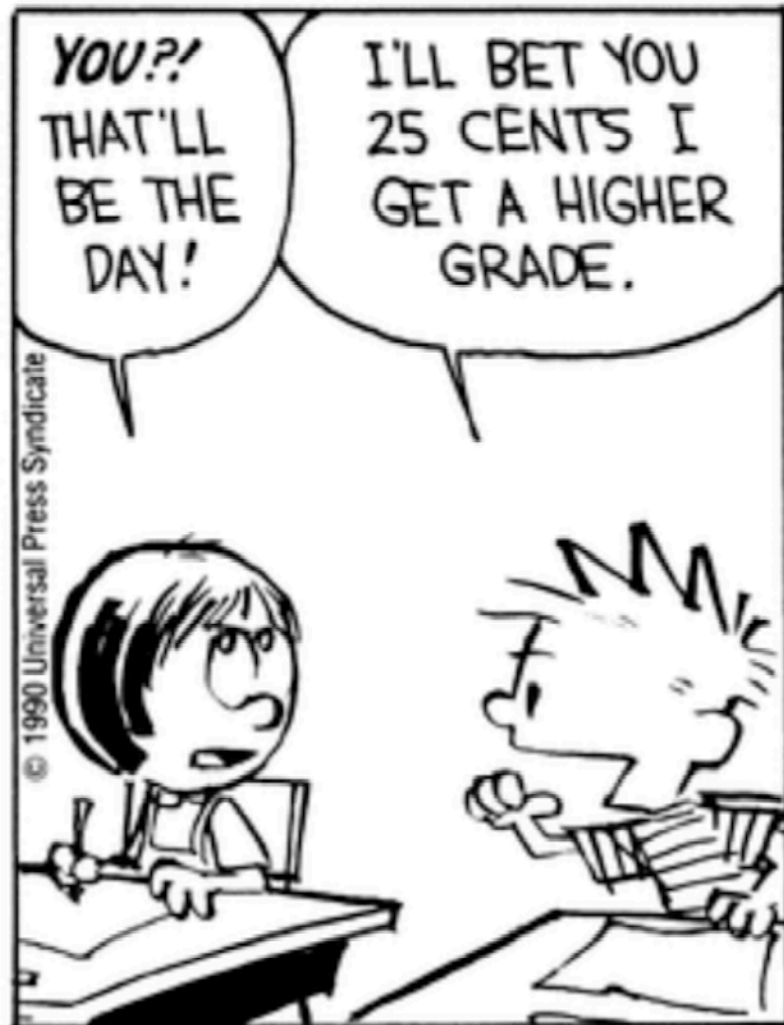
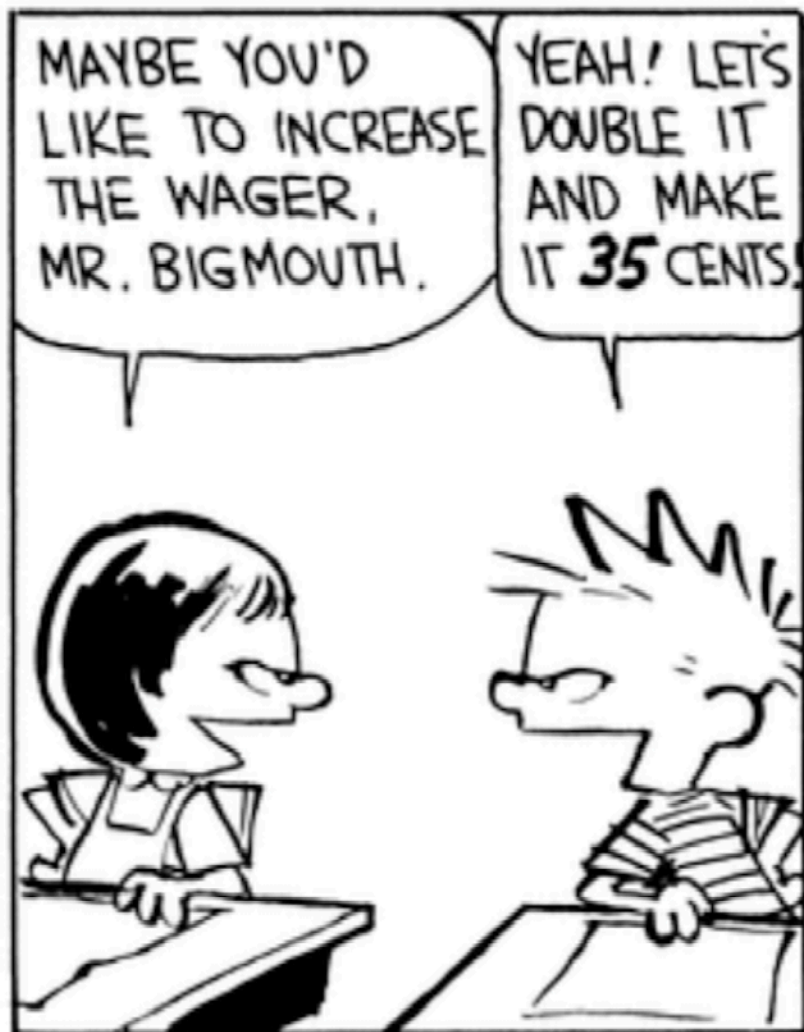


A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a black Bible. The person is wearing a white short-sleeved shirt. The Bible's spine is visible, with the words "HOLY BIBLE" printed vertically in gold or light-colored text. The background is dark and out of focus.

CAN I TRUST THE BIBLE

And Why Would I?





A person wearing a white short-sleeved uniform shirt is holding a black Bible. The spine of the Bible is visible, with the words "HOLY BIBLE" printed vertically in gold lettering. The person's hands are positioned to hold the Bible upright. The background is dark and out of focus.

CAN I TRUST THE BIBLE

And Why Would I?

Based Upon the Book:

Why I Should Trust The Bible (by William D Mounce)



Last week:

**Are the correct books in
the New Testament
canon?**

Is the Bible Full of Copy Mistakes?



CAN I TRUST
THE BIBLE
And Why Would I?

Big Idea:

*We can be confident
that the Bible we have
today is what was
originally written down.*





A person is holding a dark-colored Bible. The spine of the Bible is visible, and the words "HOLY BIBLE" are printed vertically on it. The background is a soft-focus image of a person's hands holding the book.

Why are we doing this series?

If I am going to trust the Bible,
I want to know that it is
trustworthy.

