it? By His power. Isn't it amazing how energy and mass could be interchangeable? Isn't that kind of an incredible thing? I really believe it is. I think it's an incredible thing. Now, there has been a lot of disputes over what I'm going to say in the next few verses. Some preachers believe that the Bible predicted airplanes, and some say that's ridiculous. I want us to look at it. I want us to see it, and let's make our own decision. Let's look at it. Did God predict airplanes and jets? Joel 2:5, "Like the noise of chariots on the top of the mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble and the strong people set in battle array." "Oh, you're stretching it. You're stretching it. That's not talking about airplanes." Let me tell you, dear friend, it is not talking about camels. I've never known a chariot where the horses ever leap off a mountain—well, I've known them to leap, but I mean they didn't exactly go anywhere, except down. Okay, let's look at another one. Look at Ezekiel 38:9, "Thou shall ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou and all thy bands and many people with thee." Thou shall

ascend and come like a storm? Thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land? “Nah, that's not talking about airplanes.” What’s it talking about? Look at one more. Let's look at one more. Zechariah 14:12, “And this shall be the plague wherewith the Lord shall smite all the peoples that have fought against Jerusalem.” Okay, I skipped one. Jeremiah 4:13, “Behold, he shall come as a cloud, and his chariot shall be as a whirlwind. His horses are swifter than the eagles. Woe unto us, for we are spoiled. You say, “Is that talking about airplanes?” Well, use your own discretion. I tell you one thing, it tells you something’s going to be different, doesn't it? It sure does.

QUESTION 9

The Bible was written with the purpose of being a science book. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 10

According to Jeremiah 10:12, God made the earth by His _____ .

- A. Wisdom
- B. Power
- C. Word
- D. Thoughts

Effects of Atomic Radiation

Now Zechariah 14:12, I really believe this does talk about the effects of atomic radiation. “This shall be the plague,” —by the way this goes over with First and Second Peter and talks about the same idea— Zechariah 14:12, “And this shall be the plague wherewith the Lord shall smite all the peoples that have fought against Jerusalem; their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and the tongue shall consume away in their mouth.” Listen, people that have studied the atomic bomb and the things that happened over in Japan, will say this is exactly what happens. Terrible, awful, and yet this was given thousands of years ago. That's a little bit stronger than the ones before were airplanes, but I tell you what, what were they? Job 38:7 says the stars sing and have vocal quality: “When the morning stars sang together, and the sons of God shouted for joy.” They can pick out different sounds for each of our stars. Isn't that amazing that it would have it back then? Incredible, isn't it? But you know, we were talking about the Mayans, and they had brain surgery, they had a better calendar that we have. They did all those great things, and here, though, back 3,500 years ago, we’re reading things out of this book that are so incredible, we have it with us all the time, and we just have had it with us so long—I guess it’s easier to give credit to those that are ancient, we don't know much about than those we know a lot more about. [It's] incredible what this Bible has to say.

QUESTION 12

Which passages refer to the possible effects of atomic radiation? (*Select all that apply.*) _____

- A. Jeremiah 4:13
- B. Zechariah 14:12
- C. Isaiah 40:22
- D. 2 Peter 3:10,12

QUESTION 13

Scientists can pick out different _____ from each of our stars

QUESTION 14

It is easier to give credit to ancient scientists of whom we do not know much about, than to those we know much more about. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

Evidence in Space

Assignment:

