The Uniqueness of the Bible
Unique in its Continuity

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  6. Written from three continents:
  7. Written in three languages:
I have found in the Bible words for my inmost thoughts, songs for my joy, utterance for my hidden griefs and pleadings for my shame and feebleness.

- Samuel Taylor-
Coleridge English Poet and Literary Critic
(1772-1834)
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  **11.) The leading Character through all these books is the one, true, living God made known through Jesus Christ.**
Unique in it’s Continuity

The O.T:
• The Law provides the foundation for Christ.
• The Historical Books show the preparation for Christ.
• The Poetic books aspire to Christ.
• The Prophecies expect Christ.

The N.T.
• The Gospels show the manifestation of Christ
• Acts shows the spread of Christ.
• The Epistles show the interpretation of Christ.
• Revelation shows the completion of all things in Christ.
Contrast the books of the Bible with the compilation of Western classics called the Great Books of the Western World. The Great books contain selection from more than 450 works by close to 100 authors spanning a period of about 25 centuries. Homer, Plato, Aristotle, Plotinus, Augustine, Aquinas, Dante, Hobbes, Spinoza, Calvin, Rousseau, Shakespeare, Hume, Kane, Darwin, Tolstoy, Whitehead, and Joyce, to name but a handful. While these individuals are all part of the western traditions of ideas, they often display an incredible diversity of views on just about every subject. Ands while their views share some commonalities, they also display numerous conflicting and contradictory positions and perspectives. In fact, they frequently go out of their way to critique and refute key ideas proposed by their predecessors…

Josh McDowell
## Unique in its Circulation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Bible</th>
<th>Testaments</th>
<th>Portions</th>
<th>New Reader Portions</th>
<th>Selections</th>
<th>New Reader Selections</th>
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Unique in Translation:
Unique in its Survival: Through Time
To be skeptical of the resultant text of the New Testament books is to allow all of classical antiquity to slip into obscurity, for no documents of the ancient period are as well attested bibliographically as the New Testament.

– John Warwick Montgomery.
“Jews preserved it as no other manuscript has ever been preserved. With their massora they kept tabs on every letter, syllable, word and paragraph. They had special classes of men within their culture whose sole duty was to preserve and transmit these documents with practically perfect fidelity – scribes, lawyers, massoretes. Who ever counted he letters and syllables and words of Plato or Aristotle? Cicero or Seneca?

Bernard Ramm
In an article in the North American Review, a writer made some interesting comparisons between the writings of Shakespeare and the Scriptures, which show that much greater care must have been bestowed upon the biblical manuscripts than upon other writings, even when there was so much more opportunity of preserving the correct text by means of printed copies than when all the copies had to be made by hand. He said: “It seems strange that the test of Shakespeare, which has been in existence less than two hundred and eight years, should be far more uncertain and corrupt than that of the New Testament, now over eighteen centuries old, during nearly fifteen of which it existed only in manuscript…With perhaps a dozen or twenty exceptions, the text of every verse in the N.T. may be said to be so far settled by general consent of scholars, that any dispute as to its readings must relate to rather to the interpretation of the words than to any doubts respecting the words themselves. But in every one of Shakespeare’s thirty-seven plays there are probably a hundred readings still in dispute, a large portion of which materially affects the meaning of the passage in which they occur.

John Lea, in The Greatest Book in the World
Unique in its Survival: Through Persecution
Unique in its Teachings:
Unique in its Teachings:

“...it stands absolutely alone in ancient literature without a remote parallel even among the Greeks.... The table of Nations remains an astonishingly accurate document.

Professor Albright
Unique in its Teachings of Character:
Unique in its influence on Literature:
Unique in its influence on Literature:

An inspired work, the Bible is also a source of inspiration. It’s impact has no equal, whether on the social and ethical plane or on that of literary creation...It’s characters are dramatic, their dramas timeless, their triumphs and defeats overwhelming. Each cry touches us, each call penetrates us. Texts of another age, the biblical poems are themselves ageless. They call out to us collectively and individually, across and beyond the centuries.

Elie Wiesel
Novelist, Nobel Peace Prize Winner
Unique in its Influence on Civilization:
Unique in its Influence on Civilization:

The influence of the Bible and its teaching in the Western world is clear for all who study history. And the influential role of the west in the course of the world events is equally clear. Civilization has been influenced more by the Judeo-Christian Scriptures than by any other book or series of books in the World. Indeed no great moral or religious work in the world exceeds the depth of morality in the principle of Christian love, and none has a more lofty spiritual concept that the biblical view of God. The Bible presents the highest ideals known to men, ideals that have molded civilization.

Geisler and Nix

“A general introduction to the Bible”
Unique in its Influence on Civilization:

_The Bible brought its view of God, the universe, and mankind into all the leading western languages and thus into the intellectual processes of Western man._”

Davis, the New Encyclopedia Britannica.
Unique in its Influence on Civilization:

Behold the works of our philosophers; with all their pompous diction, how mean and contemptible they are by comparison with the Scriptures! Is it possible that a book at once so simple and sublime should be merely the work of man?

Jean Jacques Rousseau
French Philosopher
Unique in its Influence on Civilization:

Two thousand years...the centuries themselves are measured from the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. At the end of this year, calendars in India and China, like those in Europe, America, and the Middle East, will register the dawn of the third millennium

Kenneth L. Woodward

“2000 Years of Jesus,” Newsweek, March 29, 1999 pg 52
A Reasonable Conclusion: