

# Why Trust the Bible?

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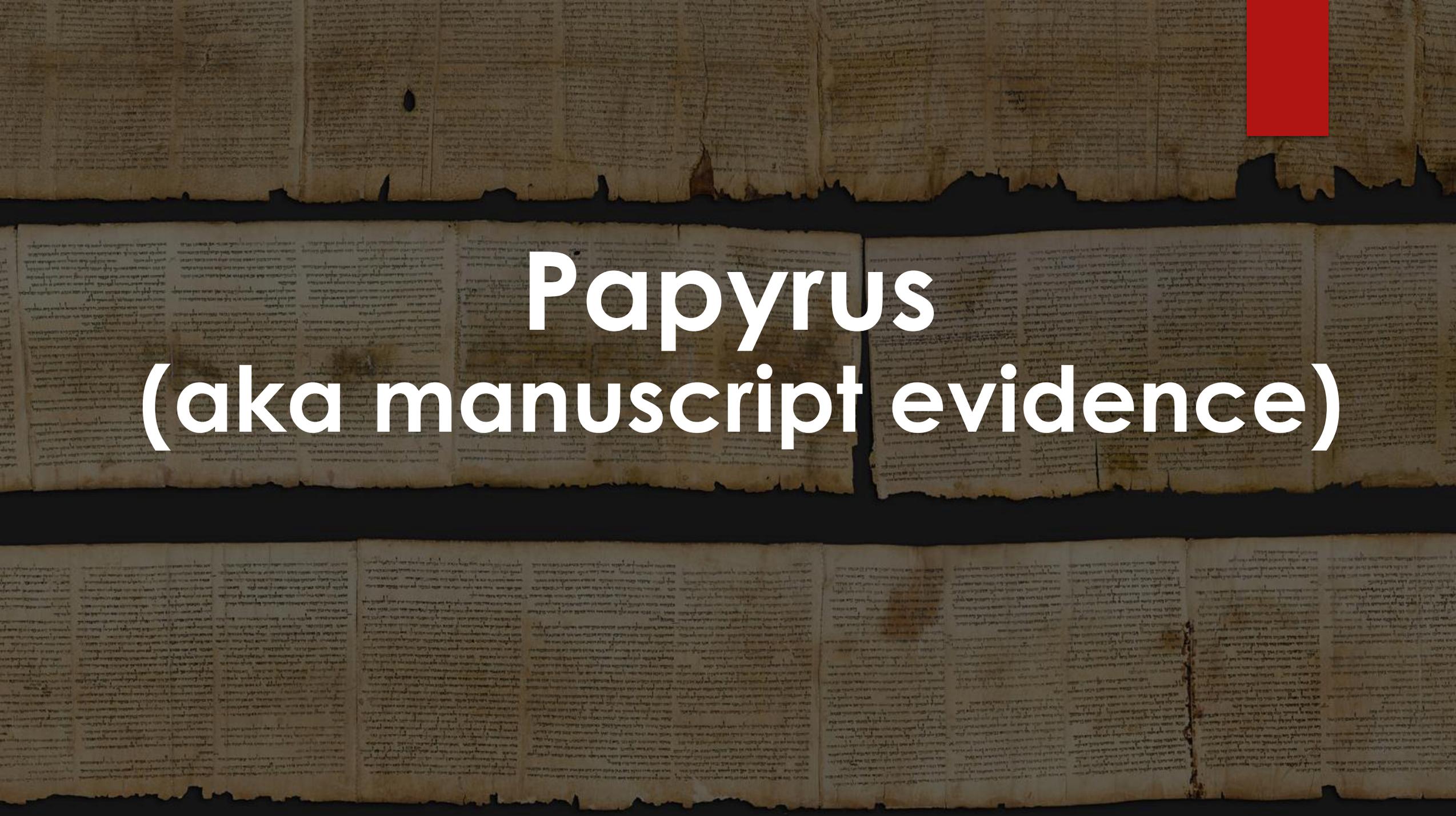


# 5 Significant Facts About the New Testament

1. PALACES
2. PAPYRUS
3. PLACES
4. PEOPLE
5. POWER



# Palaces

The background of the image consists of several horizontal strips of aged, yellowish-brown papyrus scrolls. The scrolls are arranged in a way that suggests they are part of a larger manuscript, with some strips overlapping others. The text on the scrolls is faint and illegible. A solid red rectangular tab is visible on the right side of the top strip. The overall appearance is that of an ancient library or archive.

