FAQ How can you take the Bible literally? Cal Rychener

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV): All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Strand #1: You can trust the Bible because of its textual credibility!

The Bible stands #1 in amount of documents!

The Bible stands #1 with regard to textual integrity!

"To be skeptical of the...New Testament books is to allow all of classical antiquity to slip into obscurity, for no documents of the ancient period are as well attested bibliographically as the New Testament." – John Warwick Montgomery

Strand #2: You can trust the Bible because of its prophetic accuracy!

2 Peter 1:20-21 (NIV 1984): ...no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

Strand #3: You can trust the Bible because of its historical reliability!

"It is no longer the men [and women] of faith but rather the skeptics who should fear the course of further discovery." – Paul Johnson

Strand #4: You can trust the Bible because of Jesus' divine authority!

Strand #5: You can trust the Bible because of its experiential validity.

John 7:17 (NIV 1984): "If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own."

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV 1984): Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

"A Bible that's falling apart usually belongs to someone who's not."