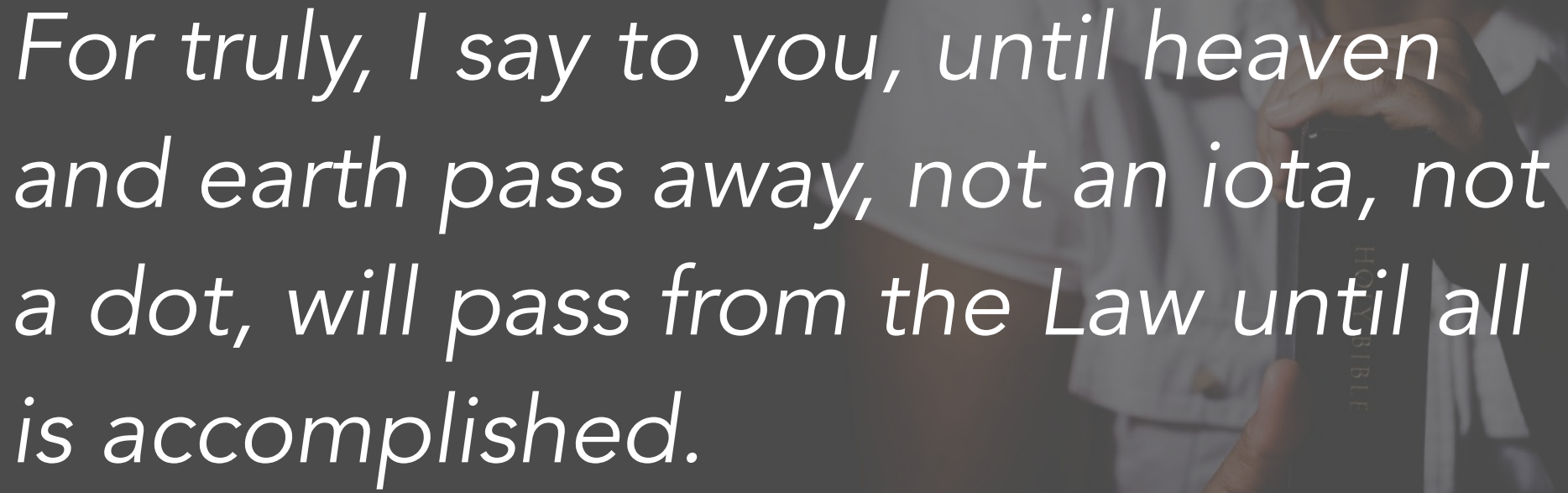
Question #1

1

• Does every word
of the Word
matter?

Matthew 5:17-18

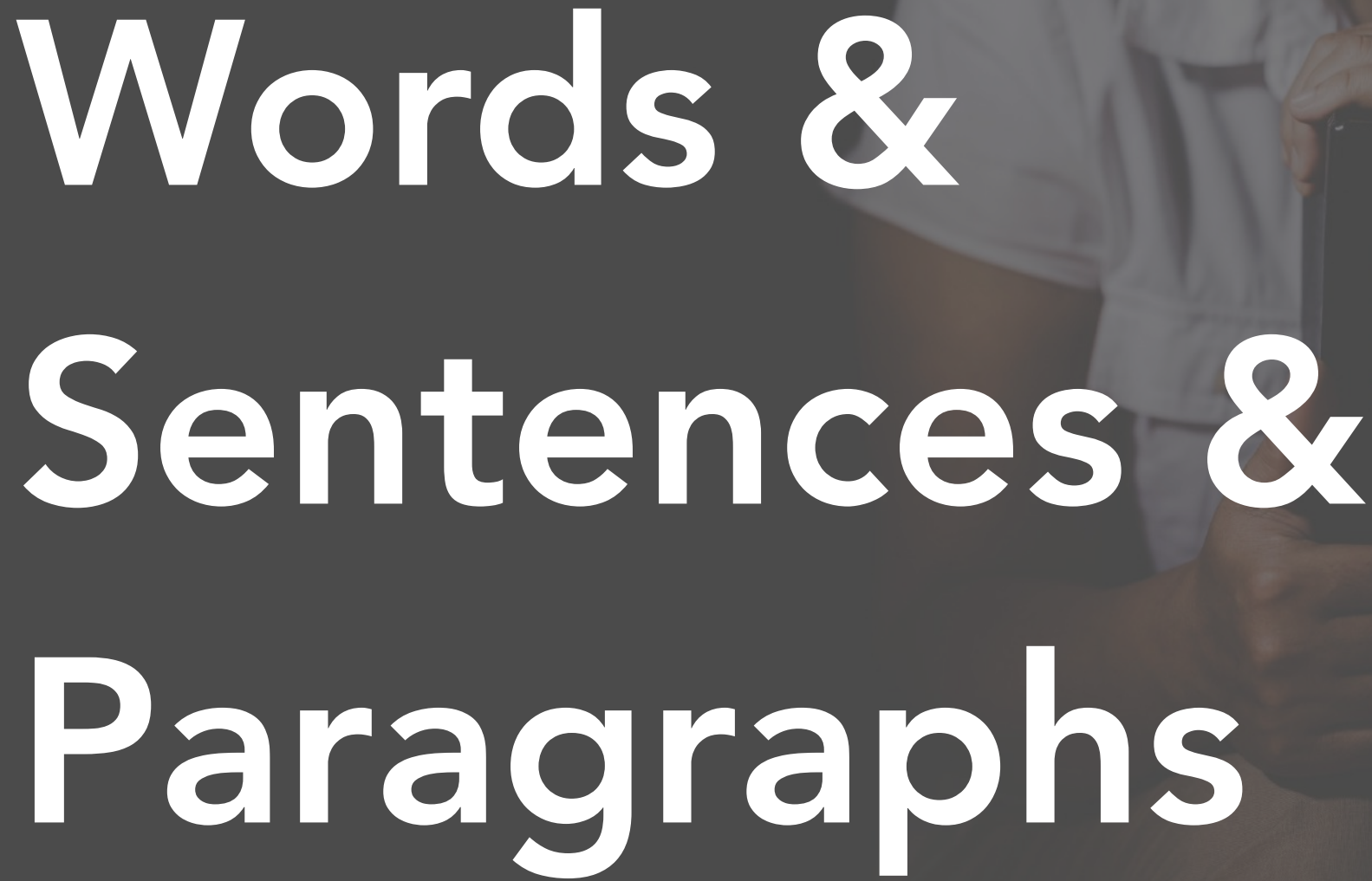
Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a black Bible. The word "HORRIBLE" is printed vertically on the spine of the Bible. The background is dark and out of focus.

*For truly, I say to you, until heaven
and earth pass away, not an iota, not
a dot, will pass from the Law until all
is accomplished.*

