We Believe

The Foundations of our Faith

EVERY NATION
CHURCH • PENANG

The Doctrine Of Scripture

The Foundations of our Faith



8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Joshua 1:8

A world where everything is questioned

Truth is relative -> “Your truth vs my truth”

If two opposite things are both “true”, then truth has lost its meaning

Today's truth is no longer discovered- it's decided

Feelings define Reality –> “I feel it, therefore it is”





Feelings are real, but they are not reliable

Authority is rejected -> “No one can tell me what to do”

Even spiritually:

“I believe in God, but I don’t follow rules”

“I pick the parts of the Bible I like”



“If truth is relative, feelings are unstable, and authority is rejected— then we are not living with freedom… we are living without direction.”

CAN WE TRUST THE BIBLE?

The Bible is God-Inspired (Divine Origin)

16 All Scripture is breathed out (theopneustos, θεόπνευστος)
by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction,
and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may
be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

The Bible is God-Inspired (Divine Origin)

The Bible is not just human reflection—it is divine revelation. God used different authors:

- Moses (Law)
- David (Poetry)
- Paul the Apostle (Doctrine)

Different voices—but one Author behind it all: the Holy Spirit. Plenary verbal inspiration.

21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2 Peter 1 : 21



Council of Nicaea

Misconceptions about Council of Nicaea

Common misconceptions about the Council of Nicaea (325 AD) include the false belief that it determined the biblical canon, invented the divinity of Jesus, or that Constantine forced the Trinity doctrine. The Council primarily addressed Arianism—arguing Jesus's nature—and did not finalize church doctrine, create the Bible, or change the Sabbath.

- The Bible Was Not Compiled at Nicaea
- Jesus's Divinity Was Not Invented
- Constantine Did Not Dictate Doctrine
- The Trinity Was Not "Invented"

The early church already believed Scripture was from God and final.

The Bible is Authoritative (Final Authority)

4 But he answered, “It is written,

“‘Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Matthew 4:4

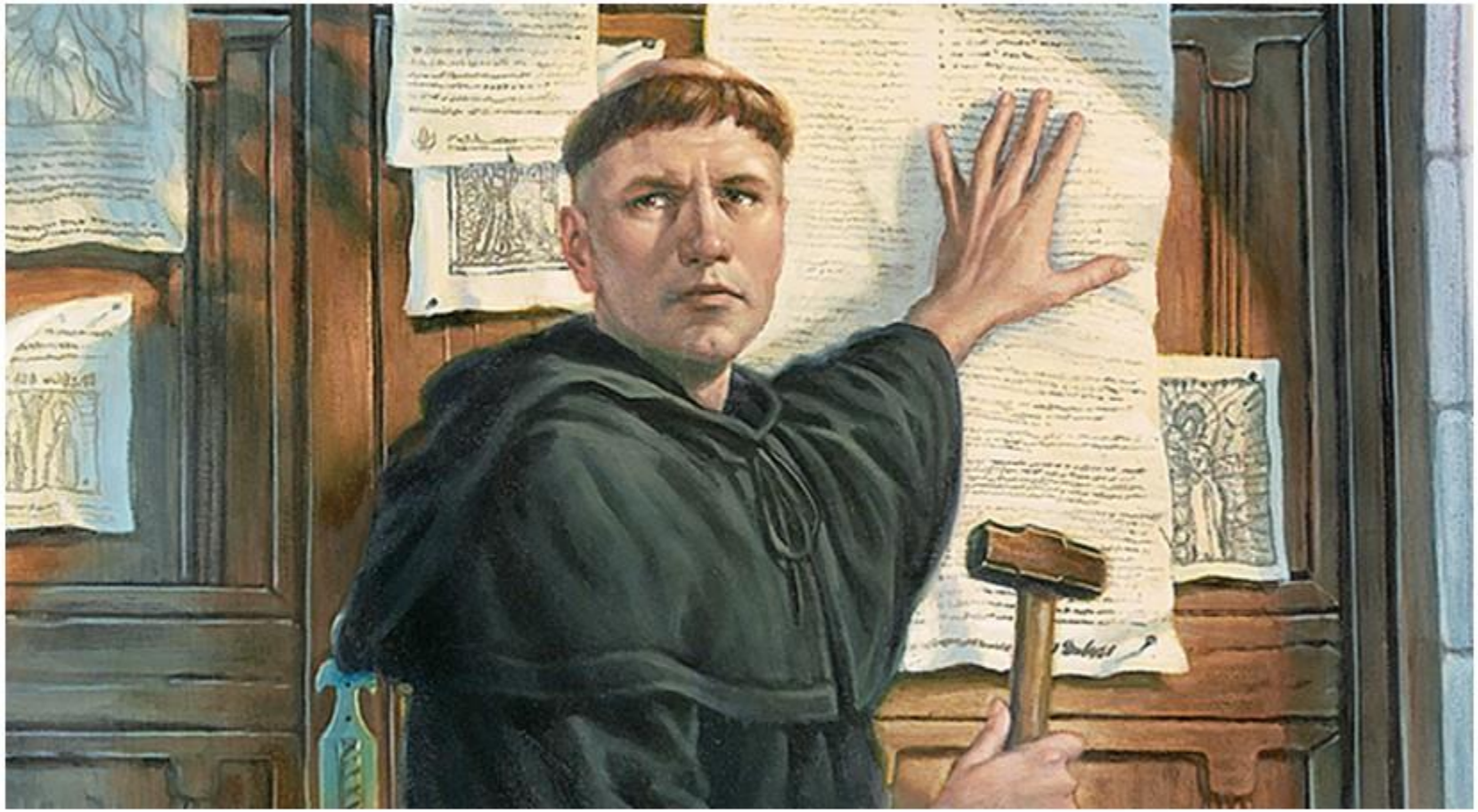
3 And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 8:3

The Bible is Authoritative

If the Bible is from God, then it carries ultimate authority.
Even Jesus Christ quoted Scripture when tempted
He submitted to Scripture fully

If Jesus trusted the Word, we must to.



