

The Bible: A Book of “Stories” or Historical Accounts? with @dineshdsouza

August 28, 2026

FRANK:

Ladies and gentlemen, so many times when we're teaching the Bible, we teach what we call Bible stories. You know, there's the story of Adam and Eve, the story of Abraham, the story of Moses, the story of David, David and Goliath. You know, the story of the Babylonian exile. There's stories, stories about Jesus. And I think we're doing a great disservice when we call them stories because it almost seems like, well, they're sort of just moral tales.

They're not really true. They didn't really happen in history. What is the evidence that many of these stories actually happened in history? Like, is there archaeological evidence for this? Well, as you may know, we've talked about archaeology on this program many times with Titus Kennedy, with Joel Kramer, and others. But right now, I want to bring in a friend who has done a lot of great work in the Christian and conservative world.

He's made plenty of films. He's written plenty of books. He's debated many atheists. And recently, he's really gotten interested in archaeology. And he has written a great new book that anyone can read. And it's organized chronologically. It's called, *The Stones Cry Out*.

And this book is something I've been reading for the past couple of days, and I really enjoy it. And the author is the great Dinesh D'Souza, ladies and gentlemen, all the way from an underground bunker somewhere in Texas. Dinesh, how are you, my friend?

DINESH:

I'm doing fine. Delighted to join you from my hideout, whose location cannot be disclosed.

FRANK:

Actually, though, I want people to know this. A lot of people don't know that you are the father-in-law of Representative Brandon Gill from Texas, and we just played one of Brandon's clips where he was basically asking a pro-abortionist the different abortion methods and which one she preferred. He is brilliant and he's married to your daughter, I understand.



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

DINESH:

They met in college, they married right out of college, and now they have delivered to us, I should say, a three-year-old and a one-year-old. Who are very much at the center of our lives. So, he's doing a great job. And yes, he's done a number of these Perry Mason/ Socrates cross-examinations. But the one where he begins, "What's your favorite method of abortion?" I mean, in 30 years of the abortion debate, I've never heard anyone spring that question and generate so much consternation in the person that he's talking to.

FRANK:

That's right. Well, they're trying to suppress the truth, as Romans 1 says. They're doing evil, and they want to suppress it. So that woman was squirming because he was just calmly pointing out, "Well, do you prefer the saline where we burn the baby to death? How about when we dismember the baby to death? Is that a better way of abortion?" I mean, she was on the run, Dinesh. And I see that, I see your influence on him. I mean, you went to Dartmouth. He later went to Dartmouth.

Your daughter went to Dartmouth, and you're very incisive and you're a great debater. So I'm sure you guys have had some great conversations about things like that.

DINESH:

Yeah, he's a kid who grew up on a ranch in Abilene, so he says he actually read his first kind of great book sitting on a tractor, and when he first met my daughter, who was raised in California, she was a little put off by his first date lengthy discussion about how to raise cows, and, but as it turns out, they're doing great, and you know, and he's really just running for his second term now, so he's new in Congress, but he's really taken to it and he's making a difference, and so we're very proud of him.

FRANK:

Yeah, he's great. Now, in your book, *The Stones Cry Out*, I note that you went to Israel for the first time in 2022, and immediately you fell in love with the place and fell in love with the evidence that's just sort of lying around out there. Give our listeners and viewers an idea of why you decided to get into archaeology and give a layman's version that's very understandable yet also very precise of some of the major archaeological discoveries related to the Bible.

DINESH:

So I went to Israel for the first time. I was struck by the sort of feeling of being in the land of the Bible, and this alone is notable because, these days, cities, as you know, Frank, have become

**CROSS
EXAMINED
ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

very homogenized. They're similar to each other. You know, Copenhagen is a lot like Zurich, but Jerusalem is not like that. You not only are in the land of the Bible, but while other ancient civilizations have disappeared, you want to find the pharaohs, you got to go to a museum where you know the ancient Greeks aren't around anymore.

The Roman Empire isn't around anymore. But the Jews are back in Israel, and they speak Hebrew. They trade in shekels. They celebrate the same holidays. So there's a kind of striking aspect to that, but then I was introduced in a very cursory way to some of the artifacts of biblical archaeology, and I realized that this is very powerful stuff because these people and places and events that I have long taken on faith now have this kind of startling archaeological proof that has come out of the ground.

And it corroborates the Bible sometimes to the level of the tiniest detail. You know, a bunch of archaeologists will find a little clay seal, and these seals were used to seal correspondence and the correspondence is lost, but the clay hardens, and it lives on; it has a name on it and the guy who finds it doesn't even recognize the name, and the seal will just sit there in some academic department or museum for a while and then some other guy looks at it and goes, "Hey, that guy's in the book of Jeremiah." And so, and that guy might just be mentioned in Jeremiah in one line or two lines.

