

## Where does the Bible come from?

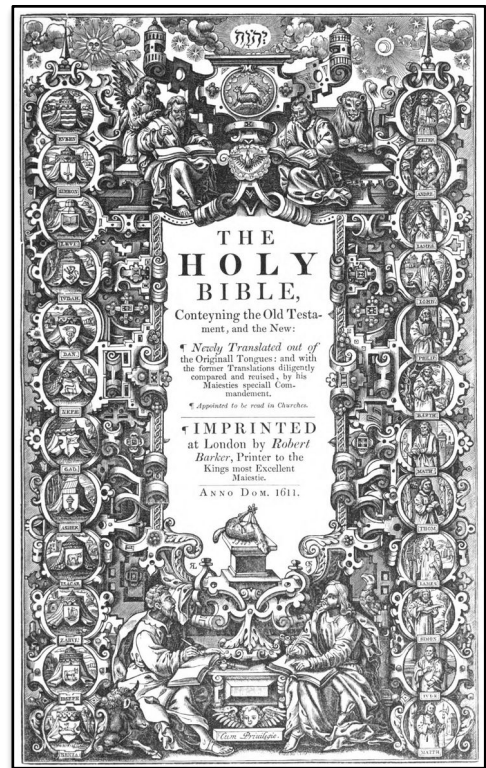
### 1. Inspiration

Author—big “A”

author—little “a”

2 Peter 1:21

because no prophecy ever came by the will of man; instead, men spoke from God as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.



### 2. Collection

Received

Accepted

Copied

Exchanged

Peter 3:15-16

15 Also, regard the patience of our Lord as an opportunity for salvation, just as our dear brother Paul has written to you according to the wisdom given to him. 16 He speaks about these things in all his letters in which there are some matters that are hard to understand. The untaught and unstable twist them to their own destruction, as they also do with the rest of the Scriptures.



# Where does the Bible come from?

## 3. Transmission

### Copying the Bible

### Ancient scribal traditions

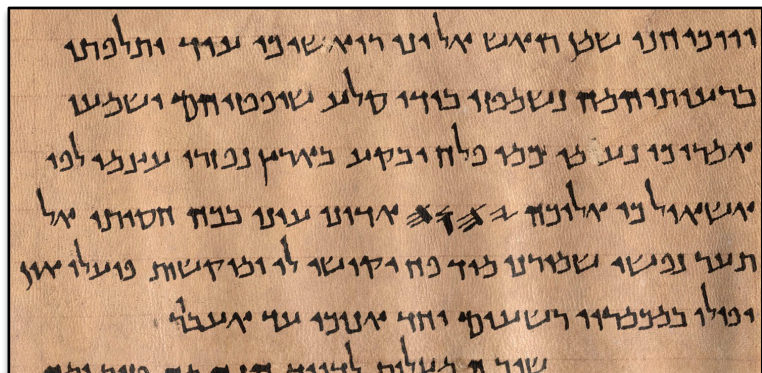


Matthew 5:128

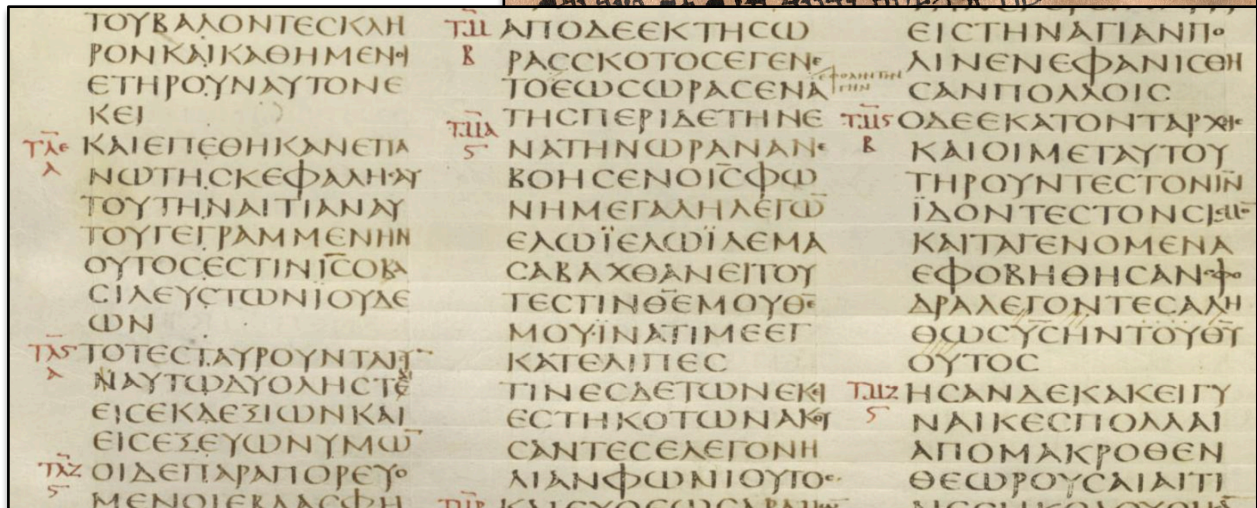
For I assure you: Until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or one stroke of a letter will pass from the law until all things are accomplished.