Martin Luther : Sola Scriptura

“If the Bible is truly God’s Word, then it doesn’t just inform your life—it must govern it.”

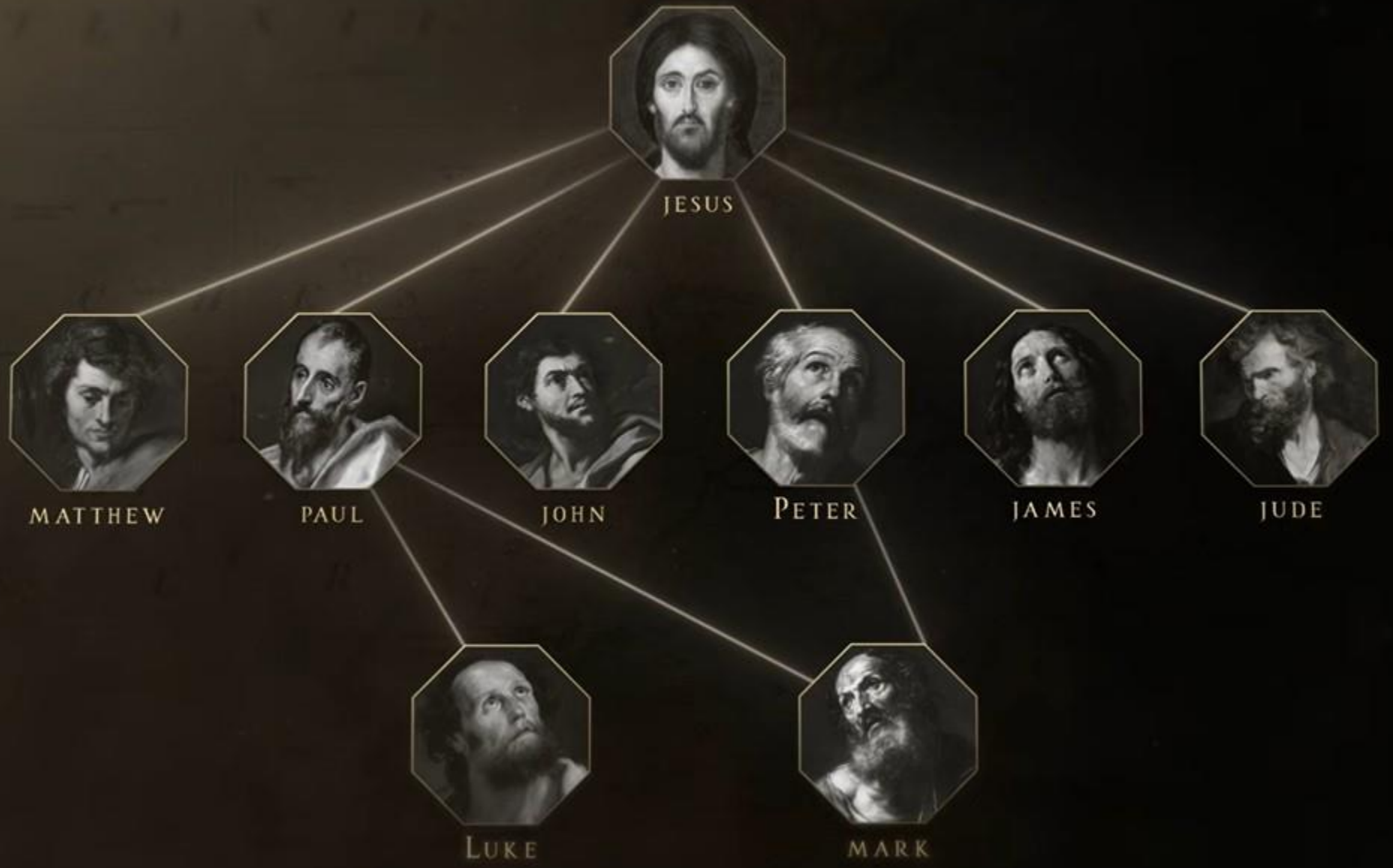
The Bible is Trustworthy (Eyewitness-Based Truth)

1 In as much as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of
the things that have been accomplished among us, 2 just as
those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers
of the word have delivered them to us, 3 it seemed good to me
also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to
write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, 4
that you may have certainty concerning the things you have
been taught.

Luke 1:1-4

1 That which was from the beginning, which we have heard,
which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and
have touched with our hands, concerning the word[a] of life—

1 John 1:1


JESUS
MATTHEW
PAUL
JOHN
PETER
JAMES
JUDE
LUKE
MARK

Why this matters

- Too Early to Be Myth - Written while eyewitnesses were alive.
- Too Costly to Be Fake - The apostles suffered and died for this truth.
- Too Detailed to Be Fiction - Real names, real places, real events.

GOSPEL OF LUKE | CHAPTER 3:1-3







In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness.







“This is not ‘once upon a time’—this is ‘we saw it, we heard it, and we wrote it.’”



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Joshua 1:8

Because the Bible is :

Inspired → It comes from God

Authoritative → It speaks for God

Trustworthy → It is grounded in real eyewitness truth

You can trust the Bible with your life

Application

- In your daily life, what voices compete with the Bible for truth (e.g. social media, friends, feelings)? How can you intentionally prioritise God's Word this week?

- Is there an area of your life where you know what the Bible says, but you're struggling to submit to it? What is holding you back?