

6000 COPIES

New Testament
50-100AD



GREEK NEW TESTAMENT MANUSCRIPTS

(AS COMPARED TO OTHER WORKS):

650 COPIES

Homer (Iliad)
900BC

193 COPIES

Sophocles
496-406BC

49 COPIES

Aristotle
384-322BC

10 COPIES

Caesar
100-44BC

7 COPIES

Plato
427-347BC

7 COPIES

Pliny
61-113AD

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- *Can We Trust the New Testament as a Historical Document?* article, Christian Apologetics and Research Ministry website (bit.ly/canwetrust)
- *Archaeology and the Bible Q&A*, ChristianAnswers.net website (christiananswers.net/archaeology)
- *The Case for Christ*, by Lee Strobel (also see his video *Is the Bible Reliable as a Historical Document?* with Jerry Johnston on his Investigating Faith website, bit.ly/histdoc)
- *Rose Book of Bible Charts, Maps & Time Lines* (available in WCC library)
- Ray Vander Laan's *Faith Lessons* series (available in book, DVD or videotape format in WCC library)
- *Can We Trust the Gospels?: Investigating the Reliability of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John*, by Mark D. Roberts (also see his blog *Are the New Testament Gospels Reliable?* bit.ly/reliablegospels)
- *The New Testament Documents: Are they Reliable?* by F.F. Bruce
- *The Historical Reliability of the Gospels*, by Craig L. Blomberg
- these links & more at willamettechurch.com/thisweek



THE face OF GOD

There is no other book quite like the Bible. Compiled from authors whose diversity spans thousands of years and multitudes of cultures, its text begins the story of God's interaction with mankind. Throughout the Bible God reveals Himself to be our Creator, in the person of Jesus our Savior, and by His Spirit our sustainer. We cherish the Bible because it reveals to us who God is, what He has done, and who He calls us to be.

While people from all generations have drawn spiritual inspiration from "The Greatest Story Ever Told", we want you to know that the Bible is also a trustworthy and reliable document.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- approximately **6000** handwritten Greek New Testament manuscripts still exist today? Homer's Iliad ranks 2nd in terms of the number of remaining copies, with **650** still in existence.
- as of the 1950s, the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls has **CONFIRMED** archeological evidence for the Old Testament text preserved through the centuries?
- evidence for Jesus Christ comes from many written documents from the first century, including **39 ANCIENT SOURCES** in addition to the New Testament and early church leaders?
- the text of the Bible is far better preserved than the writings of **CAESAR, PLATO** or **ARISTOTLE**?

We encourage you to join us over the next 13 weeks as we examine the scriptures to look at the life of Jesus, and in doing so look into the face of God.