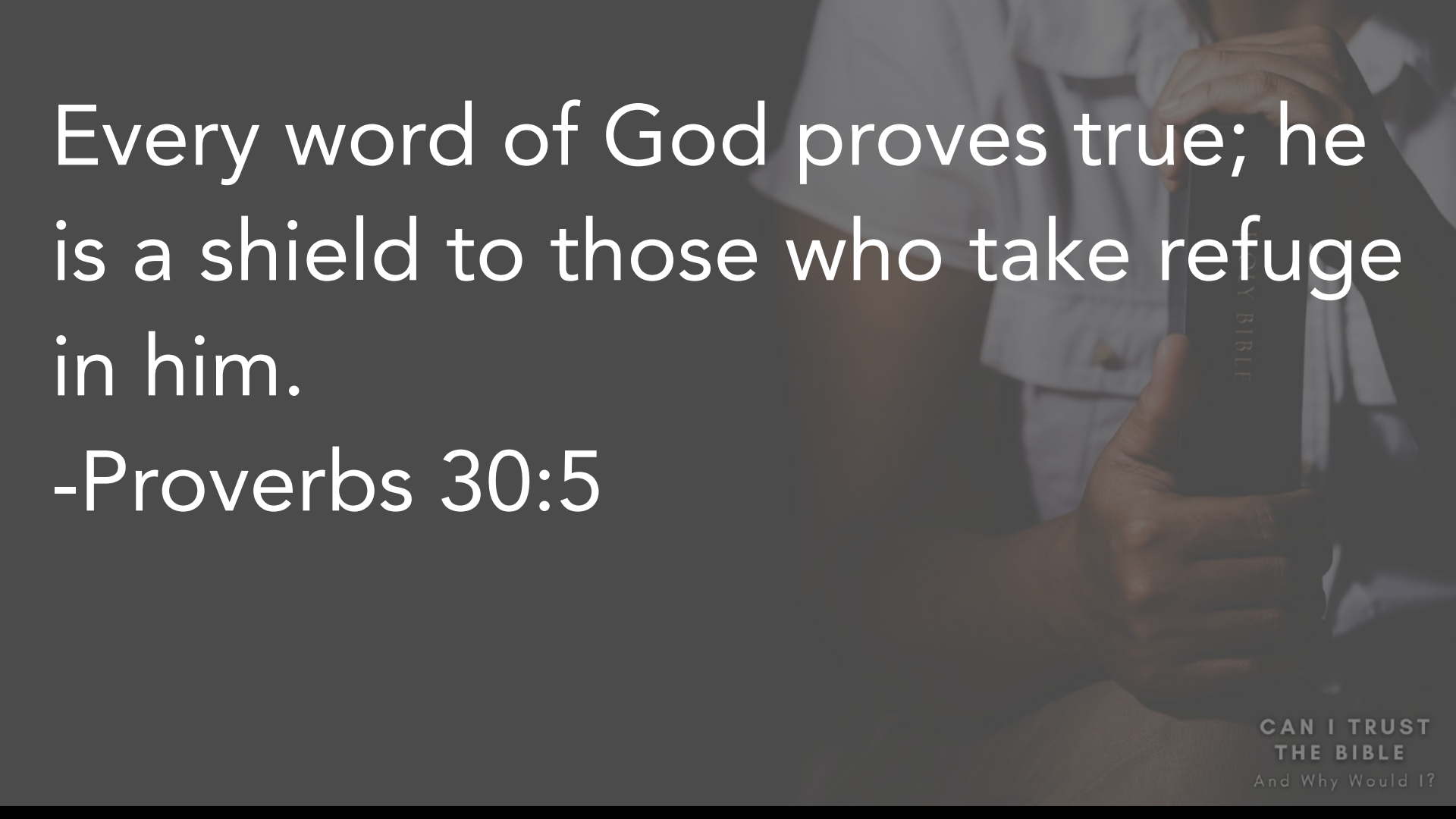
Verbal Plenary Inspiration

CAN I TRUST
THE BIBLE
And Why Would I?



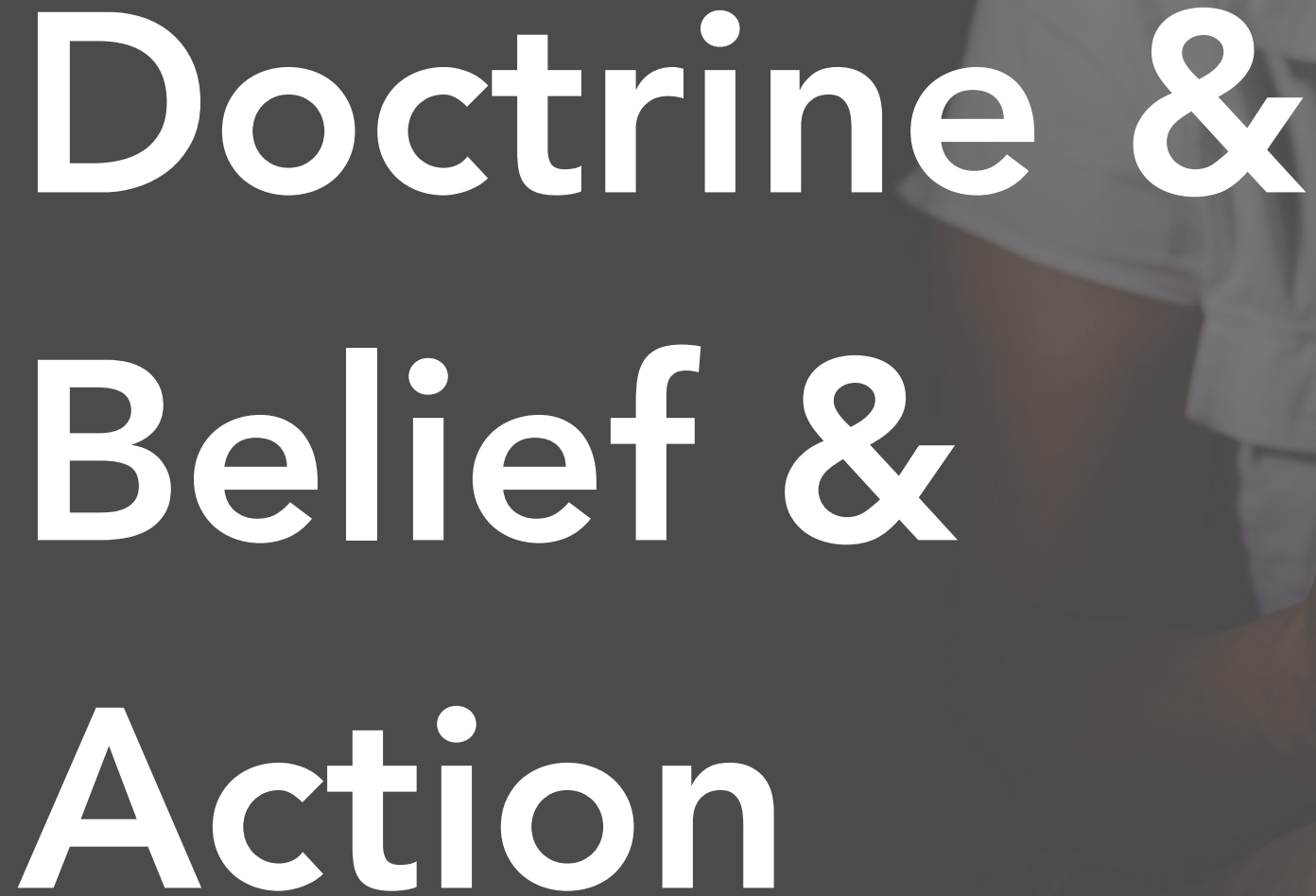
Words & Sentences & Paragraphs

CAN I TRUST
THE BIBLE
And Why Would I?

A person wearing a white uniform, possibly a nurse or medical professional, is holding a dark-colored Bible. The person's hands are visible, and the Bible is held in a way that suggests it is being read or presented. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the person and the Bible.

