

## DOES YOUR HOPE REST ON SCIENCE OR THE BIBLE?

### *Note to the speaker:*

Focus attention on the reliability of the Bible. Human solutions based on science are not the answer. Show that there is a solid basis for trusting in the Bible's hope for the future

### **MANY SAY SCIENCE, NOT THE BIBLE, OFFERS HOPE FOR THE FUTURE** (8 min.)

Some think that scientists will in time solve all problems

History proves that science often fails to fulfill its promises

The book *The Experts Speak* attributes the following prediction to John Langdon-Davies, British journalist and Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute, 1936: "If we are to begin to try and understand life as it will be in 1960, we must begin by realizing that food, clothing and shelter will cost as little as air" (*w86 5/15 3*)

Many unfulfilled expectations (See *g86 11/8 3*)

Some scientists claim that science holds the key to overcoming death and that achieving everlasting life is within their power (*g90 4/22 4*)

Bible, however, encourages us to trust in Jehovah, not man (Ps 118:8)

Creator's power and Godship clearly discernible from physical creation (Ro 1:20)

But only a minority put genuine confidence in God (Ps 31:14)

How do you feel? Is there a solid basis for resting your hope for the future on science? What about the Bible? Can we rely on what the Bible says about the future?

### **IS SCIENCE A RELIABLE BASIS FOR HOPE?** (12 min.)

Many scientific achievements are undeniable and commendable

Many modern inventions have resulted in the elimination of tedious, time-consuming jobs for some

Think of the advantages that come from such inventions as telephone, automobile, airplane, computer

Science and technology are limited and often cause serious problems

Hundreds of thousands die each year worldwide in automobile accidents; millions injured

Scientists have tampered with the environment and its ecological balance

Terms such as "acid rain," "greenhouse effect," and "deforestation" reflect failure of science

Bible accurately predicted this situation (Re 11:18)

Effects of pollution on man's health (*g90 12/22 28*)

Many feel their privacy has been invaded by the use of computers (*g88 2/22 3*)

Many scientists are engaged in military research (*g89 6/8 6*)

Sophisticated weaponry has caused the death of hundreds of thousands

Some scientists have falsified data in an effort to gain prestige and profits and to promote their theories (*g90 1/22 2-15*)

The book *Environmental Ethics* states: "Technology is a servant of only limited usefulness, and highly unreliable. When it does solve a problem, it often creates two new ones—and their side effects are usually hard to foresee" (*tp 16-17*)

Science's track record offers no real solution to age-old problems, such as death, disease, crime, immorality, and war (*w91 6/15 3-5; w90 10/1 4-5; w88 6/15 27*)

### **TRUE SCIENCE CONFIRMS THE BIBLE'S RELIABILITY AND PROVIDES A SOUND BASIS FOR RESTING OUR HOPE ON IT** (13 min.)

The following examples show that the Bible is scientifically accurate and reflects scientific information that was not available through human investigation at the time the Bible was written (*ce 199-207*)

Earth is spherical and is 'hanging on nothing' (Job 26:7; Isa 40:22)

Water cycle (Ec 1:7)

Quarantine (Le 13:46; *it-1 633*)

Effect of emotions on physical organism (Pr 14:30; 17:22)

Scientific information revealed prior to human discovery proves divine inspiration of Bible and testifies as to its reliability

### **REST YOUR HOPE ON THE BIBLE, A SOURCE OF TRUE HOPE** (12 min.)

To have a bright outlook for the future, you need a solidly based hope

The only one who can give such hope is the Creator, Jehovah God

He supplies true hope through the Bible (Ro 15:4)

The Bible shows that the hope for the dead lies in the resurrection (Joh 5:28, 29)

This is a sure hope (Ac 17:31)

The miracle of Jesus' resurrection was confirmed by his subsequent appearance to over 500 persons (1Co 15:3-8; *w86 8/15 19*)

We can safely rest our hope on the Bible

Paul pointed to the sureness of God's word

The "word" that we have heard in this generation is reliable (Heb 4:12; 6:18)

Science can only make calculated guesses about the future, but the Bible foretells the future with accuracy (*w92* 5/15 6-7)

What hope for the future does the Bible give?

God's rule to replace human rule (Da 2:44)

Faithful people will survive world destruction (Zep 2:3)

There will be a new world (Re 21:1-4)

Rest your hope on the Bible, not on science (Ps 146:3, 4)

(Adhere closely to the outlined material, and observe the indicated timing of each section. Not all cited texts need be read. Source material in parentheses need not be mentioned)

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TO BE COVERED IN 45 MINUTES

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