And so suddenly this cameo figure that jumps out of the Bible and into the pages of history via the pathway of archaeology. So I got a taste of it, and I realized that A, as you mentioned right at the beginning, the pastors don't typically talk about it. They treat the Bible as a set of either parables or morality tales. They don't give you the anchoring in history.

The other thing that's interesting is that the archaeologists who are mainly secular. They don't like to talk about biblical archaeology either because they want to maintain secular respectability. They don't want to feel like they're proving the Bible. They think the Bible is all about revelation and theology. It's not what we do, you know, here in the Department of Archaeology, you know, at Ghent University. So I thought, you know, let me take a few years.

Let me familiarize myself in some detail with the field. Let me try to be the middleman here that takes these discoveries over 150 years, because biblical archaeology got going the late part of the 19th century, and put them all out there, and not only show the things that corroborate the Bible, but also ask this question: Is there a single notable archaeological finding that contradicts the Bible? To which I'm happy to say the resounding answer is no.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

FRANK:

That's an astounding statement. Nelson Glueck said that many years ago. Back in the 50s, as you have in your book here, Dinesh. It hasn't changed in 60 years since then, has it?

DINESH:

That's right, and not only that, but what you have now is a very comical spectacle, which is you have the so-called skeptics, in archaeology they're called the minimalists because they minimize the Bible, and so they will say something like, "Prove to me, not using the Bible, that King David was a real person." So, prior to 1990, interestingly enough, you couldn't do it.

But then the Tel Dan stele, the Tel Dan inscription comes out, and it's very credible because it's not even written by the Israelites. It's written by Hazael of Aram, the Syrian king, boasting about his victories over the house of David. And so suddenly the skeptic is like, takes, you know, takes it in the jaw. This is like a big punch. So then they come back and say, and they have said, "Well, King David did exist, but you know he was probably some local tribal chieftain.

He clearly didn't have some big nation. He didn't have a palace." And so then, fast forward about 10 years later, Eilat Mazar of Hebrew University of Jerusalem finds King David's palace. You know, these massive walls, these giant pillars. So then the skeptics are like, ooh. So one guy goes, one guy goes, "Well, yeah, I admit this is this is a remarkable find, but maybe it wasn't his palace.

Maybe it was some other royal administrative building." And another guy goes, "Well, maybe it was started in the time of David, but not finished till the time of Solomon." So, what I'm saying is the skeptics, you know, bless their hearts, they'll never give in and go, you know, we just got rocked and knocked on our backs. They'll come up with some fallback position to try to salvage their skepticism.

But suffice to say that the maximalism or the validation of the Bible is on the triumphant march, and the skeptics are in full retreat.

FRANK:

And the thing I love about *The Stones Cry Out*, Dinesh, is you're not just like listing the discoveries, you're putting them in the story of the Bible. Like you're pointing out the significance of them.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
.ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

And in fact, you were talking about, well, we're coming up on a break, Dinesh. We'll come back right after the break. We're talking to Dinesh D'Souza. His forthcoming book is called *The Stones Cry Out*, and you need to pre-order this book, and I'll tell you why right after the break. You're listening to I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist with me, Frank Turek, on the American Family Radio Network and other stations around the country.

The Bible is true. We'll talk more about it in just a couple. Don't go anywhere.

Sometimes you email me, ladies and gentlemen, and say, "Why are you always talking about books on your show? You're always trying to sell books." Hey ladies and gentlemen, there's only three ways you can learn anything: direct revelation from God, your own experience, or someone else's experience. You don't have enough time to learn everything by your by your own experience. You need to learn from scholars and other people that are further down the road than you are. And if you want to be a leader, you got to be a reader.

I'm sorry, there's no way around it. And so the only people I have on this program are people that I believe in and people that are putting forth great products that can help you become a better disciple. And this book, *The Stones Cry Out*, can help you do that. Now, why pre-order it? I did not know this until our book, *The War on Reality*, which comes out in a couple of weeks. The publishers of our book said, "When people pre-order a book, they're actually helping get that book into secular bookstores." I said, "How so?" Because the secular bookstores look at the pre-orders and they go, "Oh, we should probably carry that one."

That one's going to be a good one and it's going to sell." So it also tips off Amazon to say, "Hey, this is going to be popular. Let's push it a little bit, and we'll sell some other books that are related to it with it." So, in a sense, when you pre-order a book, what you're doing is you're helping the book get to non-believers. You're doing a form of evangelism. So go to Amazon right now, and look up Dinesh D'Souza's *Stones Cry Out*.

Order that book and also order *The War on Reality* if you would, because this book, *The Stones Cry Out*, is an easy read that anyone can pick up. It's not technical, and it also has some great images and even some QR codes that'll take you to videos. Is that right, Dinesh? Videos of the actual site with you being there.

DINESH:

Maps, timelines, tons of photos and QR codes with me on the on-site locations because it's kind of cool.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
.ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

It's one thing to tell you about an artifact; it's another thing to see it. And so I like to, I mean obviously it's great to go to all these sites directly but the next best thing is to encounter them this way.