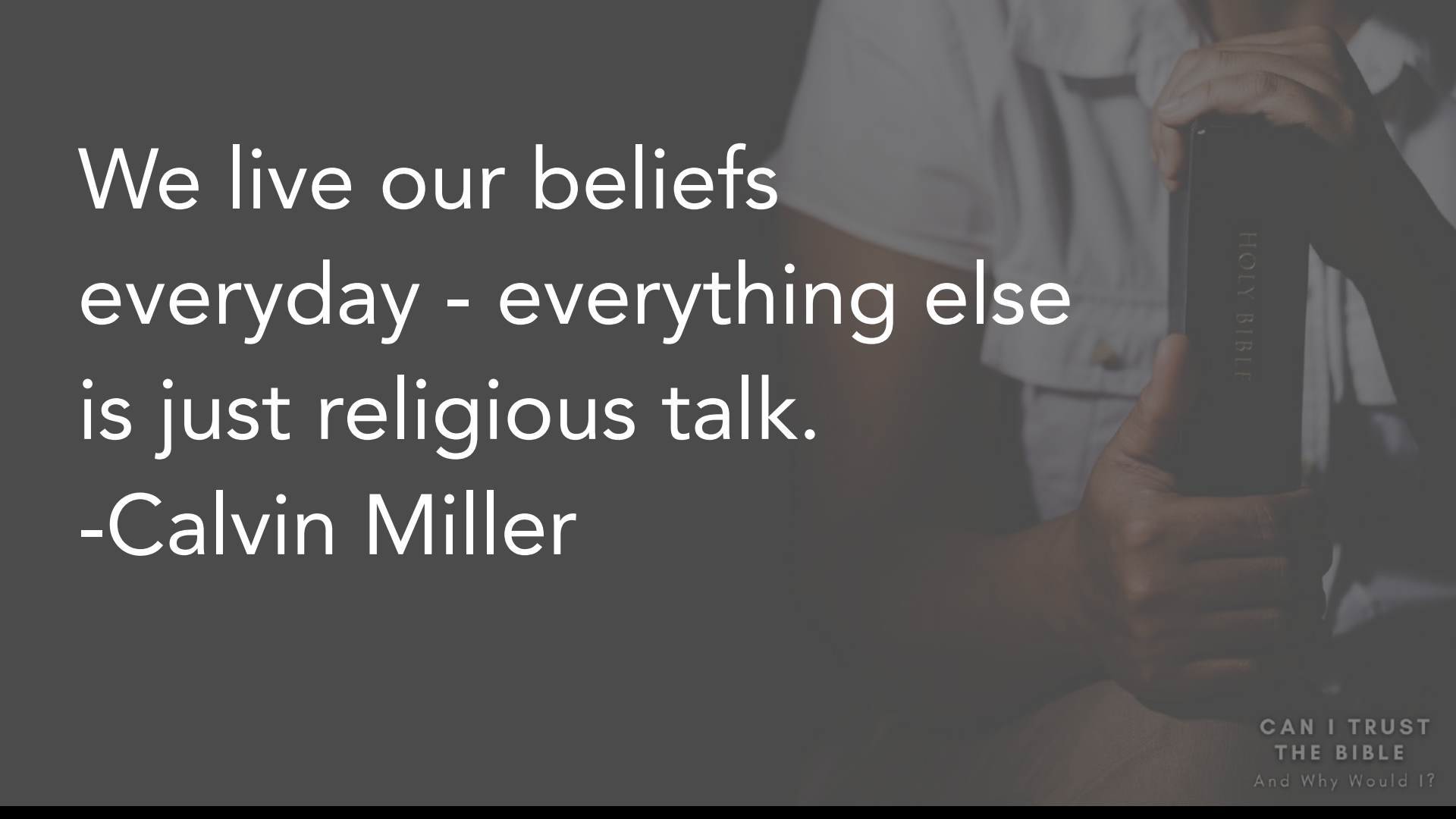
Every word of God proves true; he
is a shield to those who take refuge
in him.

-Proverbs 30:5

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a dark-colored Bible. The spine of the Bible is visible, with the words "HOLY BIBLE" printed vertically in gold or light-colored letters. The background is dark and slightly blurred, focusing attention on the hands and the Bible.

Doctrine & Belief & Action

CAN I TRUST
THE BIBLE
And Why Would I?

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a black Bible. The spine of the Bible is visible, with the words "HOLY BIBLE" printed vertically in gold or light-colored letters. The background is dark and out of focus.

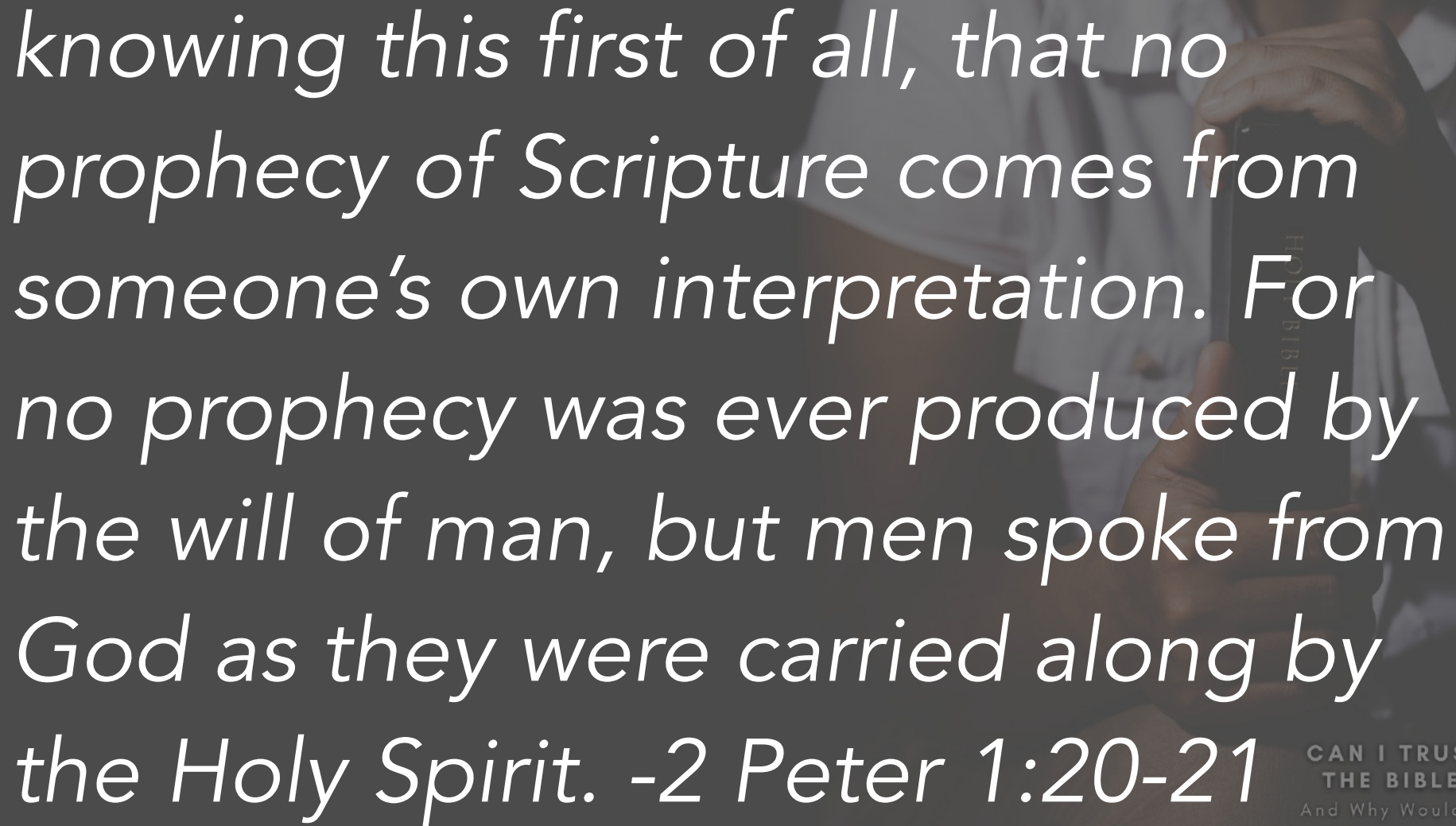
We live our beliefs
everyday - everything else
is just religious talk.

