

## *Is the Bible True?*

The Church teaches that the Holy Bible is inerrantly true in matters of faith and morals. Those truths written down in the original manuscripts say accurately what God intended to say to His Church. This includes both the Old Testament and the New Testament. In this we need to remember this religious truth comes from the Holy Spirit through the minds, words, worldview, culture and pens of human scribes. These writers were protected from human error in the things about faith and morals they wrote about. Since it is not God's intention to teach science and history in the modern sense, we do not look to Scripture for exact answers to such questions. In practice these things may fit in nicely at times but are not guaranteed. Let us consider at least six kinds of truth here:

### SCIENTIFIC TRUTH:

The ancient writers of Holy Scripture used the best understanding of the physical world available to them to bring out the religious truth the Holy Spirit inspired them to tell. To us moderns this is often inadequate science, but it was not the science that God was talking about. It is the Religious reality behind it all that we should have faith in.

### HISTORICAL TRUTH:

While much of the historical truth in the Bible is quite accurate, it is primarily only the vehicle to bring out the inspired religious and moral truth.

### PROVERBIAL TRUTH:

This is a kind of folk wisdom in short easy to grasp sentences. These are handy gems of godly lifestyle found especially in the wisdom books of the Bible.

### SYMBOLIC TRUTH:

Some of the true message of the Bible is told in folk tails, parables, allegories, and symbolic ways rather than in straight factual sentences. Such symbolic expressions help ordinary people think about the deeper realities behind them.

### MORAL TRUTH:

Moral truth brings us the standards of right and wrong; good and bad. It tells us how to live successfully in our Creator's plan.

### RELIGIOUS TRUTH:

This religious reality along with the God-given lifestyle standards is what the Bible is all about. The Holy Books are absolutely and inerrantly true in the Message they are trying to tell us for our salvation.