

IS THE BIBLE HISTORICALLY ACCURATE?
PART 1: New TESTAMENT ACCURACY

- I. Selected Archeological Evidence Supporting the New Testament.
 - A. Confirmation that PILATE was Prefect in JUDEA came in 1961
 - B. Independent evidence of NAZARETH first found in 1962
 - C. Evidence found in Capernaum of PETER’S home (Mk. 1:29-34; 2:1)
 - D. Capernaum shown to produce and export MILLSTONES (Luke 17:2, 35)
 - E. A 1st century FISHING BOAT consistent with PETER’S discovered along the shore of the Sea of Galilee
 - F. The “chair of MOSES” was an actual stone seat for TEACHERS (Matt. 23:2)
 - G. The “POOL of BETHESDA” was found in Jerusalem (John 5:2)
 - H. The TEMPLE was more SPECTACULAR than usually imagined (cf. Mark 13:1)
 - I. The Jews ADMITTED the tomb was empty and accused the disciples of STEALING Jesus’ body (Matt. 28:11-15)

- II. The Reliability of LUKE, the Consummate HISTORIAN
 - A. Confirmed facts surrounding the BIRTH of Jesus (Luke 2:1-3)
 1. The fact of the Roman CENSUS

2. That Quirinius was GOVERNOR in SYRIA
3. The requirement to REGISTER in one's HOMETOWN

B. Concerning HISTORICAL references

1. Luke was right about territorial BORDERS
2. He identified Lysanias as TETRARCH (Luke 3:1)
3. He described a civic *Ecclesia* in a THEATER in EPHESUS (Acts 19:23ff)
4. He uses correct terms for DISTRICTS, GOVERNING bodies, and government OFFICIALS

III. The Accuracy of PAUL in Romans 16:23—pavement discovered in 1929 identifies ERASTUS as “curator of PUBLIC BUILDINGS”