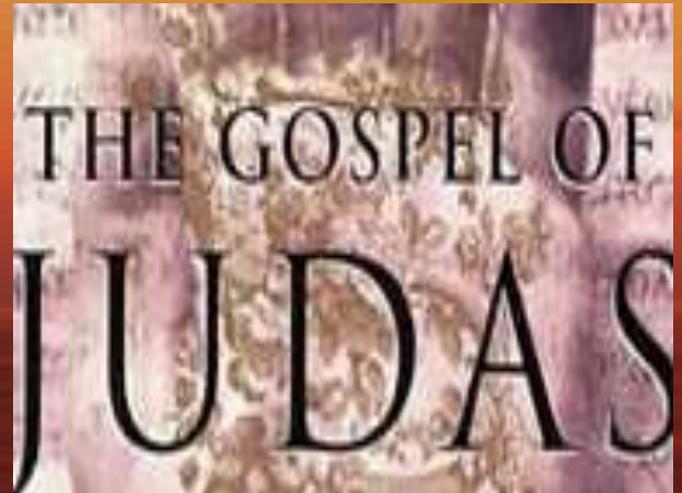


Is the Bible God's Word?

THE GOSPEL OF JUDAS

1. Gospel of Judas casts doubt on traditional beliefs
2. The ad for this National Geographic broadcast stated... an ancient manuscript may reveal startling new evidence about the relationship between Jesus Christ and Judas Iscariot, the disciple who betrayed him.



"The discovery of
the Gospel of Judas is astonishing."

