



# Gospelknight.org Battle Bible Notes

## *Apologetics/Polemics for Evangelism*

*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this darkness, against evil, spiritual forces in the heavens. - Ephesians 6:12*

*And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will. - 2 Timothy 2:24-26*

It's easy to get off track with apologetics and polemics. Sometimes we are so concerned with defending the faith that we forget the reason for the fight. We're not trying to win arguments for the sake of winning; we are trying to cause enough doubt in a person's faulty beliefs to get them to the Gospel. Remember that our struggle isn't against the person standing in front of us, but against the devil that has that person's mind imprisoned with vain philosophies and false theologies. You're not trying to "prove him wrong"; you're trying to instill enough doubt to get him to hear the truth. Don't quarrel: you do the *conversing*, and the Holy Spirit does the *converting*.

Before you worry about apologetics, you need to know how to do evangelism. You need to know how to clearly articulate the Gospel. The best resource for this is [Living Waters](#), the nonprofit ministry of Ray Comfort. If you watch a bunch of [Living Waters videos](#) on YouTube and just mimic him, you will be off to a great start.

But he also sells [Gospel tracts for dirt cheap](#) as well as books that teach his evangelism method: [Way of the Master](#) and [God Has a Wonderful Plan For Your Life](#) (which can even be [downloaded for free](#)). He also has an online course called the [School of Biblical Evangelism](#). There really is no better resource on how to do Biblical Evangelism than Ray Comfort/Living Waters.

- [Ray's most-watched witnessing video](#)
- [Ray's best sermon to get you started](#)

### **Instructions**

These notes are formatted to fit in a Compact sized Bible (4x6). I like to call them EDC or Concealed Carry Bibles. That's what my old church wanted us to carry when doing evangelism because they're not huge and obvious from a mile away. ([CSB](#) | [ESV](#) | [NLT](#))

Print the last three pages on [label paper](#), cut them out, and then stick them inside the front and back covers of your Bible. If you print them at 100% scale, they measure 3.8" x 5.8", so scale as appropriate for your Bible. You can also print them on regular paper and glue them in your Bible, but they are a lot more clean and secure if you use label paper. I usually put the Biblical authority pages in the front cover and the cult stuff (JW, Mormon, Islam) in the back cover.

### **Biblical Authority Notes:**

I use these if the person I am talking to isn't a cultist but also doesn't respect classic Christianity or the Bible. This would be your atheists/agnostics/skeptics who say things like "the Bible has been translated and retranslated so much that you can't trust it". It's also good for the MTD's out there (Moralistic Therapeutic Deists – the people who think, "if I do good things, feel good about myself, and believe there is some kind of God out there who likes me, then I'm alright and most people are going to Heaven"). By far I use the Biblical Authority notes more than anything else.

### **Cult Notes:**

These pages are for specific counterfeit Christian cults (JW, Mormon, Islam). They have specific strategies you can use to counter their false teachings.

### **Final Reminder:**

These are just notes. If you want to be effective, you need to actually learn the material that supports these notes. I will revise this document in the future to add good resources to learn.

**Always be evangelizing!**

### Islamic Dilemma

**Surah 3:3-4 – The Quran affirms the divine inspiration and authority of the Torah and Gospel:**

*“He has revealed to you the Book in truth, confirming what came before it, as He revealed the Torah and the Gospel previously, as a guide for people, and revealed the Decisive Authority. Surely those who reject Allah’s revelations will suffer a severe torment.”*

**Surah 5:47 – Christians should judge by what Allah has revealed in the Gospel**

*“So let the people of the Gospel judge by what Allah has revealed in it. And those who do not judge by what Allah has revealed are [truly] the rebellious.”*

**Surah 5:68 – Christians and Jews must observe the Torah and the Gospel**

*“Say, [O Prophet], ‘Oh People of the Book! You have nothing to stand on unless you observe the Torah, the Gospel, and what has been revealed to you from your Lord.’ ...”*

**Surah 10:94 – Mohammed was instructed to verify the Quran by asking the Christians and Jews about their Scriptures**

*“If you [O Prophet] are in doubt about [these stories] that We have revealed to you, then ask those who read the Scripture before you. The truth has certainly come to you from your Lord, so do not be one of those who doubt...”*