# Papyrus (aka manuscript evidence)



Dr. John Dickson, ancient historian from Macquarie University

“THE **NEW TESTAMENT** IS THE **BEST-ATTESTED** TEXT OF  
CLASSICAL ANTIQUITY”

**23,986** PIECES OF MANUSCRIPT **EVIDENCE.**

P52 (125 AD)

“... A KING I AM. FOR THIS I HAVE BEEN BORN AND [FOR THIS] I HAVE COME INTO THE WORLD SO THAT I WOULD TESTIFY TO THE TRUTH. EVERYONE WHO IS OF THE TRUTH HEARS OF ME MY VOICE.” PILATE SAID TO HIM, “WHAT IS TRUTH?” AND THIS HAVING [BEEN] SAID, AGAIN HE WENT OUT UNTO THE JEWS AND SAID TO THEM, “I FIND NOT ONE FAULT IN HIM.” (JOHN 18:37-38).



# PLATO = TRUSTED IN UNIVERSITIES

WITH ONLY THIS EVIDENCE...

LESS THAN 10 EXISTING COPIES OF THE  
ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS OF PLATO'S  
WORKS.

THE OLDEST OF THESE MANUSCRIPTS IS A  
COPY DATING ABOUT 1400 YEARS AFTER  
THE WORK WAS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN.



# PLACES (HISTORICAL SETTING)





# FIRST JEWISH- ROMAN WAR (70 AD)



## CRAIG EVANS, NEW TESTAMENT SCHOLAR

“IF ARCHAEOLOGISTS AND HISTORIANS COULD NOT FIND CONNECTIONS BETWEEN ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLICAL TEXT, THERE WOULD BE NO SUCH THING AS **‘BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY.’** BUT OF COURSE, THEY DO FIND SUCH CONNECTIONS, **AND LOTS OF IT.**”

## SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

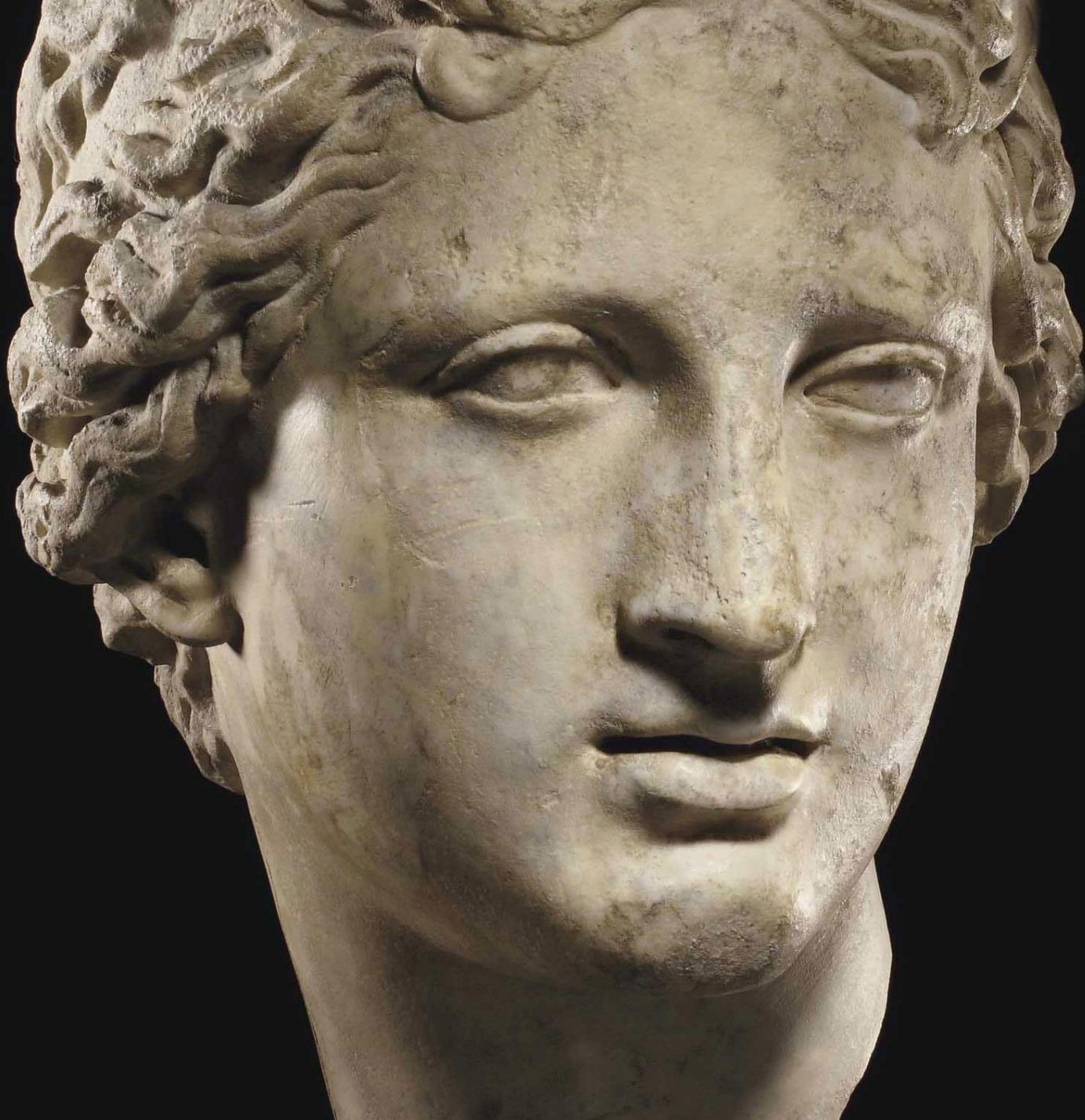
1. THE PILATE INSCRIPTION - (DISCOVERED 1961)
2. THE POOL OF BETHESDA (JOHN 5:2) - (DISCOVERED 1962)
3. THE POOL OF SILOAM (JOHN 9:7) - (DISCOVERED 2004)
4. THE TOWN OF NAZARETH - (DISCOVERED 2009)
5. THE EARLIEST CHURCH YET FOUND (AD 231 MEGIDDO) - “IN HONOUR OF GOD JESUS CHRIST”





