

Following Jesus  
Without Losing your  
Brain

Trusting the Bible  
without being  
Fundamentalist

# Part 2 - Without being Fundamentalist

Inerrancy

Biblical criticism

Bible interpretation

# How did Judas die?

So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. Then he went away and hanged himself.

Mt 27:5

(With the payment he received for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out.

Acts 1:18

Who did what with the 30 pieces of silver?

With the payment he received for his wickedness, Judas bought a field.

Acts 1:18

So Judas threw the money into the temple and left. The chief priests picked up the coins and they decided to use the money to buy the potter's field as a burial place for foreigners.

Mt 27:5-7

# Jeremiah or Zechariah?

Then what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled: “They took the thirty pieces of silver, the price set on him by the people of Israel, and they used them to buy the potter’s field, as the Lord commanded me.”

Mt 27:9-10

I told them, “If you think it best, give me my pay; but if not, keep it.” So they paid me thirty pieces of silver. And the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the potter” —the handsome price at which they valued me! So I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them to the potter at the house of the LORD.

Zech 11:12-13

# Which priest gave David bread on the Sabbath?

He answered, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat.

Mk 2:25-26

David went to Nob, to Ahimelek the priest. David said: Now then, what do you have on hand? Give me five loaves of bread, or whatever you can find.” But the priest answered David, “I don’t have any ordinary bread on hand; however, there is some consecrated bread...

1 Sam 21:1-4

# How many angels met the women at the tomb? And where exactly were they?

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

Mk 16:5

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them..

Luke24:4

How many angels met the women at the tomb?  
And where exactly were they?

After the Sabbath, Mary  
Magdalene and the other  
Mary went to look at the tomb.  
There was a violent  
earthquake, for an angel of the  
Lord came down from heaven  
and, going to the tomb, rolled  
back the stone and sat on it. His  
appearance was like lightning, and  
his clothes were white as snow.

Mat 28:1-4

# When did Jairus' daughter die?

While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live."

Mt 9:18

Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." .... While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"

Mk 5:22-35

# Who told David to take the census?

Satan rose up against Israel and incited David to take a census of Israel.

1 Chron 21:1

Again the anger of the LORD burned against Israel, and he incited David against them, saying, "Go and take a census of Israel and Judah."

2 sam 24:1

# How many blind men?

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Mk 10:46-47

As Jesus and his disciples were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!”

Mt 20:29-30

# Should we take a staff boss?

Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts— no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff, for the worker is worth his keep.

Mt 10:9

These were his instructions: “Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. Wear sandals but not an extra shirt.

Mk 6:8-9

# How much and from whom?

*Then the king said to Araunah,  
“No, but I will surely buy it from  
you for a price; nor will I offer  
burnt offerings to the LORD my God  
with that which costs me nothing.”  
So David bought the threshing  
floor and the oxen for fifty shekels  
of silver.*

***2 Sam 24:24***

*Then King David said to Ornan,  
“No, but I will surely buy it for the  
full price, for I will not take what is  
yours for the LORD, nor offer burnt  
offerings with that which costs me  
nothing.” So David gave Ornan six  
hundred shekels of gold by weight  
for the place.*

***1 Chron 21:24-25***

# How many demoniacs

When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him.

Mt 8:28

They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him. This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain.

Mk 5:1-3

# Head or feet?

While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.

Mk 14:3

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany... Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair.

Jn 12:1-3

# Mother or sons?

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him.

“Teacher,” they said, “we want you to do for us whatever we ask.”

Mk 10:35

Then the mother of Zebedee's sons came to Jesus with her sons and, kneeling down, asked a favour of him. “What is it you want?” he asked. She said, “Grant that one of these two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom.”

Mt 20:20

# Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy

## Article XIII

*WE AFFIRM* the propriety of using inerrancy as a theological term with reference to the complete truthfulness of Scripture.

*WE DENY* that it is proper to evaluate Scripture according to standards of truth and error that are alien to its usage or purpose.

We further deny that inerrancy is negated by Biblical phenomena such as a lack of modern technical precision, irregularities of grammar or spelling, observational descriptions of nature, the reporting of falsehoods, the use of hyperbole and round numbers, the topical arrangement of material, variant selections of material in parallel accounts, or the use of free citations.

# My objections to the term inerrancy

It is invulnerable to evidence and debate

It is mathematically highly improbable

It makes God appear silly

It is unbiblical

It's arguments are self-defeating

It is already fudged

It is unnecessary

A better statement which avoids “inerrancy”:

“We affirm the divine inspiration, truthfulness and authority of both Old and New Testament Scriptures in their entirety as the only written word of God, without error in all that it affirms, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.”

The Lausanne Covenant

# Without being fundamentalist

- Don't get hung up about inerrancy
- Don't fear Biblical criticism
- Do learn to interpret well

Culture

Genre

Idiom & metaphor

Authorial intention

Obedience is the acid test of true faith

**He replied, “Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.”**