- Memorize Jeremiah 33:22

You know Isaiah 50:3—this is an interesting one—chapter 50 verse three, the heavens are black. You say, “They are not black; they’re blue.” Well, they’re blue because of the particles in the air, but the heavens are really black. But anybody that’s ever looked up, you say, “No, they’re blue.” Now remember, this was before Chicago. I know most of you would say, “Well, they are black. I can see it,” you know? I want you to see that. “I clothed the heavens with blackness, and I made sackcloth their covering.” Isn’t that incredible? The heavens are black. You are only seeing the light reflection off the particles that makes it look like it’s blue. Kind of interesting thing, I think. I think this is kind of an interesting, Job 28:25—to make the weight for the winds. Air has weight? Now who in the world would have know that back then? That air has weight? “He weigheth waters by measure,” now everybody knew water has weight, but whoever knew that air had weight back then? I think that’s incredible. How about the moon doesn’t have it’s own light. Job 25:5, “Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not.” In the Hebrew that’s really referring to that it does not have its own light. It’s not the one shining, its reflecting. There’s a difference in shining and reflecting, isn’t that incredible? You say, “Oh, that’s not”. Yes it is an incredible thing! I think this next one is incredible. Jeremiah 33:22, the stars can’t be numbered. What do you mean they can’t be numbered? They used to count them. They used to lay out there at night and count them. Some said there were 1,000. Some went up to 3,000. What do you mean, the stars can’t be numbered? Well, I think before the telescope and all the miracles and things that we’ve seen in our day, I think it’s an incredible thing in Jeremiah 33:22, “The hosts of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured. So will I multiply the seed of David, my servant, and the Levites that minister unto them. And of course, God did. But isn’t it incredible where He says the stars cannot be numbered. The heavens cannot be numbered? “Well, I can count them.” And now can they be numbered? There’s so many, they can’t be numbered. We don’t even know anything about them. Oh, we think we know so much with our new telescopes and stuff, and our big satellite up there in space that they didn’t even put the right lens in. We’re so geniusly oriented, aren’t we? So the stars cannot be numbered. How about this one? The wind travels in circuits. You say well everybody knows that’s, no they didn’t. Ecclesiastes 1:6, The wind goeth towards the south and turneth about to the north, it whirleth about continually and the wind returneth again according to its circuits. Isn’t that incredible? The circuits of the wind? I’ve been watching these hot air balloons and they been flying, and they will be coming toward the church and then they go down, and as they come down in lower air they go away from the church. They go in two different directions, and you watch those things.

QUESTION 15

The blue sky that we see is caused by _____ .

- A. Radiation
- B. Particles
- C. Reflection
- D. Refraction

QUESTION 16

Job 28:25 describes barometric pressure. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 17

It is incredible to think that over 1500 years ago, they knew that the moon reflected light and did not emit its own. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 18

Scientists can keep track of exactly how many stars there are. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 19

Hot-air balloons can change direction because of the currents of the wind. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

Evidence in Nature and Man

I remember the first time I've discovered that the rivers ran into the ocean, you know it doesn't take a genius to figure it out, daddy why don't the oceans overflow? Wouldn't that make sense? Jeremiah 52, Fear ye not me? What saith the Lord will you not tremble at my presence which have placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it, and though the waves thereof toss themselves yet can they not prevail though they roar, yet can they not pass over it? The ocean won't overflow. I think this next one is kind of interesting, that the earth has fire inside of it. Job 28:5 As for the earth, out of it cometh bread and under it is turned up as it were fire. Now, the earth has sides. Now what do you mean the earth has sides? It is round. It has sides of a ball. It is not flat like a plate like everybody thought. I want you to think about this, Jeremiah 6:22, Thus saith the Lord, behold a people, from the north, and a great nation shall be raised from the sides of the earth. When you first read that you say no and no, yes you read that and you think about it, another one referring to the circumference of the earth? How about the earth rotates? Job 38:31, can now bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Oriem? Talking about being held in with the gravitational force. How about Leviticus 17: 11, if they had only known this George Washington would still maybe living today.They I stuck all those leeches on him a sad man, bleed him. Bleed him. The life of the flesh is in the blood Leviticus 17:11, the life of the flesh is the blood. So if you are draining the blood you are draining the life of the flesh. You say well that's not that great my goodness we've known that for at least 100 years. How about first Corinthians 15:39, all flesh is not the same flesh? Oh that is nothing. I mean if evolution were were true, you would think all flesh would be the same flesh wouldn't you? All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh for man, another kind of flesh for beast another for fish, another for birds. Park Davis, they've got a way to test any kind of flesh and tell what type of animal it is from. It is all different.

QUESTION 20

The Bible tells us that the middle of the earth contains _____ .

- A. Hades
- B. Treasures
- C. Minerals
- D. Fire

QUESTION 21

According to Jeremiah 6:22, the earth has _____ .