-Calvin Miller

Question #2

2.

Do we have every
word right?

A person's hands are visible holding a dark-colored Bible. The person is wearing a light-colored, possibly white, shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey. The text is overlaid on this background in a white, cursive-style font.

knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. -2 Peter 1:20-21

Autographs & manuscripts

Autograph:

the original document written by the author

Manuscripts:

copies of that original document

That's a lot of
mistakes!

The science of
textual
criticism.

of copies

New Testament

24,000

The Iliad

643

Sophocles

193

Aristotle

49

Viabile
variant?

*(May it be
reflecting the
original wording
of the author?)*

Meaningful
variant?

*(Does it
change the
meaning of
the passage?)*

99% of the variants are either
not viable
or not meaningful!

Steve took a nap after drinking his coffee.



Steve took a pan after drinking his coffee.



A close-up photograph of three horses. The horse on the left is dark brown, the middle one is a lighter tan or chestnut color, and the one on the right is dark brown. They are all looking towards the right. The text is overlaid on the image in white, with the word 'horses' highlighted in red.

But we were ~~gentle~~ **horses** among
you, like a nursing mother taking
care of her own children.
-Paul (1 Thessalonians 2:7)

Variants that are meaningful and viable are the ones that deserve our full attention.... This is the smallest category of variants - fewer than 1% of the 400,000.

-William Mounce

Example #1

You (**We**) also are in him, having heard the word of truth, the good news of your (**our**) salvation.

-Ephesians 1:13

Example #2

Jesus was moved with compassion
(anger). He reached out his hand
and touched the man. "I am
willing," he said. "Be clean!"

-Mark 1:41

Manuscript Families

Not in the best manuscripts:

- Woman caught in adultery (John 8:1-11)
- Last sentence of Lord's prayer (Matthew 6:13)
- Ending of Mark (16:9-20)

How many of these meaningful and viable variants are there?

- NIV: 282 such footnotes
- ESV: 460 such footnotes

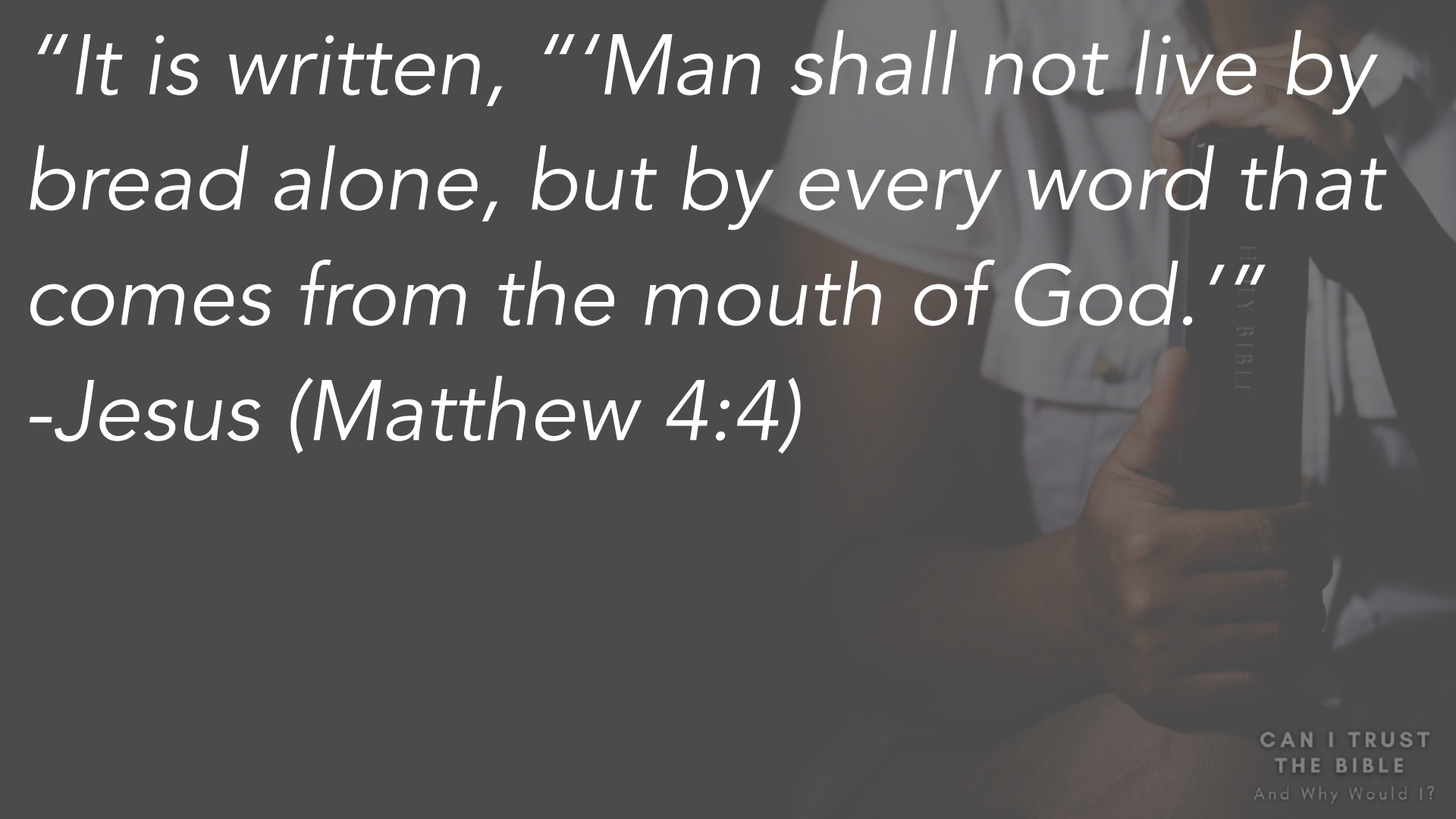
Summary

- 5,600 Greek manuscripts
- 400,000 textual variants
- 99% are either not meaningful or not viable
- Less than 1% are meaningful and viable, and no doctrine impacted.

