

# **The Bible: Evidence For Its Validity**

*Josh McDowell*

I. The Bible is unique in its continuity.

A. Despite the Differences

1. Period of time written
2. Number of authors
3. Walks of life of authors
4. Moods of authors
5. Situations
6. Geographic locations
7. Languages
8. Subjects covered

B. There is a common thread of the redemption of humanity through the Messiah.

II. The Bible is unique in its circulation.

A. Most widely circulated book in history

III. The Bible is unique in its translation.

A. It is the 1<sup>st</sup> major book ever translated: Septuagint.

B. It is the most widely translated book.

IV. The Bible is unique in its survival.

A. It is unique in its survival through time.

1. It has by far the most manuscript evidence

B. It is unique in its survival through negative criticism.

C. It is unique in its survival through persecution.

D. It is unique in its survival in history.

1. Bibliographic Test

a. How many manuscripts do we have?

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b. What is the time span from the original to oldest manuscript?

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2. Internal Evidence

a. It is to be taken at face value until proven otherwise.

b. What is the closeness of those reporting the event to the event itself both chronologically and geographically?

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3. External Evidence

a. Is there other literature of that time that confirms the inner testimony of the literature you are studying?

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