—ELAINE PAGELS

The Gospel of
Judas

EDITED BY Rodolphe Kasser, Marvin Meyer, and Gregor Wurst

WITH ADDITIONAL COMMENTARY BY BART D. EHRMAN

THE GOSPEL OF JUDAS

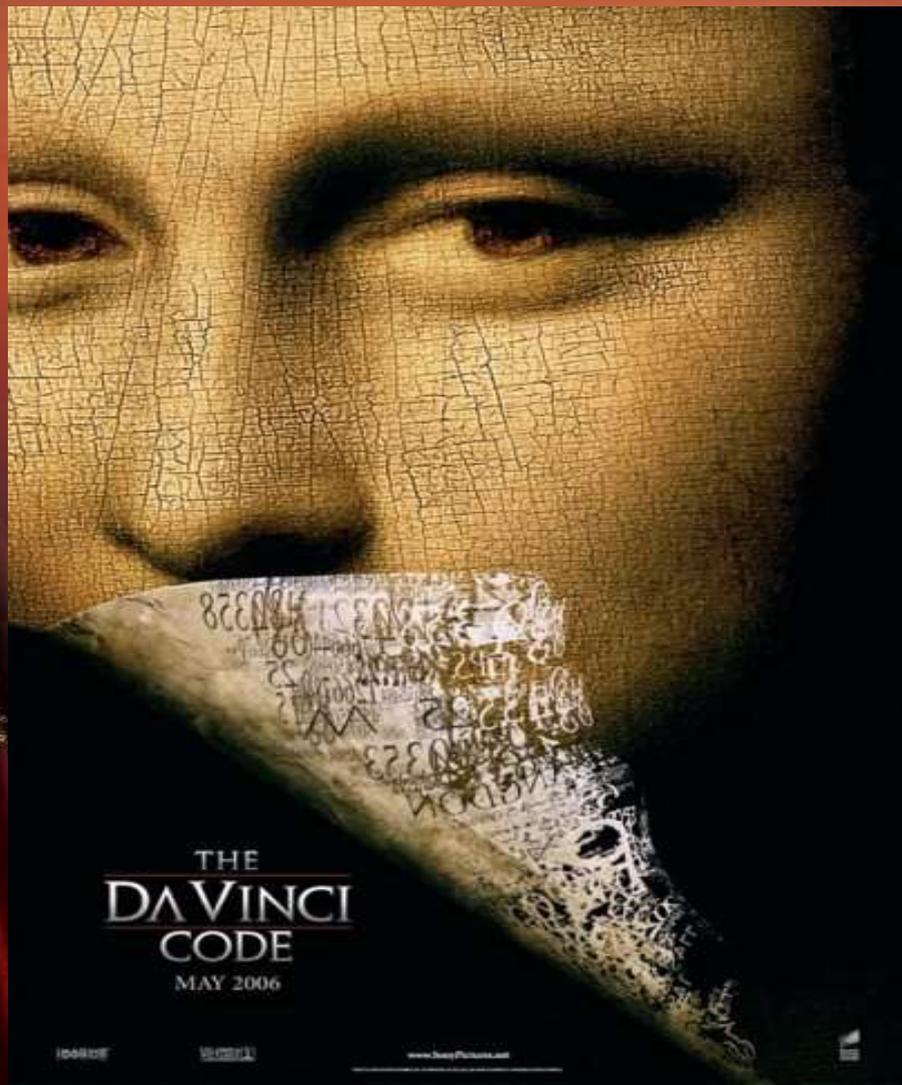
SUNDAY APRIL 9 8P et/9P pt

[Send me an email reminder >>](#)

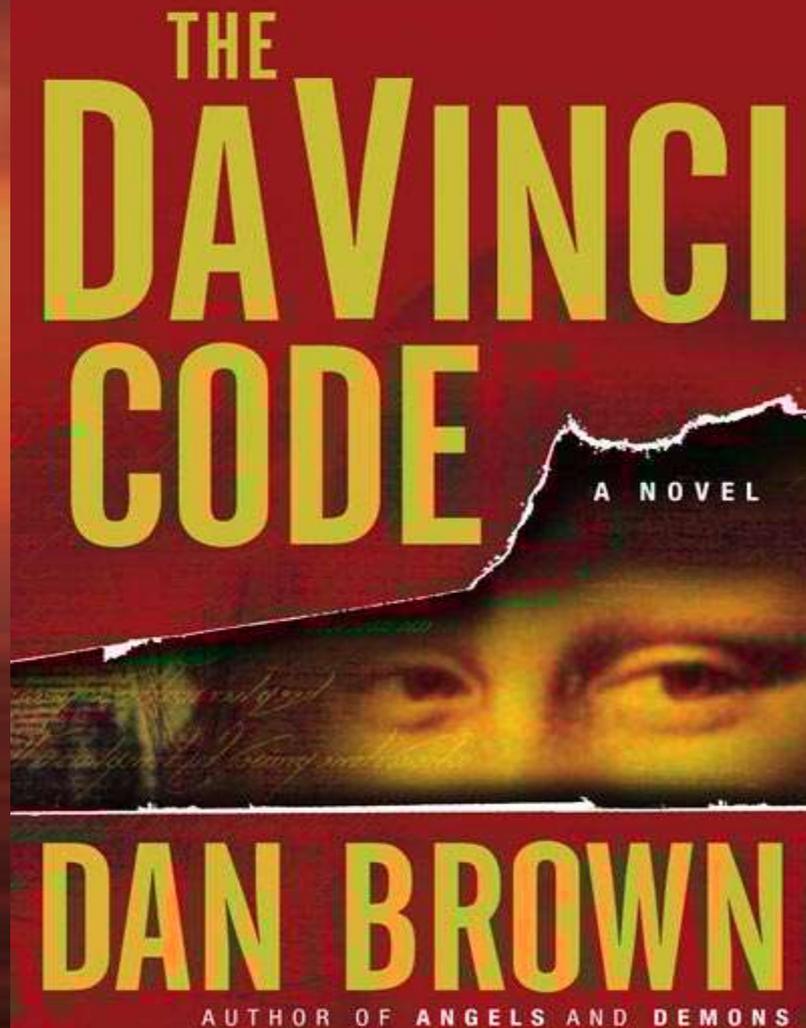
One of the most significant biblical finds of the last century—a lost gospel that could challenge what is believed about the story of Judas and his betrayal of Jesus.