Question #3

3

• Confidence in every word - what does it look like?

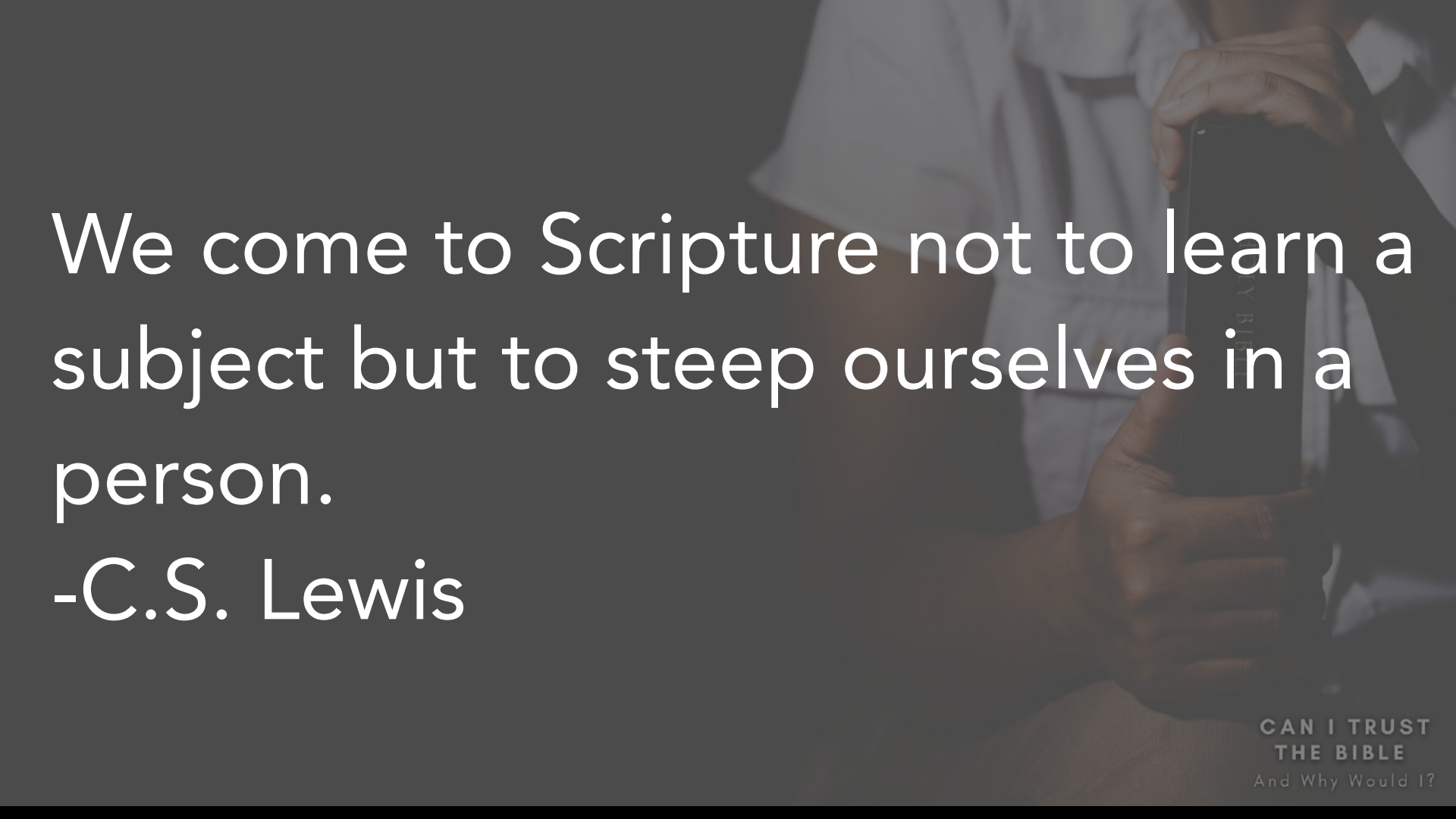
A person in a white shirt is holding a dark Bible. The text is overlaid on the image.

"It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."

-Jesus (Matthew 4:4)

