SERMON NOTES MAY 15, 2016

## Is the Bible Reliable?

Series: Questions – Big Questions. Real Answers. – II Timothy 3:14-17 –

We can trust the Bible because of its. . .

#### 1. Remarkable Consistency

Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

— II Peter 1:20-21

# 2. Incredible Accuracy

A. External Evidence

B. Internal Evidence

# 3. Extraordinary Relevancy

For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. — Hebrews 4:12

For additional study on the Bible's central message, check out **THE BIBLE PROJECT** channel on YouTube.com

## Application Questions. . .

- What part of the text or message had the greatest impact on you? Where were you most encouraged, intrigued, or challenged?
- 2. How would you analyze the statistic that 80% of Americans identify the Bible as sacred literature yet only 43% of Christians firmly believe the Bible is accurate in all of the principles it teaches?
- 3. What is significant about Scripture being Godbreathed (2 Tim. 3:16)? What stands out as you compare this passage with 2 Peter 1:19-21; Psalm 119:89; Isa. 40:8 and John 10:35?
- 4. What does the external manuscript evidence tell us about the legitimacy, accuracy & preservation of God's Word?
- 5. What does it mean that God's Word is living? Active? That it penetrates a person? (Heb. 4:12)
- 6. What aspects of the Bible's reliability are the most meaningful to you? How does knowing this impact your life?
- 7. Review the list at the end of 2 Tim. 3:16 of the four things for which the Scripture is useful.
  Which of these has the most value or importance in your life right now?