# JAMES CHARLESWORTH, PRINCETON NEW TESTAMENT SCHOLAR

1. STEPS TO THE TEMPLE
2. THE TEMPLE
3. PILATE INSCRIPTION
4. CAIAPHAS OSSUARY
5. ANNAS' TOMB
6. CRUCIFIED MAN'S HEEL
7. OSSUARY OF SIMON OF CYRENE
8. GOLGOTHA
9. A TOMB WITH A ROLLING STONE



**PEOPLE**

**(IN THAT  
HISTORICAL  
SETTING)**

RICHARD BAUCKHAM, NEW TESTAMENT SCHOLAR

POPULATION NAME PERCENTAGES

FEMALES 28.6%

MARY, SALOME, MARTHA

MALES 41.5%

SIMON, JOHN, ANANIAS

## 9 INDEPENDENT **SOURCES** (OUTSIDE THE NEW TESTAMENT)

1. JOSEPHUS
2. TACITUS
3. PLINY THE YOUNGER
4. SUETONIUS
5. MARA BAR SERAPION
6. THALLUS
7. LUCIAN
8. CELCUS
9. RABBINIC SOURCES



**POWER**  
**(TO TRANSFORM LIVES)**

# FABIOLA (399 AD)

“FABIOLA BROKE UP AND SOLD ALL THAT SHE COULD LAY HANDS ON OF HER PROPERTY AND, WHEN SHE HAD TURNED IT INTO MONEY, SHE DISPOSED OF EVERYTHING FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE POOR. **FIRST OF ALL SHE FOUNDED AN INFIRMARY AND GATHERED INTO IT SUFFERERS FROM THE STREETS**, GIVING A NURSE’S CARE TO POOR BODIES WORN WITH SICKNESS AND HUNGER—MAIMED NOSES, LOST EYES, SCORCHED FEET, LEPROUS ARMS, SWOLLEN BELLIES. HOW OFTEN SHE CARRIED ON HER OWN SHOULDERS POOR FILTHY WRETCHES TORTURED BY EPILEPSY! HOW OFTEN DID SHE WASH AWAY THE PURULENT MATTER FROM WOUNDS WHICH OTHERS COULD NOT EVEN ENDURE TO LOOK AT! SHE GAVE FOOD WITH HER OWN HAND, AND EVEN WHEN A MAN WAS BUT A BREATHING CORPSE, SHE WOULD MOISTEN HIS LIPS WITH DROPS OF WATER. **AND ROME WAS NOT LARGE ENOUGH FOR HER KINDNESS.**”