



Are the NT Documents Reliable?

INTERACTIVE OUTLINE

Friday night at 7:30 PM & Sunday at 10:30 AM
 Scripture Reading: 2 Timothy 3: 16-17

November 14 & 16, 2014
 Speaker: Brent Hunter

Notes:

Intro.

- A. There are many **h**_____ around. It is fair to wonder about the *authenticity* of the Bible.
- B. Could the NT be simply the invention of creative minds?
- C. What would be necessary to pull off such a **f**_____?

I. YOU WOULD HAVE TO BE FAR REMOVED FROM THE ORIGINAL EVENTS.

- A. Otherwise there would be too many **w**_____.
 - 1. The NT is filled with “eye witness” testimony.
 - 2. “We have heard with our ears, *seen with our eyes* and our hands handled” (I John 1:1).
- B. We have good **m**_____ evidence to prove an early date in the John Rylands Fragment of Jn 18.

II. YOU WOULD HAVE TO CAREFULLY AVOID SPECIFIC DETAILS.

- A. Details change over time and are very easy to get mixed up.
- B. It is wise to avoid specific names, places, elevations, etc.
 - 1. However the NT is filled with many **d**_____.
 - 2. Luke and John provide us with many specifics.
 - a. “Five pillars in the temple” (Jn 5:2).
 - b. “Gallio was proconsul of Achaia” (Acts 18:12).

III. IT WOULD HAVE HAD TO HAVE BEEN A VAST CONSPIRACY!

- A. 27 different books would require lots of help!
- B. It would have to be a **g**_____ effort.
 - 1. All had to be unified in teaching, thought, and doctrine.
 - 2. Everyone involved would have had to maintain **s**_____.
 How likely is it that everyone could have kept quiet?
- C. What would have been the **m**_____?
 - 1. The authors did not receive riches and fame.
 - 2. No, they received ridicule, poverty, and death.
 - 3. People die for what they know to be the truth, not a lie.
- D. Does it make sense that books exalting the highest ethical conduct in history were themselves all a bunch of charlatans?

ANSWERS:

endures
 manuscript
 fraud
 motive
 witnesses
 secrecy
 group
 details
 hoaxes

Conclusion: The word of the Lord **e**_____ forever (I Peter 1:25)!