

On the whole world there pressed a most fearful darkness, and the rocks were rent by an earthquake, and many places in Judea and other districts were thrown down. This darkness, Thallus, in the third book of his history, call, as it appears to me without reason, an eclipse of the sun.

Conclusion

I began with a mind unfavorable to it,... it was gradually born upon me that in various details the narrative showed marvelous truth... Luke is a historian of the first rank; not merely are his statements of fact trustworthy... this author should be placed along with the very greatest of historians. (Ramsey, BRDTNT, 222)

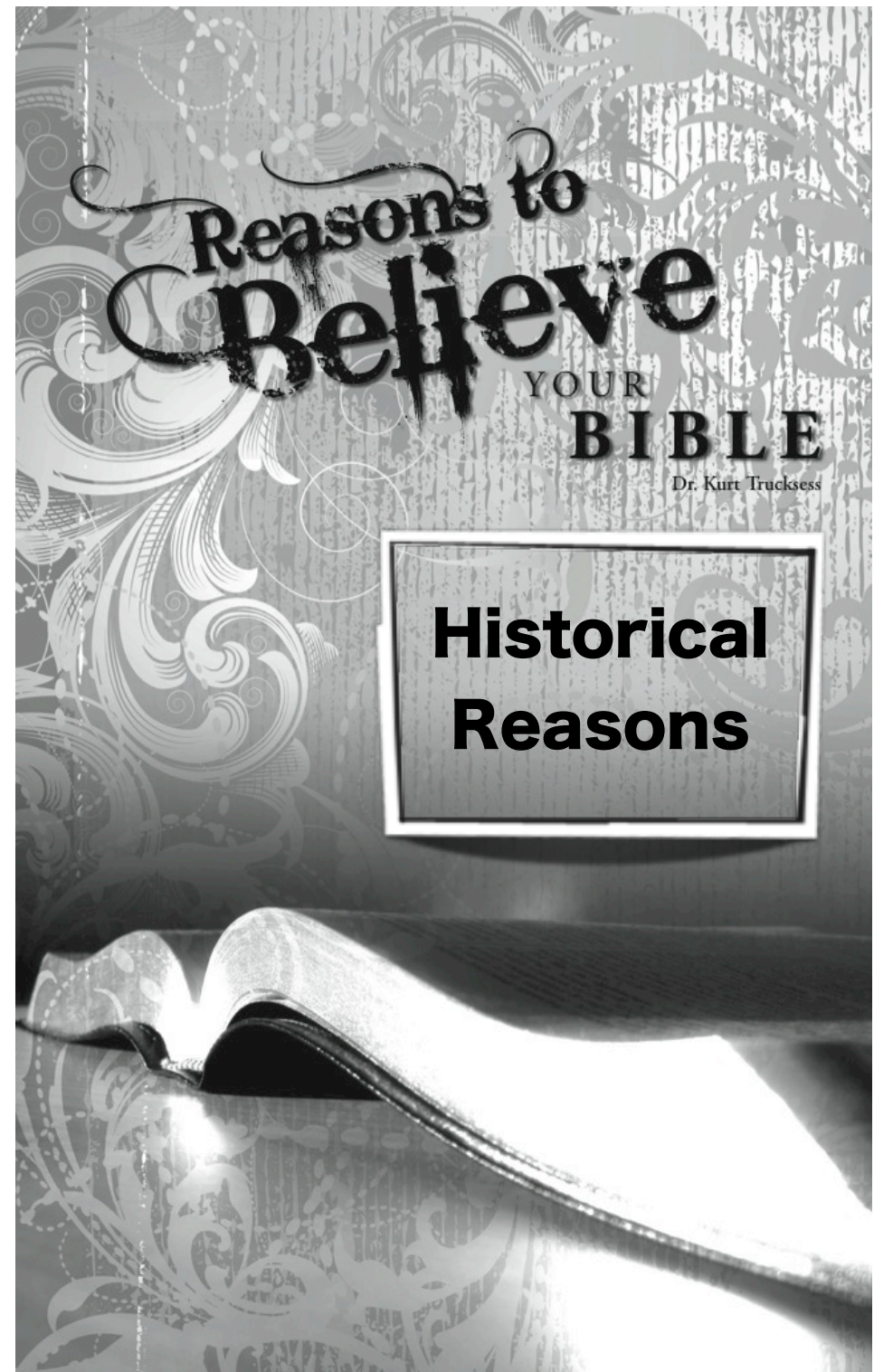
it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, Luke 1:3 (ESV)

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Want To Learn More? This handout, small group questions, sermon manuscript and the audio files of the sermon are available at:

www.faithefree.com or www.christ2Rculture.com

Next Week: [Reasons to Believe Your Bible - Prophetic Reasons](#)
Two Weeks: [Reasons to Believe Your Bible - Christological Reasons](#)



Faith Evangelical Free Church

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Historical Reasons to Believe Your Bible

Who controls the past controls the future; who controls the present controls the past. - George Orwell.

The History to Theology Connection

“Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” Mark 2:7 (ESV)

And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, “Why do you question these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, take up your bed and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the paralytic— “I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home.” And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!” Mark 2:8–12 (ESV)

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, Luke 1:1–2 (ESV)

For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 2 Peter 1:16 (ESV)

that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 1 John 1:3 (ESV)

The New Testament is verified by secular history.

“...he assembled the Sanhedrin of the judges, and brought before them the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ, whose name was James, and some others, and when he had formed an accusation against them as breakers of the law, he delivered them to be stoned. (Josephus, AJ, 20.9.1)

Now there was about this time, Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was the Christ, and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him. For he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him, and the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct to this day. (Josephus, AJ, 18.3.3)

Important Facts of Old Testament History.

The Old Testament was copied accurately.

The stones cry out.

Welcome the Hittites.

The mysteries of Daniel's king

The destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.

With solid evidence supporting Old Testament history, where are the problems?

The bias of a minimalist world.

Some of the best archaeology IS proving the Bible wrong.

Important Facts of New Testament History.

The New Testament was copied plentifully.