**Contradiction – Surah 4:157 says Jesus wasn’t killed, which is in opposition to the Gospels. Jesus predicted His death and resurrection multiple times (Matt 16:21, Matt 17:22-23, Matt 20:17-19, Mark 8:31, Luke 9:22)**

*That they said, “We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah”; - but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not...*

**Contradiction – Surah 5:116 says Jesus denies His divinity, but he claims to be God multiple times and accepts worship (John 10:30, John 8:58-59, Matt 14:33, Matt 28:9)**

*And [on Judgment Day] Allah will say, “O Jesus, son of Mary! Did you ever ask the people to worship you and your mother as gods besides Allah?” He will answer, “Glory be to You! How could I ever say what I had no right to say? If I had such a thing, you would have certainly known it...”*

**Islam is the slave religion, not Christianity – Surah 19:93 says you only come to Allah as a slave. The Bible says those who are saved are adopted as children (Gal 4:4-7, Rom 8:15-17, Eph 1:5)**

*There is none in the heavens and the earth but comes unto the Most Beneficent (Allah) as a slave.*

### Internal Evidence

**What does the Bible say about itself?**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17 (CSB)**

*All Scripture is inspired by God, and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.*

**Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)**

*For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.*

**2 Peter 1:16-21 (CSB)**

*For we did not follow cleverly contrived myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; instead, we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased!” We ourselves heard this voice when it came from heaven while we were with him on the holy mountain. We also have the prophetic word strongly confirmed, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. Above all, you know this: No prophecy of Scripture comes from the prophet’s own interpretation, because no prophecy ever came by the will of man; instead, men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

**John 5:39 (NLT)**

*You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!*

**Luke 1:1-4 (CSB)**

*Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us. They used the eyewitness reports circulating among us from the early disciples. Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write an accurate account for you, most honorable Theophilus, so you can be certain of the truth of everything you were taught.*

**John 17:7 (ESV)**

*Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.*



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## Manuscript Evidence

### Bible Basics

The Bible isn't a book; it is a collection of 66 books written over 1600 years by more than 40 different authors in 3 different languages on 3 different continents and from start to finish they all tell **one story!**

### New Testament

- About 6000 manuscripts or partial manuscripts
- Written during the 1<sup>st</sup> century, from 10-60 years after the events they describe
- Earliest surviving manuscripts date to the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century
- 99.5% confidence in the text of the NT, and none of the 0.5% that is still questionable contradicts any significant Christian doctrine. (Example: Mark 9:29 "can only come out by prayer [and fasting]")
- There are many more writings of the Church Fathers quoting sections of Scripture; we could reconstruct the entire New Testament from their writings alone.
- Luke was also an excellent historian, getting details right that some of his contemporaries got wrong (ex: Luke gets the correct title of Pontius Pilate; Tacitus gets it wrong – Luke 3:1)

### Other Ancient Texts from about the time of the first century

- Caesar's *Galic Wars* was written in the first century B.C. There are only 10 manuscripts in existence. The earliest textual evidence we have was copied 1,000 years after the original.
- Aristotle's *Poetics* was written in the fourth century B.C. There are only 5 manuscripts in existence. The earliest textual evidence we have was copied 1,400 years after the original.
- Emperor Tiberius was a contemporary of Jesus and one of the best attested figures in antiquity. Like Jesus, there were four biographers who wrote about him, and the manuscript evidence for the Gospels is even better than the manuscript evidence for Tiberius.

**Key takeaway: The New Testament is top-notch ancient history, and no serious scholar questions the existence, ministry, and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth!**

### Old Testament

- The OT has been more accurately transmitted to us than any other ancient writing of comparable age. The textual evidence is greater for both the OT and NT than any other historically reliable ancient document. The ancient scribes were very meticulous. There were only 1,200 variant readings of the OT in AD 500.
- The Masoretes produced an official OT text in AD 500. There are other versions that confirm the accuracy of the Masoretic Text.
  - Samaritan Pentateuch: 400 BC
  - Septuagint Greek: 280 BC
  - Dead Sea Scrolls: 300 BC to AD 100
  - Latin Vulgate: AD 400
- Quotations from pre-Christian writing confirm the text. The NT accepts the OT as authentic, confirming the traditional authors, quoting from at least 320 different passages, and confirming the supernatural events cited in the OT.