FRANK:

Now, Dinesh, I noticed early on in the book when you're talking about Abraham. Now we're going back 4,000 years for Abraham. A lot of people will say, "Well, you know there's not much we can know about Abraham; it's too far back", but you mentioned Mamre, you mentioned also the Mari tablets, and the Nuzi tablets, if I'm pronouncing those correctly can you kind of give us what we learn from those two tablets that help us see that what's being said in the Bible is very plausible.

DINESH:

Yeah, there are a couple ways to think about this. Abraham was a nomad. He really didn't own land. He lived in tents. He moved his cattle around. So, like, how do you expect archaeology to find any footprints of this guy? But the Bible does say that in Mamre there were the great oaks of Mamre, the great trees of Mamre, and those trees are gone. But the holes that they left in the ground are still there, and they were discovered by an archaeologist, Evaristus Mader.

Also, Abraham did buy one cave from a Hittite named Ephron the Hittite. He bought a cave as a burial cave for his wife, and it turns out he's buried there as well. And there's now a monument and that's in a place called Machpelah. Now, one way you examine the sort of historicity of the Abrahamic era, is you'll notice that in that era there are descriptions of lots of, to us, very strange practices.

Abraham, for example, will have a child by a concubine, and the child is ready to inherit Abraham's property. But then Abraham has a legitimate child with his wife, and basically the legitimate son displaces the adopted son. You notice that, for example, a little bit later with Esau and Jacob, you have this weird practice where Isaac is giving a blessing and he wants to give it to Esau, but Jacob sneaks in there and then he can't take it back.

So you've got all this stuff there and you're like, wow, interesting. Now what archaeologists do is they go to the surrounding civilizations, which is Assyria, Babylonia. They look at the same period of time and guess what? They notice that the Mari writings and the Nuzi tablets describe extremely similar customs, and so it's quite obvious that the Bible is accurately describing practices in the Near East at that time.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
.ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

Now, the reason this is significant is in the days when I went to college a generation ago, I was influenced by this biblical higher criticism, where you have all these skeptical scholars and they would say, "You know, the Bible's written hundreds of years after these events, and so it's a bunch of legend and it's embellished, it's made up." But the point is this: if you lived hundreds of years after Abraham, you wouldn't know the cultural practices of the patriarchal era, which are now independently corroborated by archaeology.

So again, you're not proving what happened between Isaac and Jacob, but what you are saying is that that customary practice of parental blessings, which carries with it all kinds of implications with regard to inheritance and so on, that was common in that era in that time.

FRANK:

It was also common, as you mentioned, just to be clear. That if someone had a offspring with a concubine, like Abraham did, he had Ishmael. That if he did have offspring with his wife, then that of course is Isaac. That Isaac would be the one to consider the primary heir, and that was common back then according to these tablets.

DINESH:

That is codified in the Mari tablets, the Nuzi tablets, and the Code of Hammurabi. So there are multiple sources from Assyria and Babylonia that, taken together, show that the Abrahamic description is accurate.

And this is done, by the way, repeatedly through the Bible. To give one example, it's common to say, "You know, the Exodus, you know, how do we know that the Israelites were in Egypt?" Now, there's some good evidence that shows that there are paintings showing Semitic peoples as slaves in Egypt. But what I find fascinating is while archaeologists have tended to look for Israel in Egypt, you can actually do the opposite.

Look for Egypt in the Bible, because the writer of the Exodus turns out to be more familiar with Egypt than he is with Canaan. So he will describe obscure Egyptian customs and practices. He will use distinctive Egyptian names, and in Canaan, He doesn't seem to fully know his way around. He's describing things. He'll say things like, "Well, you know, this happens to be the capital of that." Which, think about it, if you and I are Americans, we know America.

I wouldn't say something to you like, "Let's go to Washington D.C., which happens to be the capital of America." You know that. I already know that. We live here, but we might say that if we're talking about going to Indonesia. So, the point here being that archaeology has many

**CROSS
EXAMINED
ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek PODCAST

different techniques. In some cases to prove things, in other cases to render them very likely, in other things to render them plausible.

FRANK:

Yeah, it's amazing. There is so much evidence. You have a whole chapter regarding the Exodus. You mentioned the Ipuwer papyrus. You mentioned those paintings and others. And ladies and gentlemen, if we talked on this program before, the oldest Yahweh inscription in the world discovered to this point is from Soleb, which is northern Sudan. It was Egypt at the time. It's the nomads of Yahweh inscription that goes all the way back to 1400 B.C., the time of the Exodus.

I mean, there is evidence that the Israelites were in Egypt about that time, and then they wound up in Canaan. In fact, you talk, I believe you do, Dinesh, about the Amarna tablets, as well. The Amarna tablets seem to indicate that some group, the Habiru, were coming into Canaan about the 1400s, 1300s or so, explain what they are. The Amarna tablets.