## 4. Translation

11Q5 Ps  
Date: 1-68 ce,  
Herodian Period  
Language: Hebrew  
Sample: Psalms 133

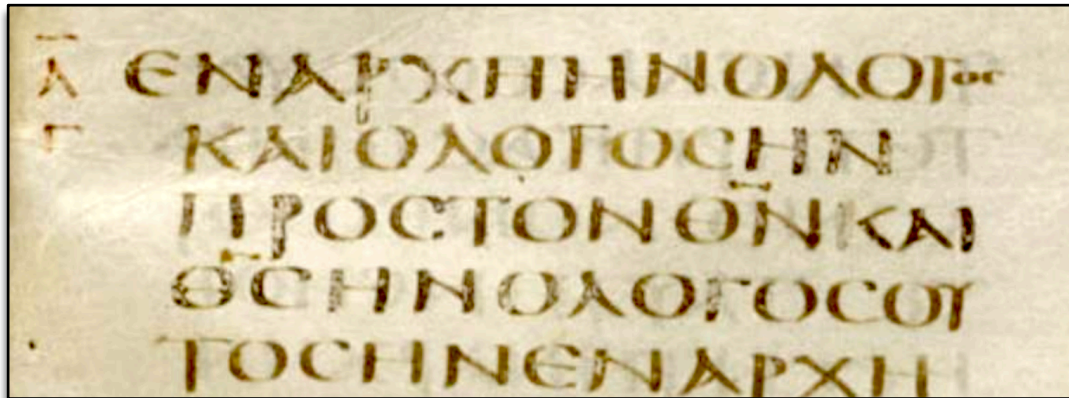


Sinaiticus n° X  
Date: 330-360 ce,  
Alexandrian text-type  
Language: Greek  
Sample: Matthew 27



## Translating the Bible into English

Codex Sinaiticus n° X  
 Quire 80, folio 1, recto  
 Date: 330-360 ce  
 Location: British Library  
 Sample: John 1:1



### Greek-English translation (John 1:1)

Greek Uncial:	EN APXH	HN	O	ΛΟΓΟΣ
Polytonic Greek:	Ἐν ἀρχῇ	ἦν	ὁ	λόγος,
Pronunciation:	En archae	ain	ho	logos,
English Translation:	In the beginning	was	the	word

KAI	O	ΛΟΓΟΣ	HN
καὶ	ὁ	λόγος	ἦν
kai	ho	logos	ain
and	the	word	was

#### Types of translations:

- Formal: word-for-word
- Dynamic: thought-for-thought

ΠΡΟΣ ΤΟΝ	ΘΝ	ΚΑΙ
πρὸς τὸν	θεόν,	καὶ
pros ton	theon,	kai
with	God,	and

ΘΣ	HN	O	ΛΟΓΟΣ
θεὸς	ἦν	ὁ	λόγος.
theos	ain	ho	logos.
God	was	the	word.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was fully God. — John 1:1