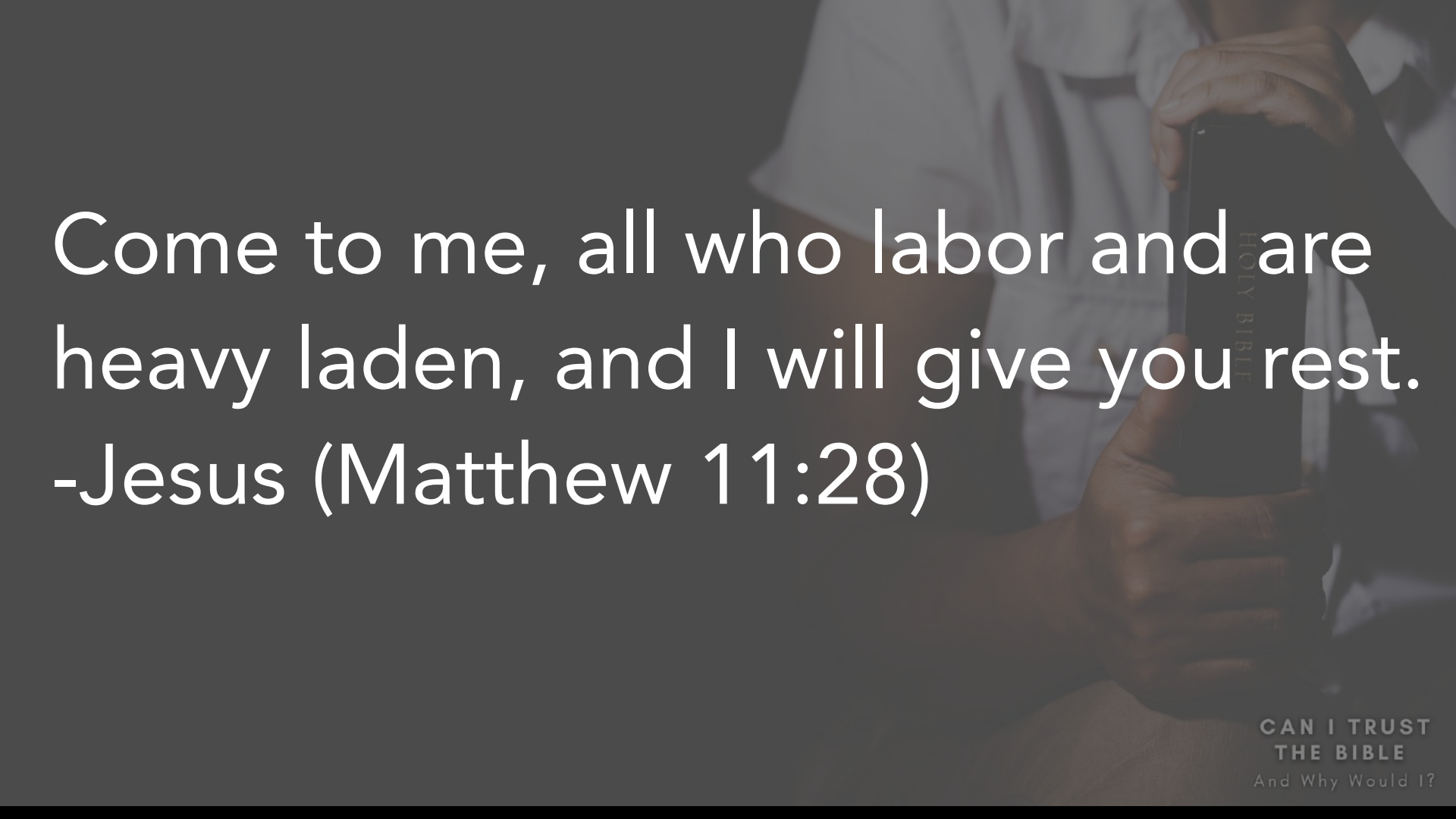
How do we
read
the Bible

With
hunger

A person in a white shirt is holding a dark Bible. The background is dark and slightly blurred.

We come to Scripture not to learn a subject but to steep ourselves in a person.

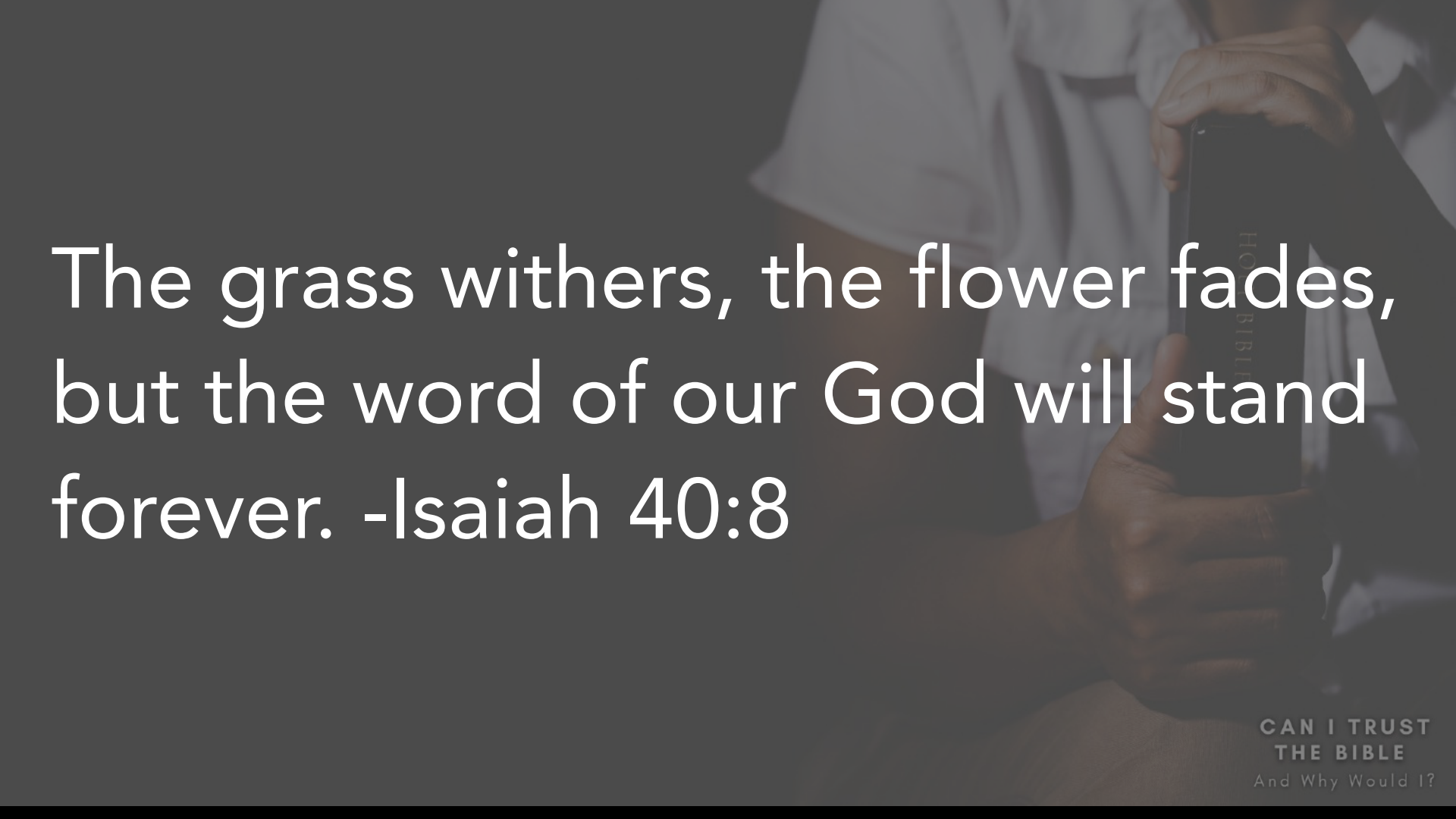
-C.S. Lewis

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a black Bible. The spine of the Bible is visible, with the words "HOLY BIBLE" printed vertically in gold or light-colored letters. The background is dark and slightly blurred, focusing attention on the hands and the Bible.

Come to me, all who labor and are
heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
-Jesus (Matthew 11:28)

How do
we
believe
the Bible

With
expectation &
anticipation

A person wearing a white shirt is holding a black Bible. The Bible has the word 'HORRIBLE' printed vertically on its cover. The background is dark and slightly blurred.