DINESH:

Yeah, the Amarna tablets are showing that this group, and there is some debate about who were these people. I think what settles the debate is there's something called the Merneptah Stele, and it is a writing of a pharaoh, and it talks about Israel, about Israel in Canaan, and the name Israel is used, and not only that, it's quite clear that they don't just mean the place Israel; they mean the people of Israel.

So not only were the Israelites in Canaan, but they had formed a kind of recognizable entity, and they must have been pretty powerful because an Egyptian pharaoh is boasting about having power over them. And this is about 1207. So by 1207, the Israelites indisputably are in Canaan and are a recognized and, in fact pretty powerful entity.

FRANK:

Yeah, it would. It would have to be the fact that the Exodus took place probably much prior to that for them to be established. The biblical date of the Exodus is 1446 B.C., which means they got to Jericho about 1406 B.C. You talk about Jericho as well in the book, *The Stones Cry Out*. What about the walls there that were unique, Dinesh, that you talk about in *The Stones Cry Out*?

DINESH:

Well, this is a case, and see, normally with biblical archaeology, you know, you're not trying to prove the theology of the Bible. You're not trying to prove the miracles. You're just trying to

**CROSS
EXAMINED
.ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

prove the historicity of it. But in the case of Jericho, it says that the Israelites walked around the walls, and it said that the walls collapsed. In fact, they didn't batter the walls. The walls fell, which means that there must have been some sort of earthquake or some kind of event that made the walls fall, and that's how God carried out this miracle that toppled the walls of Jericho.

Now, very interestingly, in the archaeology of Jericho, there are the remnants of those walls, and here's the most interesting thing to me. There's lots of interesting detail in there, but the most interesting thing is you look at the walls, the walls didn't fall inward; they fell outward. So think about it. If you used battering rams in the normal method, you do a siege, you then batter the walls, the walls are going to fall in. But if it's an earthquake.

Or an implosion of some sort, the walls will blast outward. They will fall outward. And there's the archaeological remnants to show that that is what happened. There's also other small details like you find the remnants of grain, and we learn from the Bible that Joshua made his attack in the spring. And the grain was not eaten, which is abnormal, right? You have starving armies. They're going to eat the grain.

It was common to pillage and take the grain. But the Bible says don't eat the grain. God told Joshua, when you destroy Jericho, burn it and burn the grain along with it. And that's what Joshua did. And so that's why you still see the remnants of the grain. The grain was not consumed. So all of this, I think you know, think about it as believers, we have heard about it; we have taken it on faith, and then here we see kind of out of the dirt you know come archaeological artifacts.

It can be the head of an arrow. It can be a small clay seal, which I mentioned earlier. It can be writing on pottery, which is called ostraca. It can sometimes be a huge wall. And so all of these things then are matched up against the biblical account. You're basically operating with the Bible in your left hand and your trowel or spade in your right hand, and you're matching the one against the other.

FRANK:

You know, my mentor Dr. Norman Geisler used to say this: "Whenever a spade goes in the ground in Israel, a liberal gets converted." But, actually—

DINESH:

I love it.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
.ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

FRANK:

They don't, they don't actually convert. They kind of get more obstinate. But as you pointed out earlier, Dinesh, world-famous archaeologists have said this: that there's been no Bible or no discovery that archaeological discovery has ever controverted or contradicted a biblical reference, including Scott Stripling, who has endorsed your book.

Scott Stripling is one of the best archaeologists out there. He's excavating at Shiloh. And he endorsed your book, Dinesh.

DINESH:

Yeah, he's looking for the Tabernacle, which, if he finds it, will be a massive archaeological finding, one of the most important of the 21st century to be sure. And you know Scott knows that the way this is painstaking work. But it is work that bears great fruit because it's a great encouragement to the believer and it confounds the skeptic.

FRANK:

Absolutely, a lot more with Dinesh D'Souza, his brand new book. You need to pre-order *Stones Cry Out*. Comes out in October, but get it now. You'll help more people to see it. *The Stones Cry Out*. Anyone can understand this book. It's very well done, very well written. It's got imagery in it and all sorts of other great, great goodies. See you in a minute.

AD:

Could you answer this question? Why doesn't God let everyone into heaven? Or do all religions get you to heaven? Well, Frank Turick can, and now you can. Watch him tackle the toughest questions from his latest college tour appearance. See real students challenge Frank, and watch how truth stands up under pressure. Subscribe to our Cross Examined YouTube channel right now to watch. That's Cross Examined, two words on YouTube and sharpen your faith for the real world.

