

# **The People and Process of Preservation**

# The Logic of Faith

- *Point One:* Thy Word of God is unlike any other Book, is of divine origin and possess Final Authority
  - II Timothy 3:16—the Bible’s claim for itself is that it was given by inspiration of God. The entire Bible, every word of Scripture was given by inspiration.
  - God placed his eternally settled up words into the mouth and pen of human authors who recorded God’s vary words.
  - God’s design in Inspiration was to make the living and the written word equal

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- *Point Two*: God has promised to preserve forever the same words he inspired.
  - Psalm 12:6-7—the doctrine of Preservation teaches that the very words God inspired are the same words he is going to preserve. The doctrines of Inspiration and Preservation go hand in hand; you can't have one without the other.
  - If God went to the trouble to perfectly inspire his word only to allow errors and mistakes to creep into the text it would be inconstant with His nature and character.
  - If God has not preserved His words as He said that He would (Psalms 12:6-7), then He has done two things He has never done before. First, he has wasted His own time. Second, God did not do that which He promised he would which would make him a liar.

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- *Point Three:* Preservation is necessary because Satan is actively seeking to undermine the final authority of God's written word.
  - Genesis 3 outlines Satan's policy of evil against the word of God.
    - Step One: cause doubt to arise by questioning what God said (Genesis 3:1)
    - Step Two: doubt causes Eve to subtract from God's word (Genesis 3:2)
    - Step Three: doubt causes Eve to add to and water down God's word (Genesis 3:3)
    - Step Four: Satan flat-out denies and contradicts what God said (Genesis 3:4)
  - It is Satan's policy of evil to destroy the final authority of the Word of God. He does so by creating a competing authority to the truth of God. Thus forcing you to decide and become your own authority.

## More Than 5,600 Manuscripts but no Originals

80+	Papyrus fragments from the 2 <sup>nd</sup> to 7 <sup>th</sup> centuries
260+	Capital letter (majuscules) mss. From the 4 <sup>th</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup> centuries
2,700+	Small letter (miniscule) mss. From 9 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> centuries
1,100+	Lesson books, sermon books, lectionaries, ect.
350+	Manuscripts for Acts and the General Epistles
600+	Manuscripts for Paul's Epistles
200+	Manuscripts for Revelation

## Dead Sea Scrolls



When compared with the Massoratic text the Dead Sea Scrolls were word for word identical in over 95% of the text. The 5% variation consisted of obvious slips of the pen and variations in spelling.

## Massoratic Text



150  
B.C.

900  
A.D.

1,000 Year Time Span