THE DAVINCI CODE



"All descriptions of artwork, architecture, documents, and secret rituals in this novel are accurate."



**ALL THESE
THINGS ADD
UP UNTIL
PEOPLE
BEGIN TO
QUESTION
THE
RELIABILITY
OF THE BIBLE**

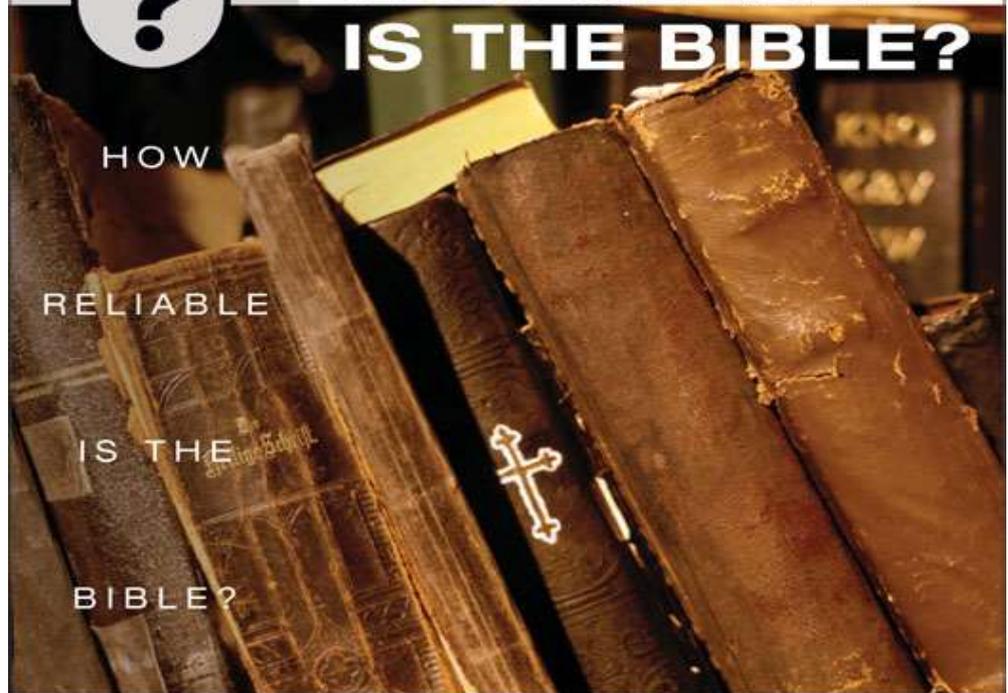
**TOUGH
QUESTIONS**
REVISED EDITION

"The profound insights and candor captured in these guides will sharpen your mind, soften your heart, and inspire you and the members of your group to find vital answers together."

— *Bill Hybels*



**HOW RELIABLE
IS THE BIBLE?**




WILLOW
WILLOW CREEK RESOURCES

JUDSON POLING
foreword by **Lee Strobel**

Galatians 6:7-8 – *“whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. 8 For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.”* NASU

Galatians 6:7–8 (LBLA) — *7 No os dejéis engañar, de Dios nadie se burla; pues todo lo que el hombre siembre, eso también segará. 8 Porque el que siembra para su propia carne, de la carne segará corrupción, pero el que siembra para el Espíritu, del Espíritu segará vida eterna.*

IF GOD AUTHORED A BOOK—WHAT WOULD YOU EXPECT THAT BOOK TO BE LIKE?

- Unique- “being without a like or equal”.
- Predict the future?
- It would be ahead of it’s time.
 - There are remarkable truths written in the Bible thousands of years before they were discovered by man, in the fields of science, medicine, astronomy, biology, geography, etc.
- A book from God would be accurate.
- It would be accurately passed down through the ages.

- I would expect it to be the most popular book of all time.
- I would expect men to love it, hate it, cherish it, and debate it ...
- The Bible fulfills all these expectations and **MORE!**
- The Bible is truly the most unique book in the world and in the history of the world.