FRANK:

Ladies and gentlemen, if you want to be discipled or you want to disciple your kids, it has to be deliberate. It's just not going to happen by osmosis. So you need to be very directed. And we have a course coming up called the Expedition to Reality. It's for your sixth to eighth graders. It will help ground them in the Christian worldview. Actually, it might be a little bit older than eighth grade. I have to look at it again. But go to crossexamined.org, click on online courses.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

Look for expedition to reality. It's going to go through all the major worldviews and land on Christianity, so your young person can be ready to know what they believe and why they believe it. So that starts August 31st. Then I can't believe we were able to do this, but we were able to get video of Dr. Norman Geisler teaching one of the last courses he ever taught. It's called the history of ancient and medieval Western philosophy.

He will take you all the way from the pre-Socratics all the way to Aquinas, the Middle Ages, and you need to know. If you want to know what people think now, you got to look back into the ancients and the medieval philosophers to see the stream of thought and how people like Aquinas refuted so much of the nonsense, you know, a thousand years almost in advance. That course is taught by my mentor.

You'll be in the course. He will teach it to you. And then Dr. Richard Howe of Southern Evangelical Seminary, if you take the premium version, will be your Zoom Q&A instructor. I will join for one of those Zoom Q&As. That course I'm going to take myself because I took it from him years ago, and I need to be refreshed. It's called the History of Ancient and Medieval Western Philosophy. Go to crossexamined.org, click on online courses, you'll see it there.

All right, let me go back to my guest, the great Dinesh D'Souza, the brand new book, *The Stones Cry Out*. Dinesh, you were talking at the top of the program, and you have it in the book. That the Bible turns out to be right on minor characters, minor details. Can you give us an example of a few of those?

DINESH:

Sure. Let's talk about these clay seals that I mentioned a little bit earlier. So, in the 8th century we have the prophet Isaiah, and then in the 6th century, a couple of hundred years later, we have the prophet Jeremiah. Now Isaiah was a royal prophet. He was attached very close to King Hezekiah, and out of the ground has come the Hezekiah seal. And you know it's Hezekiah because it's a royal seal, and it has his father's name, Hezekiah son of Ahaz.

So it's not just Hezekiah. There could have been more than one, but that's the Hezekiah seal. The king obviously made it with his own hand. Now there is an Isaiah seal, interestingly, found nearby, and it says "Isaiah the," and then a part of the seal is broken off. It's almost like, and obviously this is not in English, but it's like you had the word prophet, but it's missing, like the T. So it's, if the letter is T, hey, it's Isaiah the prophet.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
.ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

Now obviously if it's a different letter, then it would be somebody else. But Isaiah and Hezekiah were side by side in the royal quarters. The seals are found side by side. And there is unlikely to be another sort of very important man, Isaiah, who with a kind of a title that sounds like prophet missing only one letter. So archaeologists generally agree that it's not certain, but it's very likely that's the seal of Isaiah.

Now, fast forward to the time of Jeremiah, and you have some clay seal verification, but it's indirect. So Jeremiah was a doom and gloom man. And he was warning the king, a fellow named Zedekiah, that big troubles are coming to Judah in the form of invasions from, as it turns out, Babylon. And the king was very upset to hear this.

He didn't want to hear it, and so he rounds up two of his sidekicks. So here are their names: Jehucal son of Shelemiah and Gadaliah son of Pashhur. And he tells these two guys, "Go like follow Jeremiah around. Keep an eye on the guy. I don't want him causing me any trouble." And so these guys do that, and at one point they round up Jeremiah with some other guys and they throw him into a pit.

I've even stood in that Jeremiah pit myself, and now later Jeremiah's prophecies all come true. You have the Babylonian Exile, but I want to fast forward now 2500 years to the present, and they're digging in the area of the Ophel, which is right near the temple, and out of the ground comes a single seal, and it has this name, Jehucal son of Shelemiah.

And then two years later, another seal found among others, Gadaliah son of Pashhur. Now, these two, you can call them biblical extras. You know, they barely mention in the Bible, but again, they suddenly spring to life archaeologically, and you realize that, hey if these guys are, I mean, and again, coming back to this idea that the Bible was written much later, I mean, if you wrote it much later, you would never know these minor officials at the court of Zedekiah, right?

It's like you and me with no using no existing documents, trying to figure out like who were the White House interns in the middle of the 19th century at the time of President Buchanan. We would never know that. And so this is why I think the verification of the Bible is so kind of exhilarating for the believer, and it makes the non-believer not only scratch his head, but he like doesn't know what to do with it.

Some of the people, by the way, the skeptics were like, "This seal has to be a forgery," except that this, except that the seal came straight out of the ground.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

FRANK:

Well, they'll go through, they'll go to every extent. To try and somehow debunk the Bible, and I think Dinesh, because the Bible has moral implications for your life. You know, if they had found a scribe of Alexander the Great or something, nobody would, right?

You know, if there was such a person, nobody would object to it. But if it has something to do with the Bible, they're gonna come after you to try and debunk it. That's sort of their MO. That's why I always ask people if Christianity were true, would you become a Christian? And 99 times out of 10, Dinesh, the answer is no, you know.

