

**The Attackers: Subject Matter of the Canon: Historical References, Legal Principles, Direct Quotes, & Prophetic Revelations Are Accurately Described under the Direction of the Holy Spirit, Difference between Prediction & Prophecy; God Magnifies His Word above His Reputation, Ps 138:2;**

7. The Bible is not classified as a history book but the information it contains on historical times, events, and figures are reported accurately. Some of its historical information is not available from any other resource.
8. The principle of inspiration assures the student that the source of its historical references is of divine origin thus affirming their accuracy.
9. Although the Old Testament trends are based on prophecy, the accuracy of passages about historical events surrounding client nation Israel enables believers to discern historical trends in the Church Age.
10. The Bible is not a law book but its passages on the governance of Israel and the Roman Empire are instructive on how best to organize and govern nations.
11. The Mosaic Law is broken down into three parts: **(1)** the Order Code: the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20), **(2)** the Establishment Code (21-23), and **(3)** the Spiritual Code (Leviticus).
12. Many of our country's laws of establishment are derived from the Bible, especially those that have to do with life, liberty, and property, each of which is suffering from the erosion caused by Progressive infringements.
13. The Bible contains direct quotes from God and Christ. Under the principle of inerrancy and inspiration these are staggering in their implication. Not only are we blessed with an accurate record of God's message to us, but it includes direct quotes from both Him and Christ.

14. Included in the Bible's contents are passages that reveal future events, a category of systematic theology called eschatology, or prophecy.
15. Since for God the future is as perspicuous to Him as is the past, the definition of prophecy needs to be precisely stated:

**Biblical prophecy is not a look *into* the future and *predicting* what *will* occur, but rather a look *back from* the future and *reporting* what *does* occur.**

16. With this in mind, the believer is able to regard prophetic passages as first-hand accounts of future events revealed to the writer and recorded with complete accuracy.
17. A passage qualifies to be prophetic if the events described were future at the time of its writing. Some prophecies have already been fulfilled while others remain to be fulfilled at a future time.
18. The prophecies regarding the humanity of Christ – His birth, earthly ministry, crucifixion, spiritual and physical deaths, resurrection, ascension, and session – are now historic.
19. Prophecies regarding His return for the Church at the Rapture, the Second Coming, the millennial kingdom, and function as Judge at the Great White Throne are all certainly future.
20. David expressed his subservience to the Word above all else in:

**Psalms 138:2 - I will bow down toward Your holy temple and give thanks to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth; for You have magnified Your word according to all Your name. (NASB)**

21. The words “bow down” are the Hithpael imperfect of **שָׁחָה** (**shachah**): to prostrate oneself in worship. It is an iterative verb indicating repetition. This is something David did repeatedly.

22. As David worships he gives thanks, the Hiphil imperfect of the verb יָתַח (yathah) which is causative indicating that David is caused to give thanks from doctrine resident in his soul.
23. His thanks is directed toward “Your name,” the Hebrew noun שֵׁם (shem) refers to God’s reputation. Characteristics of His reputation are mentioned next; first the noun “lovingkindness,” the Hebrew noun חֶסֶד (cheseth) which is best translated “unfailing love.”<sup>1</sup>
24. Next comes another essential word in the exercise of one’s worship and that is thanks for divine truth, the noun אֱמֶת (’emeth) which refers to the truth contained in the doctrines of Scripture.
25. David now informs us that God puts maximum emphasis on the truth that His unfailing love has provided in the form of the canon.
26. The next verb is the Hiphil perfect of גָּדַל (gathal): to magnify, promote, or exalt. The Hiphil perfect tells us that God is caused to magnify, promote, and exalt His Word, the singular noun דְּבַר (davar): the revealed canon of Scripture. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the Word has been preserved in writing for our benefit.
27. And to what extent has God magnified the truth of His Word? Above His name, the second use of the noun שֵׁם (shem): His reputation.
28. God has insured the integrity of the finished product by protecting it from substantial error for thousands of years and the production of countless copies.

<sup>1</sup> “Divine *chesed* is enduring, persistent, even eternal. The biblical writers celebrate the everlastingness of God’s *chesed*. This is seen by way of contrast with things that are long-lasting but that may not last forever.” Willem A. VanGemeren, ed., *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1997), 2:215 (R. B. Thieme, Jr., *The Unfailing Love of God* [Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2009], 9n6).

29. Here is the expanded translation of the verse:

**Psalm 138:2** - I will worship [ **lie prostrate** ] toward Your holy temple. I am caused to give thanks from doctrine resident in my soul for Your reputation because of Your unfailing love and truth. You have magnified, promoted, and exalted Your Word above Your reputation. (EXT)