- A. Sides
- B. Circumference
- C. Diameter
- D. Gravity

QUESTION 22

200 years ago, man knew that the life of the body was in the blood. *True or False?*

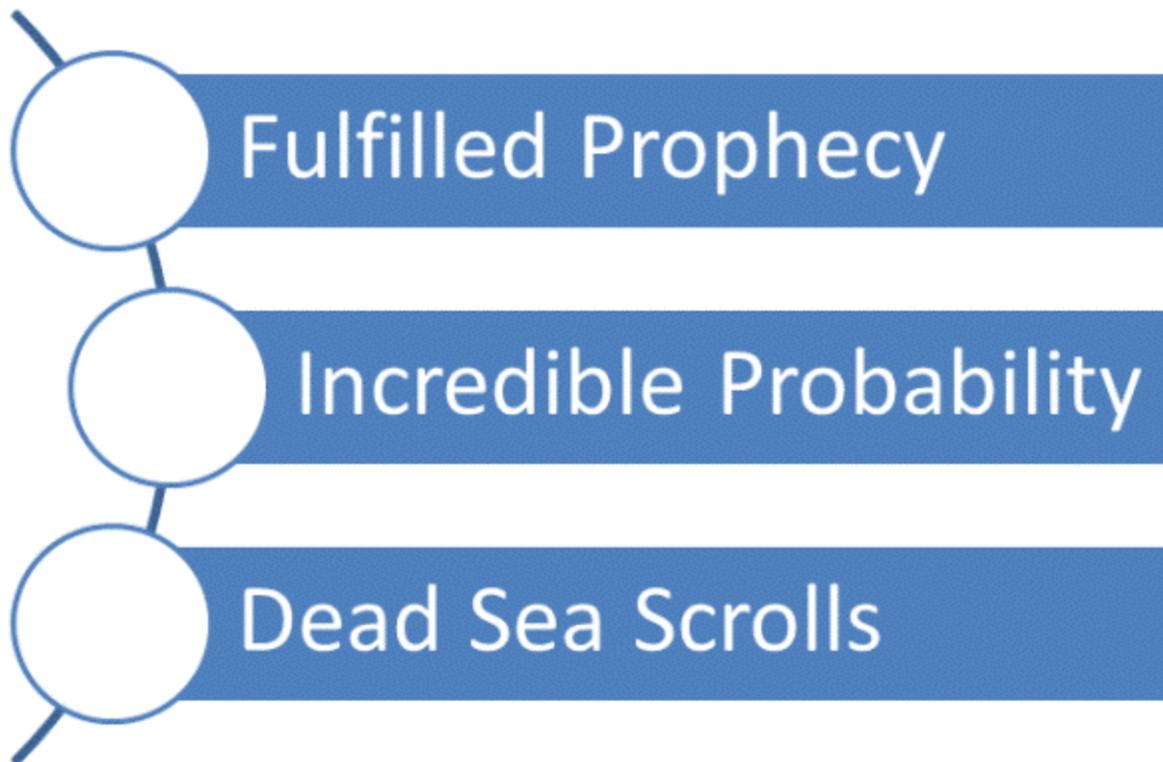
Answer: _____

QUESTION 23

Animal flesh is exactly the same as human flesh. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

Topic 3: Proofs of Messiah



We've seen a lot of evidence showing that the writers of the Bible knew what they were talking about. How is that? How is it that over the course of many different writers and thousands of years, the entire Book lines up? How is it that there are no fairy tales or myths involving our earth?

The fact of the matter is that God inspired His Word. There were many writers, but One Author. The Bible can contain hundreds of prophecies that have been fulfilled because God knew in advance what would happen, and told the writers what to write. It is the only explanation possible. The probability of one person fulfilling all of the prophecies about Messiah is too great of a number for man to handle; yet Jesus fulfilled all of them.

The Bible proves itself over and over again. It doesn't need archeology to prove that it is the Word of God, but every time a "new" discovery is made, it is always found to line up with the Bible. The Dead Sea scrolls are a great example of this. For years, skeptics said the Bible was written and re-written and changed. But the discovery of the Dead Sea scrolls proved otherwise. There is so much evidence for the Bible being the Word of God that if someone chooses to deny there is a God, they do it foolishly in the face of great evidence.