## Fulfilled Prophecy

**Destruction of Tyre (Ezekiel 26):** Written about 590 BC, Ezekiel prophesied that Tyre would be destroyed, and its debris thrown into the sea. Nebuchadnezzar laid siege from 586-573 BC and destroyed the city. During the siege, Tyre relocated itself to an island about half a mile off the coast. In 332 BC, Alexander the Great laid siege to the island city of Tyre and cast the rubble from the old mainland city into the sea to build a causeway which he used to take the city.

**The rise of Cyrus (Isaiah 45):** Written between 750-700 BC, Isaiah prophesied that Cyrus would be the chosen instrument of the Lord. He said that the Lord had anointed Cyrus to subdue the nations before him, and said that he would build the Lord's city (Jerusalem) and let the (Jewish) exiles go free. Cyrus the Great was born about 600 BC and founded the Achaemenid Empire. He conquered the Babylonian Empire in 539 BC and soon thereafter issued a decree that the Jews could return to their homeland and rebuild Jerusalem.

**The extreme odds of Jesus fulfilling Messianic prophecies:** Jesus fulfilled hundreds of Old Testament prophecies about the coming Messiah. Some individual prophecies are conclusive by themselves (born of a virgin, resurrected from the dead, etc), but Peter Stoner chose to calculate the odds of anyone fulfilling only 8 of the more "mundane" prophecies while he was serving as chairman of the departments of mathematics and astronomy at Pasadena City College. The odds that any one person could fulfill the 8 prophecies below was 1 out of  $10^{17}$  power. Cover the entire state of Texas two feet deep in silver dollars. That's  $10^{17}$ .

- Born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
- A messenger would prepare the way (Malachi 3:1)
- Messiah would enter Jerusalem as a king riding on a donkey (Zech 9:9)
- Messiah would be betrayed by a friend and suffer wounds on his chest (Zech 13:6)
- Messiah would be betrayed for 30 pieces of silver (Zec 11:12)
- The betrayal money would be used to buy a potter's field (Zec 11:13)
- Messiah would remain silent while He was afflicted (Isaiah 53:7)
- The Messiah would die having his hands and feet pierced (Psalm 22:16)

**"My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?"** Some people question Jesus's words on the cross (Matt 27:46, Mark 15:34), asking why God would question God about why God forsook him if he really was God himself. Something they don't realize is that this is a direct reference to the opening verse of Psalm 22, a powerful prophecy of the crucifixion. The writer was David, who lived about 950 years before Jesus. He described crucifixion (verse 16) about 300 years before crucifixion was invented. Psalm 22 also describes Jesus's clothing being divided by the Roman soldiers (verse 18), Jesus's thirst (verse 15), and says that His heart is "like wax... melted within me" (verse 14). Jesus was pierced in the heart with a spear, and blood and water flowed out (John 19:34).



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Cultish JW Video  
Part 1



Cultish JW Video  
Part 2

### The Gospel for Mormons

#### Great Apostasy

**Mormon claim:** Joseph Smith told in the First Vision not to join any church because they all were wrong. Christian churches are in error from pagan influences since the Apostles died. (*Pearl of Great Price, Joseph Smith History 1:18-20a*)

- **Matt 16:18** – Gates of hell shall not prevail against it [the Church]
- **Jude 3** – Contend for the faith which was *once for all delivered* to the saints.
- **Daniel 7:13-14** – Messiah's kingdom would never be destroyed

#### Heavenly Father/many gods

**Mormon claim:** Joseph Smith said that Heavenly Father (God) was once a man on an earth like us and we too can become gods through exaltation. (*Journal of Discourses, Volume 6 pgs. 3-4*)

- **Isaiah 43:10** – Before me there was no god formed, neither shall there be after me
- **Isaiah 44:6** – I am the first and the last; beside me there is no god.
- **Isaiah 44:8** – Is there a God besides me? There is no other God, I know not one.