DINESH:

This is the thing that even if you can't, in general, prove the miracles, think about it this way: if the Bible is historically true, the likelihood of it all being true is much greater, right?

If you're a juror in a case and a guy gives you the suspect gives you a long account of what he did over the past 30 days, and of course some of it is pretty far out and you can't verify a lot of it. But he does say, "On this day I ate a Chick-fil-A and here's my receipt, and then I crossed state lines, and there you can see me on the surveillance video," and so we're able to check him out on so many different points, and then you discover I can't disprove him on a single point.

Then you go, "Well, even though his story may seem a little out there, he's telling the truth because every time I got to check him he's right, and there's not a single case where I found that he was lying." So we're using this exact same kind of common sense approach to the Bible, which is if it proves to be right over here and right over here and right over here, and you have literally dozens upon dozens of discoveries covering pretty much every biblical episode from the patriarchs to the Acts of the Apostles, you know, in other words, Luke and the Book of Acts, then the overall credibility of the Bible is greatly strengthened.

FRANK:

Titus Kennedy in his book on archaeology, and you reference some of Titus's work in your work Dinesh. He found there's about 134 people named in the Bible that have been found in the dirt. A hundred and thirty-four ladies and gentlemen. That's a lot of people, and many of these are prominent people who could have hurt somebody if they were telling lies about them.

But on the other hand, many of them are just obscure people you'd never would have heard about anywhere else, as you just pointed out, Dinesh, these people were very minor characters around the time of Jeremiah, and yet we found them in the dirt. Let's jump over to the New

**CROSS
EXAMINED
ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

Testament for a few minutes if we can, Dinesh. And you have several chapters on that. Let's talk a little bit. How about we start with the Caiaphas ossuary? Tell us about that.

DINESH:

So you have the great scene in the Bible, the trial and the crucifixion of Jesus, and the major figures are, of course, King Herod. Pontius Pilate, the Roman prefect, the high priest named Caiaphas, and of course Jesus. Now there's great and interesting archaeology on all these people, but let's focus on Caiaphas. When Jesus is arrested, he's taken to the home of Caiaphas.

Caiaphas is really the kind of human engineer of the crucifixion because Pilate didn't really want to do it. Caiaphas has to get the Sanhedrin or the priestly council agitated. Then they have to intimidate Pilate. Finally, Pilate kind of relents. So here's Caiaphas. Now the Bible just gives his first name, I mean his last name Caiaphas, but the historian Josephus tells us his first name, Joseph.

He's Joseph Caiaphas. Now recently, a couple of decades ago, they're digging in the priestly quarter, the aristocratic quarter of Jerusalem, and they find a bunch of stone boxes that are called ossuaries. Now in the first century A.D., if you die, you're put into a tomb. And when your bones, when you decay down to your bones, they take the bones out, put it in a box, and stick your name on it.

So that's what an ossuary is. It's a named box. And so the archaeologists are sort of scratching their chins and looking around at these boxes. And one of them like stands out. It's particularly ornate or grand, very important person. And they look more closely, and here's what it says: "Yehosef bar Qayafa." 'Yehosef' is Joseph. 'Bar,' son of. 'Qayafa,' Caiaphas. And then they open the box, and inside are the bones of a 60-year-old man, and they date the bones, dates to the first century A.D. It's Caiaphas. So think about it. I mean, for you and me as believers, we're not just talking about some inscription that happens to have the guy's name. You're looking at his actual bones. So the impact of bringing these figures into the corridors of history where they're undeniable.

The same, by the way, is true in a different way of Pontius Pilate. A Pontius Pilate inscription is found. It's dedicated to the Emperor Tiberius. And by the way, it not only confirms the existence of Pilate, but some of the skeptics had said, "You know, these Bible writers are so careless; they don't even know his title. They call him the Prefect of Judea. His real title is procurator," because later the historian Tacitus uses the term procurator.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

And so that's where the skeptics got it from that the Bible writers obviously getting it third hand or fourth hand, except the Pontius Pilate inscription coming out of the ground of northern Israel in Caesarea Maritima says the following: "Pontius Pilate, Prefect of Judea." The Bible not only had his existence, but it had his title precisely correct.

FRANK:

What else regarding the crucifixion, Dinesh, do people get right? Or I should say, does the Bible get right? What can we verify archaeologically, either in people or details?

DINESH:

There is a debate about the Via Dolorosa. Does it go over here? Does it go over there? That's a legitimate dispute. I think what is quite clear is that, and by the way, I'll make a broader point here.

Many of the sites involving Jesus, where he was born, his childhood home, and the site of his crucifixion were obviously known to the early Christians. And so they would venerate these sites. Pilgrims would go to them in the early decades, the late first century, early second century. Now in the second century, a Roman emperor, a pagan, named Hadrian, decided, "I'm going to stamp out the Christian sites.