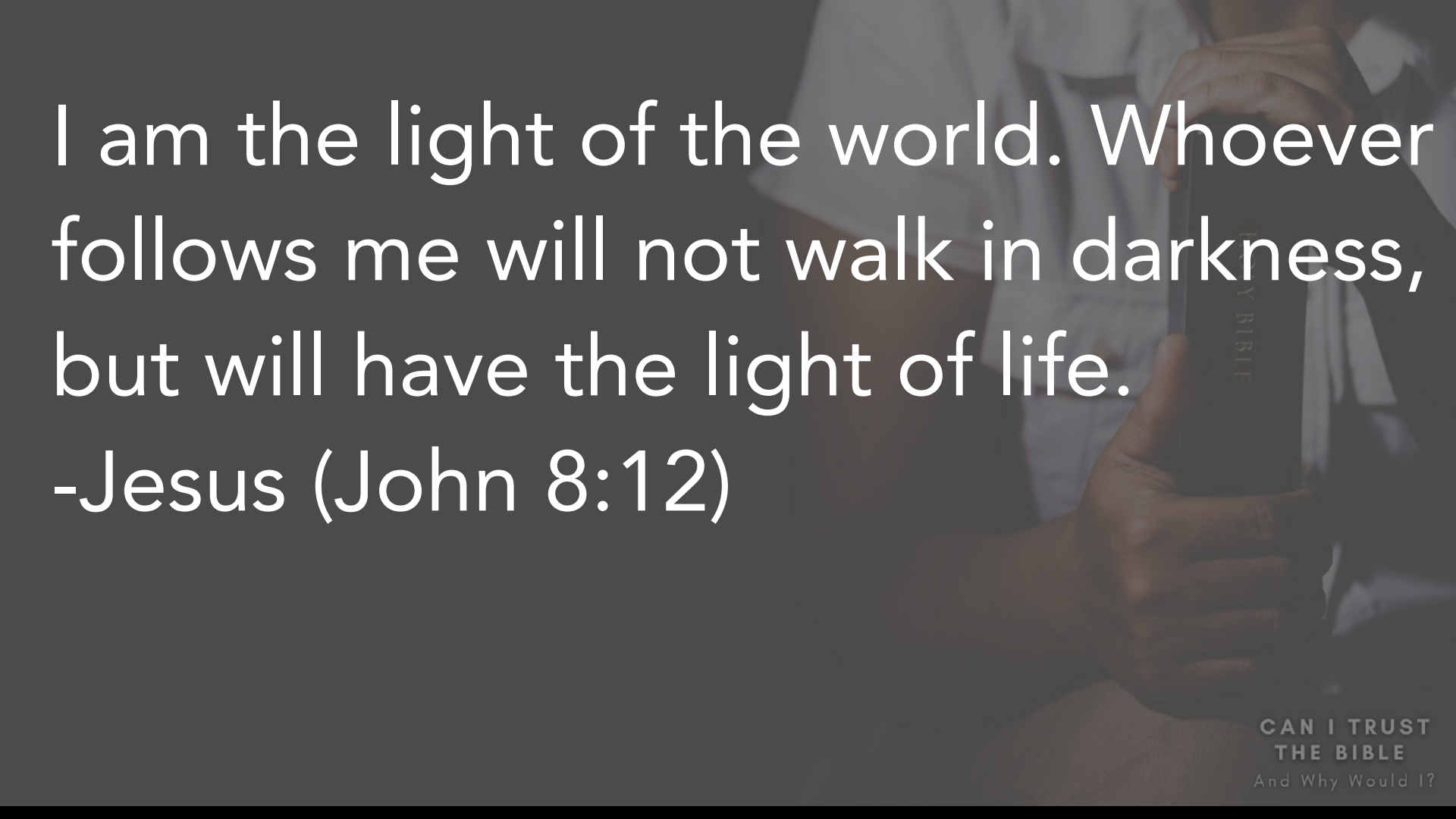
The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand
forever. -Isaiah 40:8

How do we

obey

the Bible

With
Joy

A person's hands are shown holding a dark-colored Bible. The person is wearing a white shirt. The background is dark and slightly blurred. The text is overlaid on the image in white.

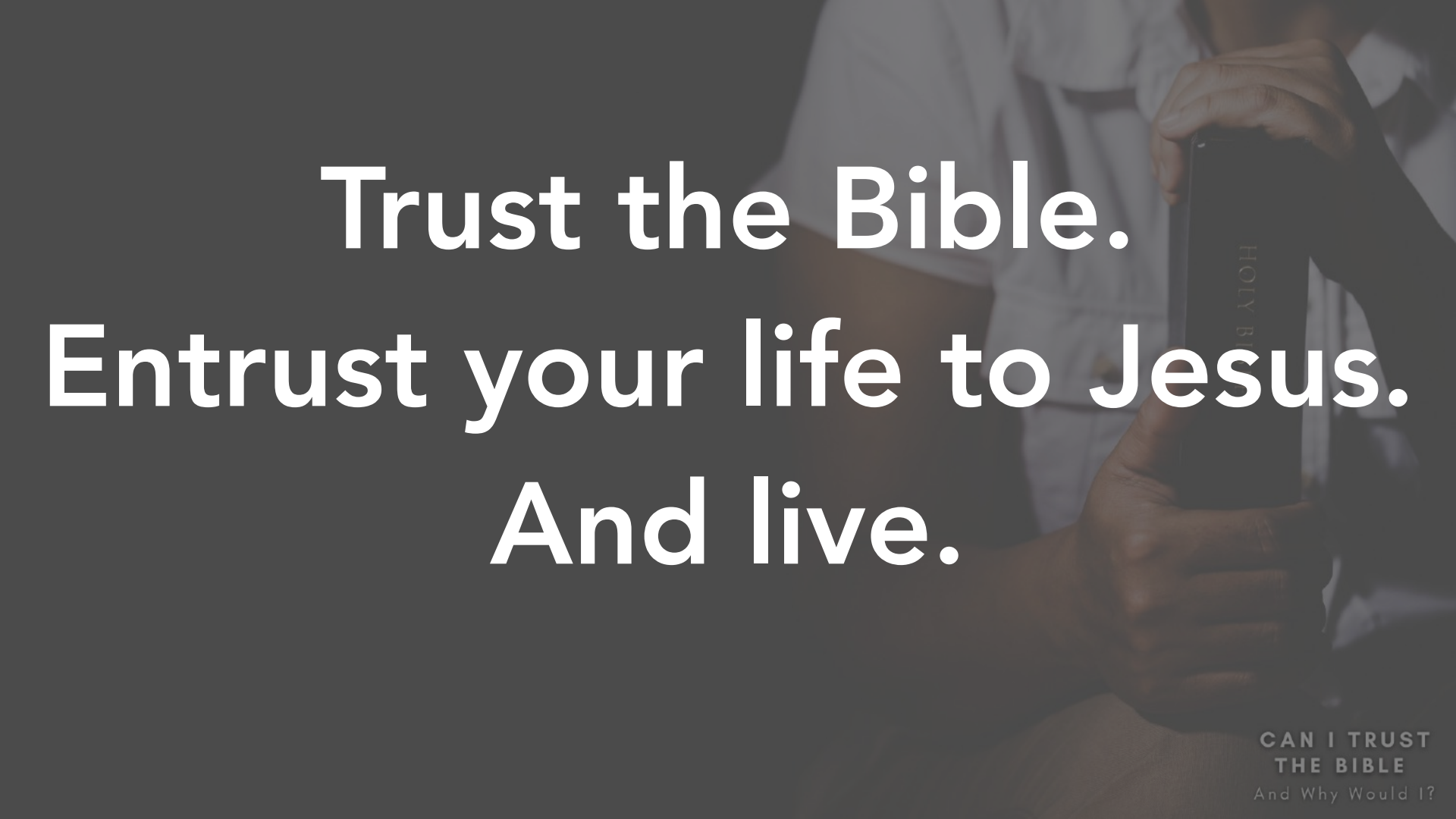
I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

-Jesus (John 8:12)

Closing Scripture

these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

-John 20:31



**Trust the Bible.
Entrust your life to Jesus.
And live.**

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a black Bible. The person is wearing a white short-sleeved shirt. The Bible's spine is visible, with the words "HOLY BIBLE" printed vertically in gold. The background is dark and out of focus.

CAN I TRUST THE BIBLE

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