#### Jesus is a created being

**Mormon claim:** Jesus was created just like you and I were, carnally between Heavenly Father and Mary. He was the first spirit and is a spirit brother of Lucifer by union between Heavenly Father and his goddess wife. (*Messages of the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, vol. 4 p. 327*)

- **John 1:1, 14** – Jesus is always God from eternity
- **John 1:3 / Col 1:15-17 / Heb 1:2-4** – Jesus is creator of all things and was himself not created
- **1 Tim 2:5** – Jesus is fully man and fully God

#### Salvation by faith & works

**Mormon Claim:** You will be saved by grace, assuming you have strived to keep God's commandments. "For we know that it is by grace you are saved, after all we can do." (*2 Nephi 25:23*)

- **Gal 5:4** – You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law.
- **Eph 2:8-9** – For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

#### Golden plates and Maroni

**Mormon Claim:** The angel Maroni showed J. Smith the location of the golden plates from which he translated the Book of Mormon. Several witnesses saw them.

- **Gal 1:8** – But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.

#### Joseph Smith's failed prophecies and translations

**Sept 1832:** Temple to be built in Zion, MO during that generation. Mormons had to flee MO and there is still no temple in Zion, MO.

**April 1838:** David Patten will go on a mission in spring 1839. He died in Oct 1838.

**Book of Abraham:** Claimed golden plates written in "Reformed Egyptian", couldn't correctly translate real papyri (not really "Book of Abraham").

- **Deut 18:21-22** – A prophet whose predictions don't happen is a false prophet

### Countering the Watchtower (Jehovah's Witnesses)

**Rule #1:** When talking about God, always say "Jehovah God"

**Rule #2:** They won't accept your Bible or tracts. Use their "New World Translation" for all Scripture citations.

**Rule #3:** Make sure you watch the Cultish videos for how to employ these strategies.



NWT Study Bible



Kingdom  
Interlinear

#### Jesus is Jehovah God Combo #1

- **Jab:** Psalm 102:1-2 > Q: Who is the Psalmist talking to? A: Jehovah > v. 25-27
- **Cross:** Heb 1:8 > Jehovah isn't speaking to angels, but to the Son. > v. 10-12
- **Finisher:** Jehovah is saying the same thing to the Son that the Psalmist said to Jehovah > Jehovah is addressing the Son as Jehovah God

#### Jesus is Jehovah God Combo #2

- **Jab:** Jer 17:10 > Q: Who is talking? A: Jehovah
- **Cross:** Rev 2:18 > Q: Who is about to talk? A: The Son of God > v. 23
- **Finisher:** Jehovah says he searches the heart, Jesus says he searches the heart > Both say they are THE one, not just one.

#### The Holy Spirit is Jehovah God Combo #1

- **Jab:** Jer 31:33-34 > Q: Who is declaring? A: Jehovah > Continue v. 33-34
- **Cross:** Heb 10:15 > Q: Who is speaking? A: The Holy Spirit > v. 16-17
- **Finisher:** Holy Spirit is saying what Jehovah just said > He must be Jehovah God > The Holy Spirit says "I" > How does an impersonal force speak?

#### The Holy Spirit is Jehovah God Combo #2

- **Jab:** Isaiah 6:8-10 > Q: Who is saying? A: Jehovah > Continue v. 6-8
- **Cross:** Acts 28:25-27 > Paul is about to quote the Holy Spirit > Continue v. 25-27
- **Finisher:** Isaiah says that Jehovah said that, and Paul says that the Holy Spirit said that through Isaiah > The Holy Spirit is Jehovah God

#### Defense: Colossians 1:15-17

- **Slip:** Use the *Kingdom Interlinear* to show "other" was added into v. 16 in NWT
- **Counter:** v. 15 "firstborn" > NWT Psalm 89:19-20 > Addressing David > v. 26-27 > David called "firstborn" > "Firstborn" means supreme, not first created

#### Defense: John 1:1

- **Slip:** Use the *Kingdom Interlinear* to show "a" was added into v. 1 in NWT
- **Counter:** NWT Mt 16:27 (Jesus will repay) > John 5:22 (Father gives judgment to Son) > Rev 22:12-13 (Jesus says he is Alpha & Omega) > v. 20 (Jesus is definitely the one who spoke in v. 13 "Amen, come Jesus")