

XXVII. How do we know we can trust the Bible's authors?

321. "Given that we can't _____ expect to put Jesus in a _____
_____, we have to rely on the word of those who _____ His life and
resurrection."
322. What does the author mean when she says we can't "put Jesus in a test tube, ..."?
a. _____

323. What are the four key questions detectives use to evaluate any eyewitness?
a. _____
b. _____
c. _____
d. _____
324. Why is this statement true? "All four Gospels are technically anonymous, just like many other
ancient works."
a. _____

325. Why can we be confident in the authorship?
a. _____

326. Early dating of the Gospels is supported by a number of key points:
a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

327. "Based on [the above] we have good reason to believe the Gospels are based on the accounts
of people who were actually _____ in Jesus' life and at His _____."

328. "Much has been made of the differences between the Gospels ... but corroboration doesn't mean _____ must provide _____ details. ... 'True, reliable eyewitness accounts are never completely _____ and _____.' "
329. "This '_____ support' is exactly what we see in the Gospels ... two or more Gospel writers describe the same event and _____ support each other's accounts with _____ detail.
330. (Were the Gospel authors biased?) "There's a critical difference between bias _____ to an experience and conviction _____ an experience, ..."
331. Extra credit: Does the evidence for the reliability of the Gospels prove that we can trust the authors? Why or why not?

a. _____

XXVIII. How do we know the Bible we have today says what the authors originally wrote?

332. Christians assume that today's Bible says what the _____ authors wrote. Bart Ehrman and many others have severely and aggressively criticized that assumption, primarily because of what single truth?
- a. _____
333. True or false – There are hundreds of thousands of differences when comparing the 20,000 plus manuscripts with one another. _____
334. This chapter will "answer four key questions" to help us understand why the popular criticisms are not reasonable. Those questions are:
- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
335. Briefly answer each of the 4 questions above:

a. *What is textual criticism?*

b. *How many textual variants are there in the N.T.?*

c. What is the nature of the variants?

i. _____

ii. _____

iii. _____

iv. _____

336. What theological issues are at stake? Even with _____ in John's account of the woman caught in adultery and the apparent addition to Mark 16, there is simply no _____ on theological _____. If those passages were not truly in the _____, it makes no difference.

XXIX. Does the Bible have errors and contradictions?

337. What are the two types of alleged Biblical "Errors"?

a. _____

b. _____

338. Since there truly are some errors in the Bible, how can we believe in the doctrine of inerrancy?

a. _____

339. What are the three keys to evaluating alleged contradictions?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

340. Natasha offers three additional important considerations when addressing alleged errors:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

341. "When you do take the time to _____ evaluate the passages in question [alleged contradictions], there are good reasons to believe they're _____."

XXX. Does the Bible support slavery?

342. [Some] "... frequently missed parts of the Bible ... contain _____ shocking verses that can greatly challenge a person's faith ... passages [that] raise questions about God's stance on _____, _____, and human _____."

343. "We need to proactively address *these* passages with our kids before they encounter the _____, out-of-context _____ skeptics enthusiastically promote."
344. "... there's no passage in the Bible that explicitly _____ slave-holding. God undeniably _____ various forms of slavery to take place amongst the Israelites. ... But to stop there is like saying you know everything you need to know about WWI because you know the U.S. ' _____ it."
345. Southern slave owners were known to argue that the Bible's descriptive accounts of slavery justified their version of slavery in the confederate states. Is this a logical argument? Why?
- a.* _____

346. "... it's not _____ to ... say, 'The Bible' laws on slavery were a lot _____ than the laws of surrounding cultures. This fails to answer the simple question: is _____ another human ever _____, or _____?"
347. "We can't talk about biblical 'slavery' without talking about ... specific _____ of 'slaves.' ... Most of the 'slaves' in Israel were ... _____ servants. ... Most O.T. slavery laws pertain to _____ servitude."
348. Considering all the rules governing this form of 'slavery', "... an indentured servant was more like a _____ worker than anything resembling the common notion of _____."
349. Extra credit: Regarding Exodus 21:7-11, why does this passage seem so damaging when first read?
- a.* _____

- b.* _____

- c.* _____

- d.* _____

350. The third type of slavery described in the Bible (Lev 25:44-46) is that of
' _____ slaves. Why is this the most troubling of the three types?
a. _____

351. Extra credit: So, how should we respond when someone says, "The Bible supports slavery."?
a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

XXXI. Does the Bible support rape?

352. "While it's absolutely untrue that God _____ of rape ... I would agree that many Christians have ' _____ around ' _____ stuff' in the Bible. There are a lot of _____ passages in the O.T. that never make their way into a _____ school lesson or _____ topic, ..."
353. [Having looked at the relevant passages] we can state the _____ line on rape laws. If a man raped a married or engaged woman, he got the death penalty. The woman was _____. If a man raped or had consensual sex with an unmarried/unengaged woman, he was required to _____ her because he had substantially decreased her _____ for marriage. Ultimately, however, the girl's _____ could _____ the marriage if it wasn't in her best interest."
354. "To say these passages [Deut 20:10-14, Deut 21:10-14] demonstrate God's approval of rape grossly misconstrues the text. When you consider the biblical and _____ context, it becomes clear that these laws were in place to help _____ women who were caught in the difficult _____ of war.

355. Extra credit: Considering the critics' attempts to convince us that the Bible supports slavery, rape and other immoral acts, how does Proverbs 18:17 come to our rescue?

a. _____

XXXII. Does the Bible support human sacrifice?

355. "The nations that _____ Israel practiced _____ as part of their worship of false gods, and much is said in the Bible about that practice. Most importantly, God explicitly, repeatedly, and clearly _____ such activity."

356. Abraham was commanded to sacrifice Isaac. What are the "three key things we should take away from this admittedly difficult story."?

a. _____
b. _____
c. _____

357. Extra credit: Why did God command Abraham to kill Isaac. (WHY did God have to test Abraham's faith in such a radical way?)

a. _____

358. Much of the Bible is purely _____; it records events that happened _____, but not necessarily because God _____ of them. That's why it's such _____ scholarship when skeptics simply pluck a _____ out of the Bible and suggest that God must _____ whatever the text describes.

359. "We are told King Ahaz of Judah ' _____ his son as an _____ (2 Kings 16:3). ... Second Kings 21:6 says King Manasseh of Judah _____ his _____ as well. ... but the fact that the Bible _____ what happened says _____ about God _____ of it."

360. Jephthah's vow (Judges 11:29-40) is another incident that the critics love to cite as proof that the Bible condones human sacrifice. What are the two ways Christians have interpreted this passage?

- a. _____

- b. _____

361. Regardless of what really happened, "the text never _____ that God _____ of the vow. The passage simply _____ what happened. ... there's no _____ to believe that this case was an exception."

362. The Exodus 13:2 call to "Consecrate to me all firstborn" and the Numbers 18:16 call to "redeem firstborn humans" are also criticized, but "it's _____ God wasn't requesting _____."

363. Joshua 7:15 tells us how one man was stoned to death for disobedience. "This was a judicial _____, not a human _____." (Greater love hath no man ...)

364. Jesus' death on the cross cannot be classified as human sacrifice because, "God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are three persons in one. God didn't sacrifice a 'third party' _____; He sacrificed _____."

365. There's no question the Bible explicitly _____ human _____. When skeptics point to verses that supposedly contradict that condemnation, they're either looking at passages that are only _____ of human sacrifice or are _____ passages that don't speak to human sacrifice at all.