## What is in an English Bible

### Types of Bibles:

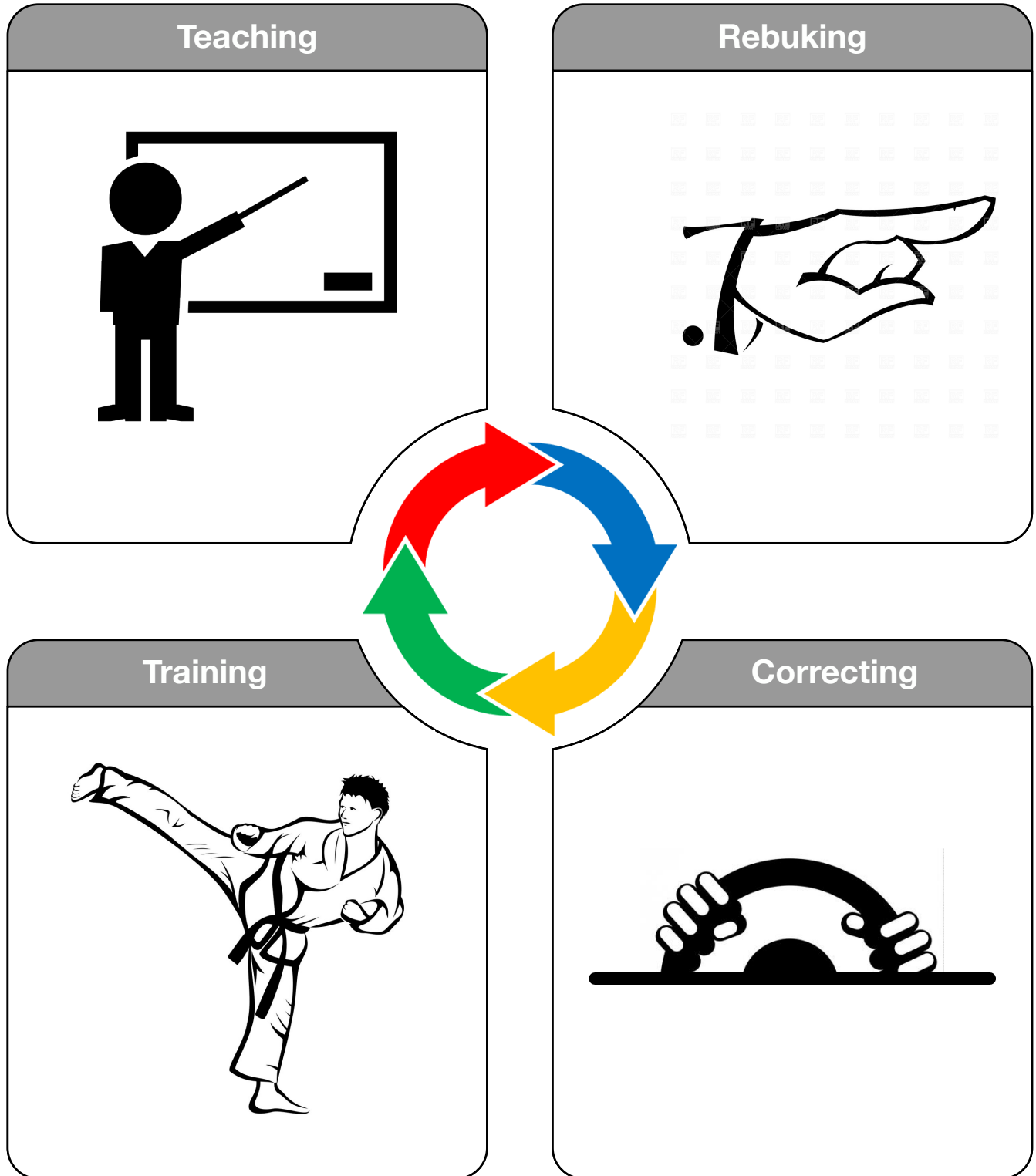
- Chronological Bible
- Reading Bible
- Cross-reference Bible
- Study Bible

### Elements found in Bibles

- Book, chapter, and verse indicators
- Words of Christ in red
- Headings
- Book introductions
- Book outlines
- Timelines
- Alternate translations
- Alternate textual readings
- Cross references
- Study notes

## What do we use the Bible for?

*2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness,*



## Why do we use the Bible for these things?

2 Timothy 3:17 so that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

So that the man [or woman] of God...



