

# Popular Objections

“The Bible has been changed down the years.”

This is a popular objection put forward by people rejecting Christianity. They claim that because the Bible was written many years ago it has suffered ‘the Chinese Whispers effect’. That is to say, it has been confused and changed over thousands of years as it was passed from one person to another. Today, they say, the Bible is an unreliable Book. However, if you ask people what it said before they can’t tell you. They just believe (have faith) that it has been changed! But the weight of evidence is in favour of an unchanged Bible – not a changed one.



Take, for instance, the Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered in 1948, which included ‘the Isaiah scroll’ pictured above. These scrolls (about 500 whole or incomplete books, including 100 Hebrew Old Testament texts) were nearly 1000 years older than our previous manuscripts of Scripture. Yet they showed how accurate our Bible translations are, not how wrong they were! The same can be said for the New Testament. We have literally thousands of ancient documents (papyri, uncials, cursives, lectionaries, etc) which allow us to produce an accurate English translation of the Bible. And the numbers are growing as more are discovered. Arguably, it is the best attested document in history. After all, ***“the word of the LORD endures forever”*** (1 Peter 1:25).