The Bible Is Crystal Clear In Its Claims To Be The Word Of God

- "Thus says the Lord"418
- "God said"46
- "The word of the Lord"32
- "The word of the Lord came to"133
- "The word of the Lord"5
- "God said"12
- "The word of the Lord came to"102

962

- 1 Corinthians 14:37 *"If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment."*
- 1 Corinthians 14:37 (LBLA) — *37 Si alguno piensa que es profeta o espiritual, reconozca que lo que os escribo es mandamiento del Señor.*

- 1 Thessalonians 2:13 *"And for this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received from us the word of God's message, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God."*
- 1 Thessalonians 2:13 (LBLA) — *13 Por esto también nosotros sin cesar damos gracias a Dios de que cuando recibisteis de nosotros la palabra del mensaje de Dios, la aceptasteis no como la palabra de hombres, sino como lo que realmente es, la palabra de Dios, la cual también hace su obra en vosotros los que creéis.*

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 - *16 all scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; 17 so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.* NASU
- 2 Timothy 3:16–17 (LBLA) — *16 Toda Escritura es inspirada por Dios y útil para enseñar, para reprender, para corregir, para instruir en justicia, 17 a fin de que el hombre de Dios sea perfecto, equipado para toda buena obra.*

- Galatians 1:11-12 - *For I would have you know, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. 12 For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.*
NASU
- Galatians 1:11–12 (LBLA) — *11 Pues quiero que sepáis, hermanos, que el evangelio que fue anunciado por mí no es según el hombre. 12 Pues ni lo recibí de hombre, ni me fue enseñado, sino que lo recibí por medio de una revelación de Jesucristo.*

- 2 Peter 1:20-21- *20 But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, 21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.* NASU
- 2 Peter 1:20–21 (LBLA) — *20 Pero ante todo sabed esto, que ninguna profecía de la Escritura es asunto de interpretación personal, 21 pues ninguna profecía fue dada jamás por un acto de voluntad humana, sino que hombres inspirados por el Espíritu Santo hablaron de parte de Dios.*

- 1 John 4:6: *"We are from God; he who knows God listens to us; he who is not from God does not listen to us."*
- 1 John 4:6 (LBLA) — *6 Nosotros somos de Dios; el que conoce a Dios, nos oye; el que no es de Dios, no nos oye. En esto conocemos el espíritu de la verdad y el espíritu del error.*

THE BIBLE CLAIMS TO BE INDESTRUCTIBLE

- Isaiah 40:8 *"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever."*
- Isaiah 40:8 (LBLA) — *8 Sécase la hierba, marchítase la flor, mas la palabra del Dios nuestro permanece para siempre.*
- Matthew 24:35 *"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall not pass away."*
- Matthew 24:35 (LBLA) — *35 El cielo y la tierra pasarán, mas mis palabras no pasarán.*

