



July 10, 2005

### *Are You Sure ?*

Last week a refrigerator sized satellite collided with a comet in order to record things and possibly learn more about the universe. One of the comments that was made on the news service was that this revealed things that immediately made some start to rethink theories about the origins of the universe. It is interesting how sure we are of our theories and ideas, only to have them dispelled in an instant when some new bit of information is discovered.

This same thinking is prevalent in regard to spiritual things. For years there were those who eagerly awaited the findings and translations of the Dead Sea Scrolls in the hope of some new bit of information about Christ, God and the spiritual nature of mankind. When all was said and done there was nothing that really contradicts the Bible, or invalidates it, and, I recall one of the findings at Qumran was the Isaiah scroll, measuring approximately eleven feet which turned out to be word for word what we have now in our Bibles. The interesting thing about this is that the scroll was the oldest surviving document of it's type, predating even the oldest copies previously known.

The thing that gets me is that the more evidence is found concerning the Bible, it only confirms what the Bible has to say, or, is revealed to be nothing that does any harm to the scriptures being only the opinions of man. The Dead Sea Scrolls, in large part, appear to be manmade commentaries on life and spiritual things. There are some who may regard these to be on the same plane as the scriptures but the fact is that the providence of God has kept the scriptures out in the open while the scrolls were not found until 1946.

Scientific discoveries on the other hand are interesting. Every time there is a new one it contradicts previously held ideas and leads to some revision of theory. The debates in the scientific community over the meaning of these new discoveries are as numerous as the divisions in the religious world, which the scientists point to as "evidence" of the errancy of the scriptures. I have made the statement before that even if some folks had video of God creating the universe they still would not accept it. So in their minds the Bible is still just the product of people who were not enlightened enough to know that we are just bits of matter, alone in the universe and unable to answer questions about who we are and where we came from.

Peter tells us that the scriptures are not the product of the human mind. ***"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."*** (2 Pet 1.20-21). Paul tells us that ***"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."*** (2 Tim 3.16-17).

The Bible has stood the test of time and opposition. It has also survived the attempts of science to make it look ridiculous and be rejected. This is the power of God that preserves his word so that all can have the opportunity to be saved from the wrath to come. For sensible people it really gets down to what makes the most sense. With science you never really know anything since things change when the facts change. With the Bible you don't have to doubt because the scriptures have not changed with the unearthing of new evidence. In other words, with science, you just never know. With the Bible, you can know and be assured that there is a home prepared for those who seek to serve and be pleasing to God (**John 14.1-3**). Are you sure that there is no God ? Are you sure you don't have a soul that needs to be saved?

TLC