...may be complete...



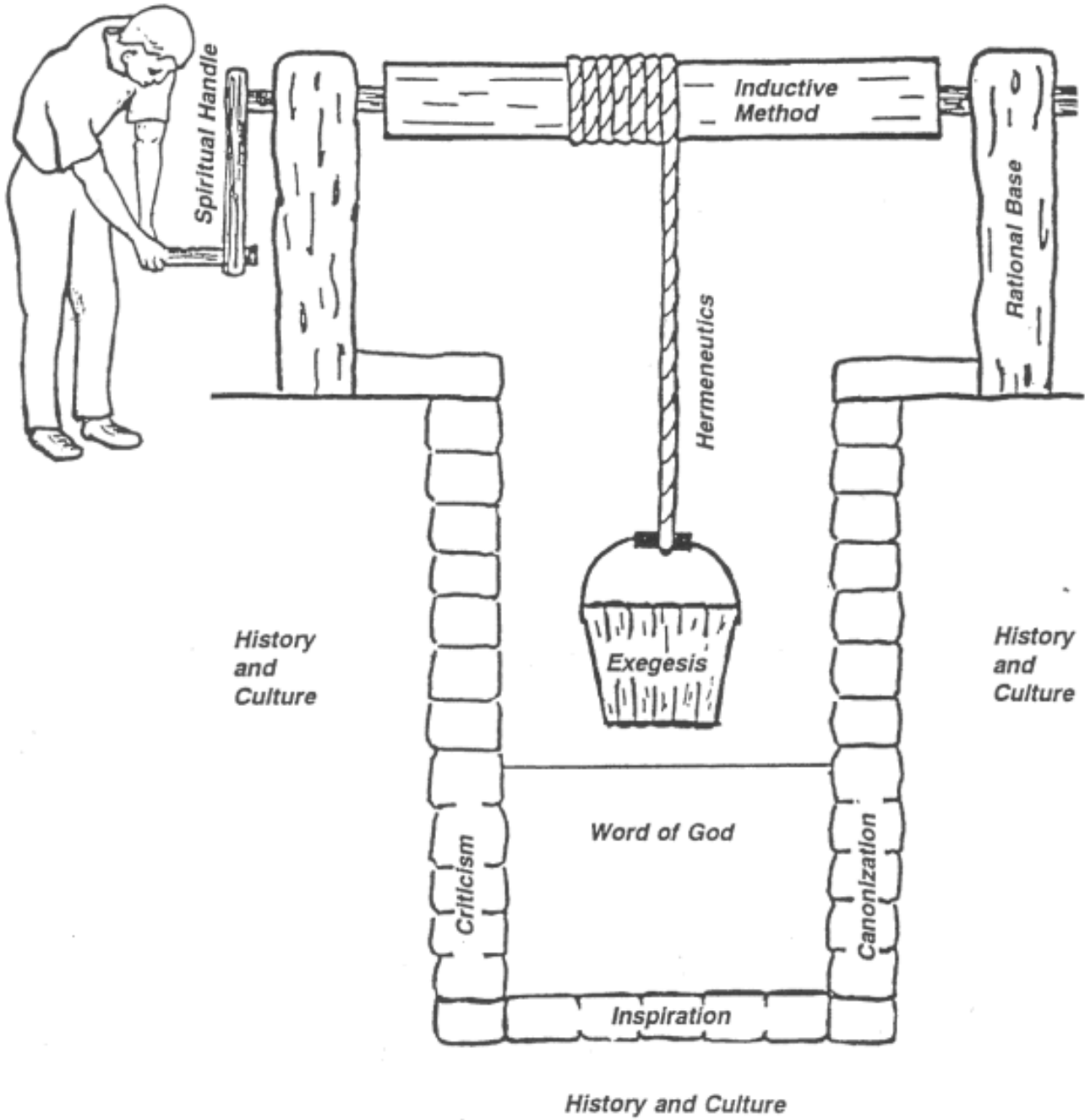
...thoroughly equipped...



