

BCC Essentials

There are absolutely
no miraculous births
in the Bible!

Isaac (Sarah)

Jacob (Rebekah)

Joseph (Rachel)

Samson (Manoah)

Samuel (Hannah)

John the Baptist (Elizabeth)

Jesus (Mary)

2 Nephi 29:9

And I do this that I may prove unto many that I am the same yesterday, today, and forever; and that I speak forth my words according to mine own pleasure. And because I have spoken one word ye need not suppose that I cannot speak another; for my work is not finished; neither shall it be until the end of man, neither from that time henceforth and forever.

Surah Mary 19:7-8

'Rejoice, Zacharias,' came the answer, 'You shall be given a son, and his name shall be John; a name no man has borne before him.'

'Lord,' said Zacharias, 'how shall I have a son when my wife is barren, and I am well-advanced in years?'

He replied: 'Thus did your Lord speak. That is easy for Me; even as I brought you into being when you were nothing before.'

In things essential, unity.

In things nonessential, liberty.

And in all things, charity.

What is essential at BCC?

How do we determine
what is essential?

Principles of Interpretation

- 1) The Bible must remain the highest authority.
- 2) Not slavish literalism, recognition of different ways of interpreting Scripture
- 3) We do not worship the Bible.
- 4) We trust that the Bible is the Word of God and inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 1:1-2

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Joshua 1:8

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

What belongs in the Bible
and what does not belong?

We believe the Bible,
consisting of
the Old and New Testament,

The Bible = The Canon

Canon

The list of divinely
authorized books.

Old Testament

Law (The Torah) – 5

Prophets (Former, Latter) – 29

- Historical – 12

- Prophets – 5 Major, 12 Minor

Writings (Psalms, etc.) – 5

New Testament

Gospels/Acts – 5

Paul's Letters – 13

General Letters – 8

Revelation – 1

Criteria

Apostolic authorship

Ancient origin

Authentic teaching

Accepted by the whole church

Other Options?

The Book of Mormon

The Koran

The Gospel of Thomas

The Apocrypha

Is the Bible a product of
God or humans?

We believe the Bible, consisting
of the Old and New Testament,
to be the only inspired,

Inspired

God has designed and
delivered the canonical texts
through human hands.

THINGS TO AFFIRM ABOUT INSPIRATION

- All of the books are equally inspired.
- All of the actual words are inspired.
- Fully divine and fully human at the same time.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 1:20–21

Knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:10-13

These things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

Are there any errors in
the Bible?

We believe the Bible, consisting
of the Old and New Testament,
to be the only inspired,
inerrant,

Inerrant

The text of Scripture is
true in all that it affirms.

Objections

No originals

Outdated view of the world

Use of approximations

Contradictions?

Conclusion

If all of God's words are true,
and
the Bible is the Word of God,
then
the Bible must be true.

Is the Bible enough for
knowing what God
wants us to think or do?

We believe the Bible, consisting
of the Old and New Testament,
to be the only inspired,
inerrant, infallible,

Infallible

The Bible is sufficient for
understanding the essentials
of salvation and living a
righteous life.

2 Timothy 3:15-17

From childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are **able to make you wise for salvation** through faith in Christ Jesus.

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, **equipped for every good work.**

Why should we trust
the Bible?

We believe the Bible, consisting
of the Old and New Testament,
to be the only inspired,
inerrant, infallible,
authoritative
Word of God written.

Authoritative

Where the text speaks, it
speaks finally, with authority.

Trustworthy

God speaks with authority.

It is uneasy for sinners.

All of the promises of God
come true.

Authority demands that
we obey.

We believe the Bible, consisting
of the Old and New Testament,
to be the only inspired,
inerrant, infallible, authoritative
Word of God written.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS

We believe the Bible to be the
inspired, the only infallible,
authoritative Word of God.

EVANGELICAL MANIFESTO

We believe that Jesus' own teaching and his attitude toward the total truthfulness and supreme authority of the Bible, God's inspired Word, make the Scriptures our final rule for faith and practice.