

THE DOCTRINE OF SCRIPTURE

Part One: A theology of Scripture

*The authorship, character, and
authority of the Bible*

Adult Sunday School

9:30 am

Teacher: Mark Lincoln

How can we substantiate the claim that the Scriptures are God's Words?

1. **Self Claims:** What do the authors of this historical document claim about its authorship?
2. **Substantiation:** How can we verify their clear, consistent claims that their writings are the words of God?

Divine Origin of Scripture

Substantiation

Is there sufficient reason and evidence to doubt or disprove this claim?

1. Issue of Credibility

2. Characteristics of Divine Authorship

Divine Origin of Scripture

Substantiation

1. Issue of Credibility

A. Authors' Credibility

- **Is their evidence to show that these men were insane, or liars, or self-deceived?**

B. Jesus' Credibility

- **Part of the “truth” that Jesus spoke was his testimony about the Scriptures**

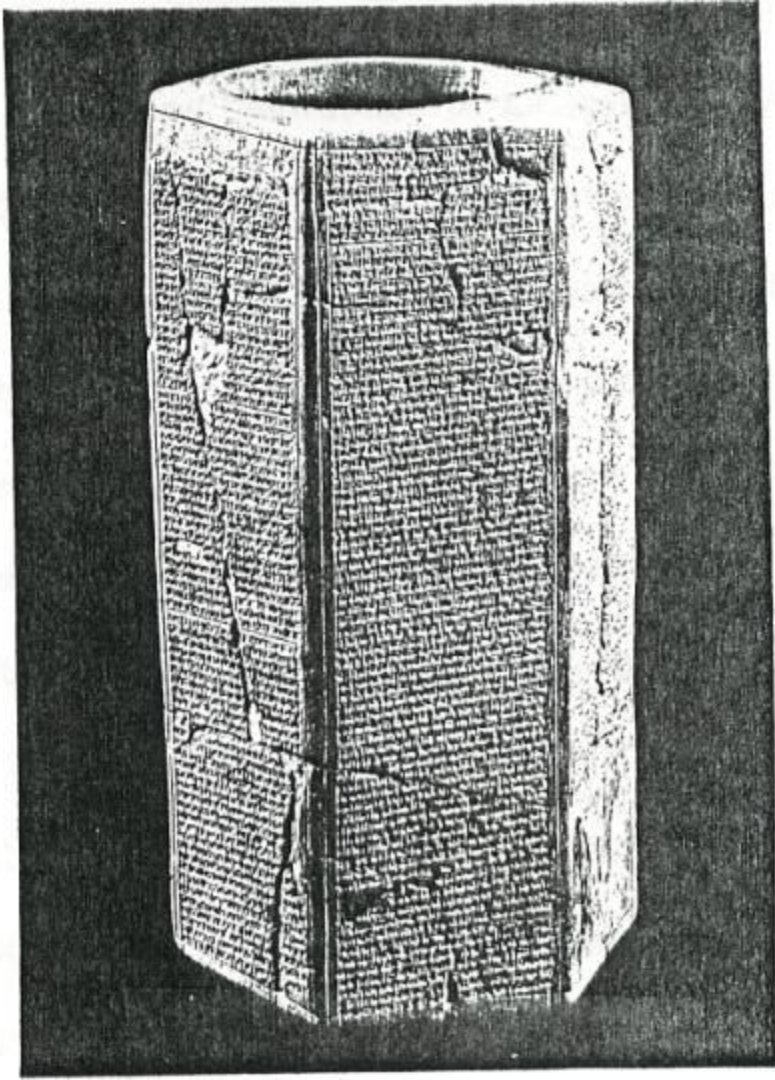
Divine Origin of Scripture

Substantiation

1. Issue of Credibility

C. Credibility of their Writings

- **Written in a historical, cultural setting**
- **History of Israel and the ancient near eastern nations**



Divine Origin of Scripture

Substantiation

1. Issue of Credibility

C. Credibility of their Writings

- Written in a historical, cultural setting
 - History of Israel and the ancient near eastern nations
 - History of Jesus, Judaism, early church, the Roman Empire
- **no book has been the subject of such intense scrutiny through out history – yet it endures!**

Divine Origin of Scripture

Substantiation

2. Characteristics of Divine Authorship

A. Unity of the Record

- **Although subjective, it is yet remarkable in comparison with other literature**
- **40 authors from a variety of backgrounds written over 1500 years**
- **Subject matter – nature of God, origin and nature of man, purpose of life, morality, ethics, afterlife**
- **One central story; unfolding of a plan**

Divine Origin of Scripture

Substantiation

2. Characteristics of Divine Authorship

B. Fulfilled Prophecy

- Prewritten history – unique characteristic of God (Isaiah 46:8-10; Deut. 18:21-22)