THE BIBLE CLAIMS TO BE INDESTRUCTIBLE

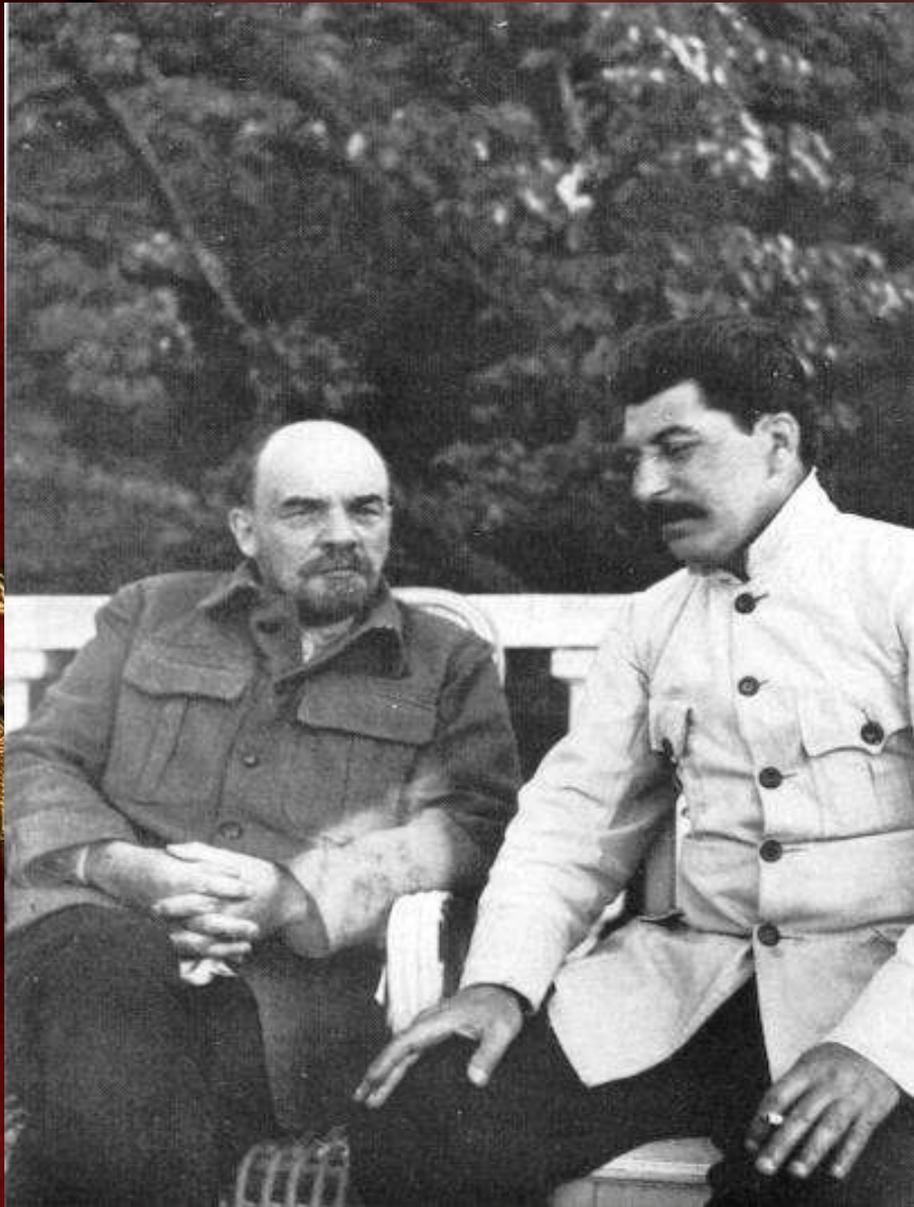
- 1 Peter 1:24-25 (NASB95) — *24 For, “ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS, AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS, AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF, 25 BUT THE WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER.” And this is the word which was preached to you.*
- 1 Peter 1:24–25 (LBLA) — *24 Porque: TODA CARNE ES COMO LA HIERBA, Y TODA SU GLORIA COMO LA FLOR DE LA HIERBA. SÉCASE LA HIERBA, CESE LA FLOR, 25 MAS LA PALABRA DEL SEÑOR PERMANECE PARA SIEMPRE. Y esta es la palabra que os fue predicada.*

THE BIBLE CLAIMS TO BE INDESTRUCTIBLE

- Isaiah 55:11, *"So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it."*
- Isaiah 55:11 (LBLA) — *11 así será mi palabra que sale de mi boca, no volverá a mí vacía sin haber realizado lo que deseo, y logrado el propósito para el cual la envié.*

- These are remarkable statements when you consider the efforts that have been made to rid the world of the Bible.
- *Antiochus Epiphanes (215 – 164 B.C.) sought to destroy the Jewish laws and customs. He destroyed every copy of the OT he found. He declared war on the Bible. Even putting to death Jews and anyone else found with the OT in their possession.*
- *Diocletian Roman Emperor (284-305 A.D.) decreed death for any person who owned a copy of the Scriptures, he boasted, "I have completely exterminated the Christian writings from the face of the earth."*
- *But when Constantine came to the throne and desired a copy of the Scriptures, within 24 hours fifty copies of God's Word were presented to the Emperor.*

