

## **Our Infallible Bible**

From articles by George Burnside

THE man was lost. The long dark fingers of the coming night were creeping across the sky. Suddenly he remembered he had a small compass for just such an emergency. When he looked at the compass it told him he was wrong, but he was sure he was right, so he decided there must be something wrong with the compass. Sitting down on a rock he took the instrument to pieces. Next morning a party of searchers found him frozen to death with the dismantled compass beside his body. "There is it way which seems right unto a man but the end thereof are the ways of death." (Proverbs 14:12).

Our God loves us and He has given us a dependable compass. That compass is the Bible. As the compass shows the way to the confused traveler, so the Word of God shows to life's travelers the way to heaven, to life, to a life akin to God. The Bible is from God, therefore, like its Maker, it "cannot lie." It is a sure, unerring guide.

"By studying and obeying the directions, not one soul would lose its way to heaven." Selected Messages, book 1, page 16. "Cling to your Bible, as it reads, . . . and obey the Word, and not one of you will be lost." Ibid., page 18.

We can with perfect assurance follow the Book of Truth. God is its author. He "cannot lie." Therefore, truth unmixed with error is the Bible's contents. Our God is infallible and all that He inspires is infallible. Some have objected to the use of such descriptive words as "infallible" and "unerring" being applied to the Word of God today. They would have us believe that as a guide to salvation the Bible is correct, but when it deals with such subjects as astronomy, biology, chronology, history, and science, it is not reliable and mistakes are common. These doubts, I am sorry to say, have been expressed by some who are trusted. However, this should not surprise us. This is to be expected in this climax hour, for has not our infallible Bible in its unerring prophecies warned of just such a situation: "Now the Spirit speaks expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils" (1 Timothy 4:1).

### **Danger of Doubt**

Note carefully the phrase, "doctrines of devils." Devils are the authors of certain religious teachings or doctrines. "Has God said?" (Genesis 3:1). Doubt of God's Word was the foundation of the devil's first temptation of man-the temptation that opened the floodgates of tragedy on the children of men. Doubt and distrust still lie at the root of all sin. Once complete trust in God's Word is weakened, apostasy soon follows. This has happened again and again in recent months. Listening to such words of doubt, some have naturally concluded that if one part of the Bible is unreliable, what can one trust. They have gone out into darkness and unbelief. This has raised my anger (righteous, I trust). I recall the words of Jesus when He said that a man would be better off dead than cause one of His little ones to stumble. Thus the question of an infallible Bible is paramount.

## **We Can Trust the Bible**

Note but a few of a myriad of reasons that could be given as to why we can trust in an unerring, infallible Bible.

1. The Very Nature of Our God Demands an Infallible Bible. How could a holy God in whom is no darkness, One who “cannot lie” (Titus 1:2), inspired men to write anything less than a perfect, unerring, infallible account “Infallible,” I understand, means incapable of teaching deception; while “unerring- means not liable to be proven false or mistaken. If there are scientific errors in the Bible, why should there not be errors of theology and of salvation as well? If the God who made and guides the stars does not know the correct movement of the stars, what kind of God is He? If in the original text He inspired mistakes in the common things of life, can He be trusted in the great issues of eternity? The issue cannot be side-stepped or shelved. If one part is erroneous, can any of it be trusted?

2. The Bible Claims Infallibility: “Every word of God is pure” (Proverbs 30:5). These words are pure-free from error. If the Bible is liable to error in one place, or in one particular, what guarantee have we that it is not in error in another? To brush some sections of God’s Word aside as trivialities is to reveal a very irreverent attitude. “The Bible is not to be tested by man’s ideas of science, but science is to be brought to the test of this unerring standard.” Ellen White, Signs of the Times, March 13, 1884, page 161. Note carefully, not only does the voice of inspiration proclaim the Scriptures “unerring” but also it is worthy to note what is stated regarding the field of science. That is significant, for science has become the god of millions. Too often some who claim to be members of God’s remnant, church pay this false god far too much secret worship.