...for every good work.



## So how do we study the Bible, anyway?



\* Image credit: Dr. Dave R. Reid, Emmaus Bible College

## Principles of Bible Interpretation

The “Golden Rule” of Bible interpretation: Always assume the clarity of scripture.

### Proverbs 8:8-9:

8 All the words of my mouth are righteous;  
 none of them are deceptive or perverse.  
 9 All of them are clear to the perceptive,  
 and right to those who discover knowledge.

If the plain sense makes common sense, seek no other sense, lest you make nonsense.

Always go with the \_\_\_\_\_ meaning, unless \_\_\_\_\_!

Simple, straightforward, ordinary, obvious, plain, direct, normal, natural

We could have said “literal” but the scriptures do sometimes use figurative language

there is a very good reason not to do so

Other scriptures should be used to guide you here

### Examples:

- 1 Th 5:8 & Heb 4:12: Dichotomist or Trichotomist??
- John 1:1, Col 2:9: Is Jesus fully God??
- Exodus 20:11: Six 24-hr days, or “geologic ages?”
  - What about 2 Pet 3:8??
- 2 Pet 3:3-6: Peter uses this principle! Was the flood real? Universal or local?
- Rom 5:12-14: Paul uses this principle! Was Adam real?
- Mt 12:38-42: Jesus uses this principle! Was Jonah real?

### Example of really “bad hermeneutics”:

TERSTHOUHASTNOWDONEFOOLISHLYINSODO

WHAT?!?!

“Roswell” and “UFO” hidden in KJV Genesis 31:28.



## Principles of Bible Interpretation

Look at the literary context

I can do all things  
through Christ who  
strengthens me.

*Philippians 4:13*



\* Image credit: Dr. Dave R. Reid, Emmaus Bible College

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## **Principles of Bible Interpretation**

### **Stress the priority of the original languages**

The Bible was originally written in Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. Both the vocabulary and grammar of the original languages will help understand and interpret Bible verses.

Examples:

“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” Galatians 6:2  
“For every man shall bear his own burden.” Galatians 6:5

“Ye are not straitened in us, but ye are straitened in your own bowels.” 2 Corinthians 6:12

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” John 3:16

“For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; Neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.” Psalm 16:10

“Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.” 1 John 3:9

### **Beware of word fallacies**

Does “atonement” mean “at one ment”?

### **Jesus’ use of this principle**

“But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God: ‘I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob’? He is not the God of the dead but of the living.”  
Matthew 22:31-32

## Applied Theology

### Scenario:

Twelve-year-old Tim knew that he had failed God. He obviously just didn't have enough faith! What was he to do?

A week ago he had witnessed the greatest moment of his entire life. Dwane Macintosh, the greatest baseball player of all time had come to his town and given a message in his church—in Tim's very own church, Holy Rock Fellowship! During the entire time Tim was just waiting to hear it: the secret of his success!

He had always known Dwane was a Christian, but he was also a terrific batter! He publicly spoke out about his faith in Christ, and Tim was so encouraged by that! Tim had always loved baseball, and Dwane Mac was the reason.

Unfortunately for Tim, he wasn't any good at baseball himself. And now he knew why. During Dwane Mac's speech at church, at the end he had explained the secret of his success. "To sum it all up," Dwane's deep voice rumbled, "I'd like to say that God is the one responsible for my success." Tim's ears were humming and his heart was pounding!

"Let me just share a verse that has meant so much to me over the years," Dwane went on. "Philippians 4:13. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. That's the reason for my success."

Dwane continued and eventually finished his speech, but Tim didn't hear the rest at all. He had been thinking and pondering over the verse Dwane had quoted. It was so unfair! "I can do all things..." Why could Dwane do all things? Why could Dwane be a baseball superstar? Why couldn't Tim?

The more Tim thought about that verse, the more depressed he became. A few days later his Mother had to ask him if he was feeling all right. The truth was, he was not.

It must be that he didn't have enough faith. That was the only explanation as to why God didn't give Tim success the same way he had given Dwane!