I'm tired of these people. I'm going to teach them a lesson." And he knew where the sites were. He was just a few decades after the Gospels, and so what he did was he went to these sites. These known sites that were venerated by the early Christians, and he built pagan monuments on top of them. Little did the guy know that by doing this he was marking the site for later identification. So in the fourth century, when Constantine converted to Christianity, he sent his mother to Jerusalem to find the holy sites.

She knew exactly where to look. She found the pagan monuments, took them down, and basically built churches.

FRANK:

It backfired on Hadrian. We know where those sites are, and they have been verified, ladies and gentlemen, including the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which is in Dinesh's new book, *The Stones Cry Out*. Get it now, pre-order it now, you'll help non-believers to see it. Maybe they'll get saved too. Back right after the break.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

Jesus said the stones will cry out. Well, actually, the stones are crying out if you're willing to look at them. My friend Dinesh D'Souza, author, filmmaker, podcaster, debater, worked in the Reagan White House many years ago as well. He has a brand new book coming out in October. What you want to pre-, but you want to pre-order it.

It's called *The Stones Cry Out*. We've talked about some Old Testament discoveries, some New Testament discoveries. Let's spend just a couple of minutes on Luke. Particularly, he writes Luke and Acts. And archaeologically, it's quite rich, isn't it, Dinesh?

DINESH:

Yeah, the Book of Acts changes the sort of geographical focus of archaeology because the Old Testament archaeology is mostly in Israel. If you step outside of Israel, you're talking about Egypt, Assyria, Babylonia. But the New Testament, of course, involves Greece and Rome and then now parts of modern Turkey. And so Luke is a very detailed commentator, and he gives you all kinds of excruciatingly minor details. He'll tell you that on this particular Greek island, the politicians are called politarchs, and he tells you that in Malta, the head of Malta is called quote "the first man of the island." He tells you that if you are sailing off this particular Greek island, the winds are too strong, and you've got to dock over here.

So, historians and archaeologists were initially very skeptical about the book of Acts. They thought it was just a lot, a rigmarole of information that couldn't be verified. But then people said, "Well, we can actually check out all these minor details in Luke," and it turns out that one after the other, check, check, check, Luke is like a detail man. I mean, he's like an investigative journalist, and so, his details are right, and so archaeologists who started out, as I say, a little dubious, have a great deal of respect for the sort of veracity of Luke, even on very, very small points.

It turns out that when you go back and look, what was the currency over here? What were the politics, what was the chief magistrate's title over there? Luke's got it dead on.

FRANK:

In fact, we listed all those a number of years ago in the book *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist*. The update updated version comes out in late October, ladies and gentlemen. There's 84 details in the book of Acts alone, from chapter 13 to the end of the book, that have all been verified either by archaeology or other historical sources or just topography.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

As you just said, Dinesh, you can just look at the topography or the geography and go, "Man, Luke gets all these minor details right." And while he's getting these minor details right. He's also talking about the fact that Paul is doing miracles. So, why would he be telling you the truth about all these minor details and then lying about miracles? Why would he do such a thing, Dinesh?

DINESH:

Exactly. Great point. And there are two other big points to make. One is that this archaeology has only been done on the Bible, right? No one can archaeologically verify the Quran or the Bhagavad Gita or the Buddhist scriptures. Only the Bible can withstand 150 years of excruciating and skeptical scrutiny. That's an important point. I think the other thing that's interesting and I raise this later in the book is this: why now?

Right? The palace of King David's been sitting under the ground for 3,000 years. Why is God choosing now our time to you could almost say speak in a little bit of a different language? The language of the Bible is sort of it declares things. It doesn't really try to prove them. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. There you go. I'm not going to give you any evidence. I'm just going to state it straight out.

And the Bible proclaims things like that. But archaeology works sort of in the inductive mode, right? Archaeology works piece by piece and detail by detail, almost like putting together the pieces of a jigsaw. So it's almost like in a secular age, God is saying, "All right, you know what? I know that you guys claim to respect the language of the university and of reason and of science.

All right. We're gonna follow the science," to use a phrase I get out of the COVID era and that's what my book does, in a very, basically in a very understandable way because some people go, "Well, Dinesh, come on, man, are you telling me I got to study archaeology?" No, I'm not. I'm doing that work for you; I'm making it easy. I'm delivering it to you on a plate, and so what you need to do is just digest this stuff, and it'll make you a very dangerous Christian.

FRANK:

But if you want to follow the science you got to have your fourth booster Dinesh, that's what you got to do eh. Dinesh, I gotta ask you this. There's so much great evidence in your book, *The Stones Cry Out*, people have to get it, and it's an easy read. It's a fun read, and it's got QR codes in it. Take you to the site. It's got pictures in the back of all these discoveries. We'll put some of those here in the video version of this podcast. But you're an evidence guy.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

I'm an evidence guy. You also follow politics. You've done that for many years. You've been involved in politics. You worked at the Reagan White House. You've been following what's been going on with Tucker; he was your friend for many years. You've been following what's going on with Candace. Let's just look at Candace because obviously Candace has been saying a lot of things that appear to have no evidence behind them, Dinesh. I mean, there's evidence for the Bible. Is there any evidence for any of the things Candace Owens has been saying, particularly about our mutual friend Charlie Kirk?