3. Jesus, Heaven’s Glorious Commander, Accepted the Scriptures as Unerring. We do well to stay by our one and only Example. He whispers down the ages to us today: “He that follows me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life” (John 8:12). “Thy word is truth” (John 17:17). “The scripture cannot be broken” (John 10:35). “My words shall not pass away” (Matthew 24:35).

Jesus appealed to the Scriptures as the final authority; never once do we find Him questioning its truth. He made no excuse or apology for anything written there. He cites or alludes to it more than four hundred times. Our Lord did not belong to the liberals or to the higher critics. Christ accepted the Bible as it existed without comment or question, and His acceptance places on it the final seal of approval.

The testimony of Jesus today confirms this: “When men venture to criticize the Word of God, they venture on sacred and holy ground, and had better fear and tremble and hide their wisdom as foolishness. God sets no man to pronounce judgment on His Word, selecting some things as inspired and discrediting others as uninspired.” Selected Messages, book 1, page 23.

When did God give man authority to decide what is truth? If some of the Bible is not correct who is to decide what is true and what is false? It would drive a person mad trying to decide what is truth and what is error. “All scripture is given by inspiration of God” (2 Timothy 3:16). In verse 17 we see the result of this inspired Word. The man of God is made “perfect,”

“thoroughly furnished,” or thoroughly perfected, and so “perfect.” This again reveals a perfect, unerring Book, for if the Scripture is not perfect, how could it make the man of God perfect?

### **For Our Learning, Not Our Criticism**

“Whatsoever things were written before time were written for our learning” (Romans 15:4). Whether those holy writings deal with salvation, history, or science, they are for “our learning,” not our criticism. If some parts of the Bible are error, may I ask who is the -infallible critic who will divide for us the truth from error? Is it not fallible, erring man in his pride trying to raise himself above God’s Word? How clear is the testimony of our Lord through His servant, “The Holy Scriptures are to be accepted as an authoritative, infallible revelation of His will.” Great Controversy, page vii.

Yes the Bible is infallible. You can trust that Word for time and for eternity. Again we read: “Man is fallible, but God’s word is infallible.” Selected Messages, book 1, page 416. We can use and should use the words “unerring” and “infallible” to describe the Scriptures of truth. Ever remember, the Christ who loved you and gave Himself for you, is the author of the Bible (1 Peter 1:11). Thus anyone who would question the final authority of this Word belittles Christ. Our Lord rose from the dead. He lives and He reigns. All power belongs to Him (Matthew 28:18). His Word is also living and powerful, for He cannot err. He cannot fail; His Word endures forever (1 Peter 1:25).

What a contrast we find between the Bible and the greatest works and discoveries of man. Time has overthrown many of the claims and the speculations of much that is called science. They have been forced to give way to flesh discoveries. But not so the Word of our God. Discoveries confirm it and the passing of years prove its incredible predictions. The bricks unearthed by the archeologist have been thrown through the cobwebs of doubt and criticism. To this golden but godless age this Word still speaks and will continue to speak with unerring authority despite the doubts of the twentieth century Gnostics. “Whatever in so-called scientific teaching contradicts the testimony of God’s Word is mere human guesswork.” - The Ministry of Healing, page 462.

### **Uphold the Word**

The tongues of angels are insufficient to set forth the wonders of Scripture. I would like in my last sermon to be found upholding the imperishable Word of my Lord. To hold aloft the light that came from our living, loving, life-giving Lord. It is infallible! It is unerring! It is eternal! It is living! May we follow this Word which, like its Author, “lives and abides for ever.” (1 Peter 1:23). When science, falsely so-called, has bowed its haughty head for the last time and crawled into a dishonored grave, the Book of God will still shine with undimmed luster. As the foolish traveler took the compass to pieces because it did not agree with his erring judgment, so many handle the Word of God with like fatal results, and thus today, its in the long ago, the Bible declares, “Fools die for want of wisdom” (Proverbs 10:21).

