

*Believing the Bible – Week Two****The Tale of Two Testaments****A Case for the Historical Reliability and Authority of the Bible*

Main Idea: The reliably records events of history, for the purpose of showing you the mind of God.

1. How the Old Testament came to be.

- A. Before the Bible – The development of writing.
- B. The history of the Old Testament – Slowly, beginning in about 1445 B.C., a group of authoritative writings begins to take shape.
- C. As the Old Testament is written – Scribes begin making copies.
- D. Examples of accuracy: The Dead Sea Scrolls
- E. Big Picture: The theme of the Old Testament.

2. How the New Testament came to be.

- A. Jesus is not just an historical person; he comes as the living word of God.
- B. The origins of the New Testament.
- C. The eyewitness nature of the documents and the truth claims of the authors.
- D. Can we know what the originals said?
- E. Confirmation from the science of textual criticism.

3. SO WHAT? – What practical difference does historical reliability and biblical authority make?

- A. Historical reliability stimulates faith in biblical authority.
- B. How the Bible is different from other holy books.
- C. The Bible as a testable book.