

SUFFICIENT PROOF

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Acts 14:17 tells us that God “*left not himself without witness*, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.” God’s works in creating and sustaining all things is ample proof of His existence. In fact, Romans 1:20 says, “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; *so that they are without excuse*” The proof of God’s existence is so “clear,” that no one has a legitimate excuse for not believing it. The same is true of the numerous miracles that God has done to prove that the writers of the Bible were speaking His word (Heb 2:3-4). This proof is also recorded by a multitude of eyewitnesses (1 John 1:1-3). Therefore, those who claim that there is insufficient proof of the existence of God and of the divine inspiration of the Bible are plainly wrong in their conclusion. Based on the undeniable evidence the Lord has given us, like Jesus we can confidently say that “*we speak that we do know*” (John 3:11).

Eyewitnesses

Second Peter 1:16-19 says, “*For we have not followed cunningly devised fables*, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were *eyewitnesses* of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honor and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. *We have also a more sure word of prophecy*; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.” In the Bible, we have the testimony of eyewitnesses to assure us that what we believe is “sure” and no made-up fable. Luke 1:1-4 says, “Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us, even as they delivered them unto us, *which from the beginning were eyewitnesses*, and ministers of the word; it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto thee in order, most excellent Theophilus, *that thou mightest know the certainty of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.*” First John 1:1-3 says, “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we

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have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life, (for the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) that which we have seen and heard declare we unto you.” For example, there were “many infallible proofs” of Christ’s resurrection (Acts 1:3), and we have the testimony of many of the more than 500 witnesses to those events (1 Cor 15:5-8).

Is This Enough Proof?

In Luke 18:8, Jesus asked the question, “When the Son of man cometh, *shall he find faith on the earth?*” Looking at the wickedness that prevails in the world, it is clear that on the whole mankind is not convinced by the evidence that God exists or that the Bible is His revelation to man. But we need to remember that not believing the evidence that exists does not mean that there is a lack of evidence. The same proof is available to all, but most people choose not to believe it. As Hebrews 4:2 says, “*For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.*” In Luke 16:27-31, the formerly rich man begged Abraham to provide his brothers with more convincing proof than what they already had concerning the truthfulness of God’s word. But he was asking for more than what God was willing to give. Those five men had all the evidence they needed to believe in God and His word and to repent and obey Him. The problem was that they rejected it. Seeing a miracle with their own eyes would not help that problem. The Jewish leaders in Christ’s time had the same problem and they *did* see many miracles with their own eyes. John 12:37 says, “But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him.” Disbelieving the evidence God has provided is not God’s fault, but man’s. “If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater: for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: *he that believeth not God hath made him a liar*; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son” (1 John 5:9-10). We have no excuse for not believing in God and the Bible (Rom 1:20), and we certainly do not want to have to answer for calling God a liar by a life of disobedience to Him.