Probability of Fulfilled Prophecy

You say what does that mean? Well I think it means a lot. If you look at the mathematical probability of Messiah, of all the prophecies that were given about the Messiah, prophecies given hundreds of years before his birth, 333 of these were fulfilled in one day. There was a Dr. Gregory who took 50 of the Old Testament prophecies instead of 333, the first advent of Christ. Christ fulfilled 333 in his first advent. But he took just 50 of them, and it was 1125 to the 12th power, if you were to add just two more of those prophecies it would be a greater number than we could possibly deal with on this earth.

QUESTION 24

How many prophecies did Christ fulfill in His first Advent? _____

- A. 33
- B. 103
- C. 333
- D. 493

QUESTION 25

The probability of one person fulfilling just _____ of the Messianic prophecies is 1,125 to the 12th power.

The Dead Sea Scrolls

The Dead Sea Scrolls are one of the great things to be found because they were written identical to what the Jewish Bible is today. Interesting. And see, that again, you say how do you know that Bibles that written out, you ever heard people say that Bibles been written translated thousands of times, and it has been changed and it has been changed, and yet they find the Dead Sea Scrolls and they find out that it has not been changed? It is the word of God. This Bible is the word of God, this Bible is the answer to everything. And I believe the boy I tell you, I have no doubt about it everything God says. The Bible is proven and the Bible is true. That's what I love about. it I am just going to believe it. I have no question about it. I tell you every time I see a bird fly it proves the Bible to me. You say well you are crazy. Believe me it does, because I know that bird could never have evolved and I know that all that science is throwing at me is in idiocy, and every time the devil tries to make you think, well how do you know, I just look at a bird.

QUESTION 26

The Dead Sea Scrolls were written _____ to what the Jewish Bible is today.

- A. Similar
- B. Dissimilar
- C. Different
- D. Identical

QUESTION 27

The Word of God has the answer for just about everything in our life. *True or False?*

Answer: _____

QUESTION 28

The Bible is _____ and the Bible is true.

LESSON 22 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1

B. Divinely inspired [If not inspired by God Himself, it would be full of scientific errors.]

QUESTION 2: True [Job 26:7 “He...hangeth the world upon nothing.”]

QUESTION 3

<i>People</i>	<i>Belief</i>
Hindus	On the back of an elephant
Egyptians	Flat & resting on the top of 5 posts
Greeks	On the back of Atlas

QUESTION 4: False [Job was a man of God and wrote as God led him.]

QUESTION 5: True [Job 1:21 “...the Lord giveth, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.”]

QUESTION 6

C. Foolishness [1 Corinthians 1:18 “For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;”]

QUESTION 7

D. Black Hole

QUESTION 8: True [See Isaiah 40:22 and Proverbs 8:27]

QUESTION 9: False [While it is a scientifically accurate book, it is not a science book.]

QUESTION 10

B. Power [While the other answers are mentioned in Scripture, Jeremiah 10:12 specifically mentions God’s power.]

QUESTION 11

<i>Scripture</i>	<i>Description</i>
Ezekiel 38:9	A storm cloud to cover the land
Joel 2:5	Like chariots leaping on top of the mountains
Jeremiah 4:13	Coming as a cloud, swifter than the eagles

QUESTION 12

B. Zechariah 14:12

D. 2 Peter 3:10,12

QUESTION 13: sounds

QUESTION 14: True [Even though we think people like the Mayans were so advanced, the Bible has always contained the truth.]

QUESTION 15

B. Particles

QUESTION 16: True [It refers to “the weight for the winds.”]

QUESTION 17: True [God’s Word is not limited by time; it has always contained scientific truth.]

QUESTION 18: False [Even with our modern telescopes and technology, we still cannot number the stars.]

QUESTION 19: True [The wind can blow in different directions at different altitudes.]

QUESTION 20

D. Fire [Job 28:5 speaks of fire under the earth.]

QUESTION 21

A. Sides

QUESTION 22: False [They thought that using leeches to suck out diseased blood would heal a person.]

QUESTION 23: False [There are tests which can tell what kind of being flesh is from.]

QUESTION 24

C. 333

QUESTION 25: *Your answer should be one of the following:*

50, fifty

QUESTION 26

D. Identical [Despite the accusations of the Bible having been changed over many translations, the Dead Sea Scrolls proved that God had preserved His Word.]

QUESTION 27: False [The Word of God is the answer to everything.]

QUESTION 28: proven