DINESH:

Well, I gotta say, Frank, I'm very disappointed in Candace when she set up the CIA. What I affectionately call the Candace Intelligence Agency, she promised that like major new findings would be coming and if not coming directly from her, she was empowering her own viewers to become part-time sleuths to dig up information.

And ask yourself this: I mean, not just in the Charlie Kirk case, but in any case at all. Look at the Macron case. Look at our other investigations and simply ask yourself: Can you name a single fact, previously unknown, of any relevance in bringing us closer to understanding any of these mysteries that she is purporting to solve?

And I think the clear answer to that is no. So now we have a sort of a different question, which is like, what is the psychological profile of Candace and her followers? Like, what are they doing here? I mean, is this a form of like Midget bowling in which something really bizarre is going on and you want to look away, but you sort of can't because it's too it's too strange and magnetic and you sort of have to addictively follow this kind of craziness even though at some level you know it's nuts.

I've been trying to sort of get a grip on what is even going on here and also why she is persisting with this Ahab-like determination in pursuing paths even though every single one of them is a dead end.

FRANK:

Yeah, it's hard to really understand other than some sort of demonic influence, because it's just slander, accusations, and lies, which of course is what Satan does. And when I say that, Candace goes, "Oh, you know, Frank is trying to hurt me." No, I pray for Candace. I don't have anything personally against Candace. I think she's a very talented woman. I just, she would use her talents in a positive way, instead of slandering widows, because no one ever asks this question, Dinesh. What if you're wrong? What if Candace is wrong and she is? She doesn't have any

**CROSS
EXAMINED
.ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

evidence for this, and I can guarantee you, Erika, or none of us around Charlie were involved in his murder.

Yet she has been slandering a woman and her children and her husband's organization for almost a year now. And nobody ever asks, "What if she's wrong?" God hates slander, hates gossip.

DINESH:

I think there's that aspect, and the other thing about it is that there is a trial that will likely be happening, and you've got an accused suspect who says, "I did it," and whose family says he did it. And whose texts say "I did it," and so there's a lot of evidence here—

FRANK:

And his boyfriend says he did it.

DINESH:

His boyfriend says I did it. Now, the reason you know that what Candace is doing is so twisted, let's imagine and this is a little far out, but it drives the point home. Let's say that the suspect was Ben Shapiro.

And Ben Shapiro, there he is on the roof. And you know his friends go, "That's Ben," and you know, and Ben sends texts. The exact same evidence. Would Candace, Candace would be all over it. I mean, my wife and I follow these true crime cases, and in general, you have a lot less evidence than we have in this case. The evidence here seems overwhelming, and I realize some T's need to be crossed and some I's need to be dotted, and that's what a trial is for.

But here's Candace almost conducting a one-woman campaign to exonerate this guy. Almost, she's almost begging for the defense to sort of contact her and sort of rely on her evidence. They seem to be keeping a prudent distance, perhaps knowing that she's a little deranged. But so all of this aspect of it I think is also very peculiar and not easy to account for.

FRANK:

No, it's not. It's really very, very strange. But lies, accusations, and slander are what Satan does and demons do and the demonic influence does. And everything that she has found out, like minor details between eyewitness accounts, CPR, no CPR, drone, no drone. Even if people happen to be lying over that, it doesn't affect the evidence or direct the bullseye at anyone else as being complicit because eyewitnesses always disagree over minor details.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
.ORG**



I don't have enough **FAITH**
to be an **ATHEIST**

with Dr. Frank Turek

PODCAST

If they told exactly the same story word for word, that would be more evidence of a conspiracy than if, than if they had these minor details different like we do.

DINESH:

Well, I mean, you could apply this point in some ways to the four gospels—

FRANK:

Of course.

DINESH:

Right—

FRANK:

You could.

DINESH:

The way that if you approach the four gospels simply as a police detective, if a police detective gets four different accounts of the same event, the same accident, what did you see? You notice that there are going to be some discrepancies and even some contradictions because everyone is giving it from their perspective. If all the accounts were identical, the officer would suspect that something is choreographed, something is staged. And so Candace is using the natural variability of human testimony to somehow imply that some conspiracy is afoot when quite obviously that's not the case here.

FRANK:

Hey Dinesh, tell everyone your website.

DINESH:

My website is dineshdesouza.com. You can follow me on X at [dineshdesouza](https://twitter.com/dineshdesouza). My weekly show is just called Dinesh.

FRANK:

And the great book, *The Stones Cry Out*. Get it now. Thanks, Dinesh. Lord willing, we'll see you here next week, ladies and gentlemen. God bless.

**CROSS
EXAMINED
.ORG**