- French Author, philosopher, and atheist - *Voltaire boldly declared that within 100 years the Bible would be no more.*
- **However today no one remembers Voltaire's writings and the Bible has become the best selling book of all time.**
- *Robert Ingersoll, famous American atheist of the 17th and 18th centuries made the same outrageous claim: "In 15 years I will have this book [the Bible] in the morgue."*
- *Within 15 years Ingersoll was in the morgue but the word of God lives on.*



Lenin- sought to remove every vestige of religion from Eastern Europe

Joseph Stalin swept through every town and hamlet to remove Bibles from his newly established "utopian society."

Lenin and Stalin lie in their tombs, but the word of God now spreads through that part of the world.







- *Pope Innocent II, in 1199, had the French Bibles burned at Metz and forbade the people to have more.*
- *The council of Tarrogonia, in Spain, under Pope Gregory IX, in 1234, ordered the people to bring in their Bibles so they could be burned*
- *Pope Julius III was advised by a number of bishops to permit the least possible reading of the Bible in order that the papacy might be strengthened.*
- *The Jesuits claimed to have burned sixty thousand Bibles in a single year (1637) in Bohemia.*

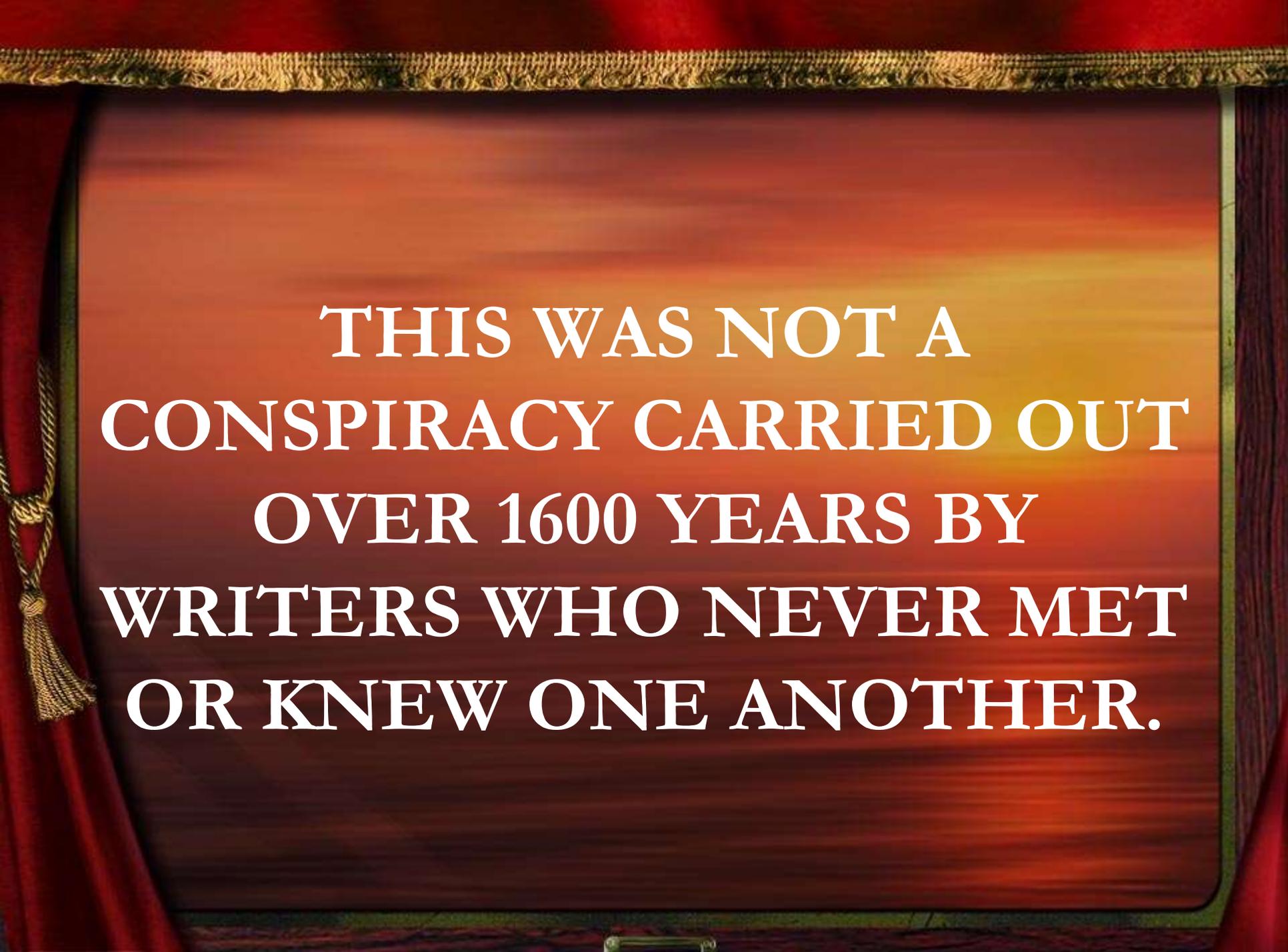
- *Pope Clement II, in 1793, condemned the reading of the Bible.*
- *Pope Pius VI did the same.*
- *Pope Pius III, on May 6, 1844, said those favoring Bible societies were guilty of the greatest crime before God and the church.*
- This is a list of **A FEW** of the efforts made to rid the world of the Bible, yet copies of it exist in greater numbers today than ever before in history.

