Is the Bible Reliable?

2 Timothy 3:14-17
The heart cannot exult in what the mind rejects
1. What Does “Reliable” Mean?
SOMETHING IS TRUSTWORTHY
2. Is the New Testament Reliable?
1. We can look at the number of manuscripts or fragments available.
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2. We can compare existing manuscripts and fragments to see if they are reliable when it comes to what they report.
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2. We can compare existing manuscripts and fragments to see if they are reliable when it comes to what they report.

3. We can compare manuscript copies and fragments with copies we have today and look for changes?
Mark 9:29 (KJV)
And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.
The translators of the 1611 King James Bible, used Greek and Hebrew manuscripts from the 12th and 13th centuries. Today Bible translators have access to Greek manuscripts from the 3rd and 4th centuries and Hebrew manuscripts from the era of Jesus.
Process of copying the Old Testament by Jewish Scribes

1. They could only use clean animal skins, both to write on, and even to bind manuscripts.

2. Each column of writing could have no less than forty-eight, and no more than sixty lines.

3. The ink must be black, and of a special recipe.

4. They must verbalize each word aloud while they were writing.

5. They must wipe the pen and wash their entire bodies before writing the word "Jehovah," every time they wrote it.
6. There must be a review within thirty days, and if as many as three pages required corrections, the entire manuscript had to be redone.

7. The letters, words, and paragraphs had to be counted, and the document became invalid if two letters touched each other. The middle paragraph, word and letter must correspond to those of the original document.

8. The documents could be stored only in sacred places (synagogues, etc).
9. As no document containing God's Word could be destroyed, they were stored, or buried, in a genizah - a Hebrew term meaning "hiding place." These were usually kept in a synagogue or sometimes in a Jewish cemetery.
Homer’s Iliad
“There is no body of ancient literature in the world which enjoys such a wealth of good textual evidence as the New Testament.”
3. What do you say when someone says “we don’t have any of the original copies, so how can we be sure the text isn’t corrupted?”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Histories</th>
<th>Oldest Manuscripts</th>
<th>Number Surviving</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Livy 59 B.C.–A.D. 17</td>
<td>4th century</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tacitus A.D. 56–120</td>
<td>9th century</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suetonius A.D. 69–140</td>
<td>9th century</td>
<td>200+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thucydides 460–400 B.C.</td>
<td>1st century A.D.</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herodotus 484–425 B.C.</td>
<td>1st century A.D.</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Testament</td>
<td>c. 100–150</td>
<td>c. 5,700 (counting only Greek manuscripts) (plus more than 10,000 in Latin, more than a million quotations from the church fathers, etc.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Gentlemen, I just came up with a brilliant conspiracy! Why don't we split from the British crown and become founders of a nation that will cause all of the world's wars, crime, corruption, slavery, disease, torture, murder, assassinations, racism, sexism, violence, environmental destruction, cannibalism, and man-made hurricanes for all eternity?

And steal all their oil?

Sounds like a plan.

The Founding of a Nation

JULY 4, 1776: The Progressive Revisionist Version

ThePeoplesCube.com

“an embarrassment of riches when it comes to the biblical documents.”
Carefully encased within a climate-controlled cabinet in the John Rylands Library is Rylands Library Papyrus P^52, the St. John’s fragment. Measuring only 8.9 by 6 centimeters at its widest points (3.5 by 2.5 inches), this is just the smallest fragment of a long-lost codex.
the Jews, “For us it is not permitted to kill anyone,” so that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled, which he spoke signifying what kind of death he was going to die. Entered therefore again into the Praetorium Pilate and summoned Jesus and said to him, “Thou art king of the Jews?”
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.”

Said to him Pilate, “What is truth?” and this having said, again he went out unto the Jews and said to them, “I find not one fault in him.”
Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

Psalm 85:11
For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

Psalm 119:89
4. What do you say when someone says “the Bible has errors!”
Always be **prepared** to give an **answer** to everyone who asks you to give the **reason for the hope** that you have.

1 Peter 3:15
5. Is The Old Testament Reliable?
"Jesus affirmed its divine authority ... its imperishability ... its unbreakability ... its ultimate supremacy ... its factual inerrancy ... its historical reliability ... [and] its scientific accuracy."
"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. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished."

Matthew 5:17-18
HUMILITY is the haughty mind which rejects what the humble heart embraces!
Word Of God Speak
Pour Down Like Rain