Last eve I passed beside a blacksmith's door,
And heard the anvil ring the vesper chime;
Then, looking in, I saw upon the floor
Old hammers, worn with beating years of time.
How many anvils have you had," said I,
"To wear and batter all these hammers so?"
"Just one," said he, and then, with twinkling eye,
"The anvil wears the hammers out, you know."
And so, thought I, the anvil of God's Word,
For ages skeptic blows have beat upon;
Yet, though the noise of falling blows was heard,
The anvil is unharmed--the hammers gone.

--Author Unknown

THERE IS NO BOOK LIKE THE BIBLE IN ITS UNITY OF MESSAGE.

- 66 different books of the Bible
- written by 40 plus human authors
- over a span of a millennium and a half (1,600 years.)
- Most of these writers never knew or met one another
- Moses, died about 1450 years before the last writer, John, was born.
- The writers of the Bible's lives span over 60 generations



**THIS WAS NOT A
CONSPIRACY CARRIED OUT
OVER 1600 YEARS BY
WRITERS WHO NEVER MET
OR KNEW ONE ANOTHER.**

Most of these authors were neither theologians or religious experts.

- Moses, born to slaves, became the adopted son of a king.
- Peter fished for a living.
- Amos was a herdsman.
- Joshua was former slave who became a military leader.
- Nehemiah was a cup bearer for a king.
- Daniel was a kidnapped Jew who became a Prime Minister.
- Luke was a physician.
- Solomon was a king.
- Matthew worked for the Roman IRS.
- Paul was a Jewish Rabbi.

There is also great diversity in the locations where these men wrote.

- Moses was in the desert.
- Jeremiah was in a dungeon.
- Daniel was in a palace.
- Paul was on journeys across the Roman Empire or in prison – at least part of the time.
- Luke wrote while he was traveling across the Roman Empire.
- John was an exile in the salt mines of the Island of Patmos.

- The Bible was also written in different parts of three continents – Asia, Africa, and Europe.
- Moses, the first writer, would not have understood the writings of John, the last writer because the two men wrote in different languages.
- The Bible was written in three different languages: Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek.

They also wrote about many controversial subjects, including hot button issues as:

- The origin of the universe
- Man's origins
- Life after death
- Public and private morality
- Marriage and family
- Child rearing
- Sexuality
- The value of human life vs. animal life
- Slavery
- The relationship between church and state

2 Peter 1:21: *"No prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God."*