Yes, the Bible is a wonderful compass and guide. What satisfaction it brings to life! In the dark valley of the shadow of death it is not only, a comfort, it is the only comfort and assurance. Men by the millions have gladly died for this Book. They have stained the heather of Scotland’s

highland hills with their lifeblood, died in Spain's inquisitions, Rome's dungeons, and Italy's valleys rather than give it up or surrender its sacred truth. The stake, gallows, galleys, of the rack of torture have all failed to make those who know this infallible Book to give it up, to deny it, or to (case to love and trust it. Remember, "The written Word is our only safety." Selected Messages, book 1, page 158. "Take the Scriptures as they read." Ibid. page 170. All knowledge is useful, but this is essential. Let it not go: keep it for it is your life (Proverbs 1:13).

## **The Inerrant Source of Truth**

THE Son of the living God not only lived on earth among men and as a man but also entered the mysterious realm of death. He knows all its secrets. Not one is hidden from Him.

He did not remain in that dread realm, however, as others have. He could not be held there; He broke its bonds, delivered Himself from its power, and returned to life. And He is alive forevermore. "Christ being raised from the dead dies no more; death has no more dominion over him." (Romans 6:9).

He had power to break the dominion of death; He has knowledge of all the secrets, both of life and of death.

To supply that knowledge to men, and to impart that power, a revelation is necessary, an authoritative revelation. He has supplied that revelation and embodied it in a Book, the most reliable Book in the world.

For the first disciples, those who knew Him and companioned with Him, and saw Him meet death, and talked with Him after He came again to life, His very presence was a complete revelation.

But we today do not have His visible presence, though He is alive. We do have His words. These are sufficient and adequate-and altogether reliable.

### **All Scripture Inspired**

The revelation He has made of life and death and eternity is embodied in a Book. That Book is known as the Bible, the Holy Scriptures. And "all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for instruction, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished." (2 Timothy 3:16, 17).

The authority and reliability of the Bible as a revelation of God and His Son Jesus Christ may be demonstrated with convincing certainty by its genuineness, its credibility, and its divine origin.

It is genuine, this revelation. The men wrote it who claim they wrote it. There is no fraud about it, no deception. For this we have the testimony of the church through the centuries; the direct testimony of its sixty-six books themselves; the confirmation of this testimony by the allusions to Jewish, Roman, and Greek history contained in them, allusions which could not have been made accurately by later writers; and the testimony of the opponents of Christianity through the centuries who, while opposing the teachings of the Book, have, by their very opposition, confirmed the truth that such writings by such writers existed in their day and were genuine.

The Book is credible. It is worthy of acceptance and belief. Other books may be genuine but not true. The Bible is both. Its credibility is evidenced by the untarnished character of its writers, its agreement with the established facts of history, the unvarying beneficial and helpful effects of its teaching, and the multiplying corroborations of archeological research. Of all the manifold discoveries of archeology not one is in conflict with the Bible. New discoveries consistently continue to confirm its truth and accuracy.

The Bible is of divine origin. No other conclusion is possible when its infallible accuracy in prediction and prophecy is considered; when its unique conception of the person of Christ, with His superhuman balance and combination of qualities, and the sinless perfection of His character, is examined; when its unvaryingly beneficial effects on human life in all centuries, all races, all places, all conditions, are taken into account.

This last is the great, the determining, the pragmatic test. "By their fruits ye shall know them." If you would know the divine or human character of a religion, look at what it does. If you would know the character of Confucianism, look at China. If you would know the character of Mohammedanism, look at Turkey and Iran. If you would know the character of Buddhism and Hinduism, look at India. Then look at Christianity, the religion of the Book, and the consistent, never failing effect it has on those who accept it and on the lands where it is given free course.

It is different. It is divine. In all others man is groping for and seeking God. In Christianity, God is seeking man. The others, all of them, are but human aspirations, poor, feeble, inadequate. Christianity, revealed in the Book, is a divine revelation supplying every human need.

So God has spoken to man. He has spoken to man in His Son and in His Word. And the revelation of His truth for us is in the Bible, as it is nowhere else.

That being so, the question of the ultimate authority regarding truth is settled. The last and supreme word concerning God, man, life, death, and eternity has been spoken. That supreme authority is the Bible.

There are those who would have us believe that the source of final authority is to be found in human reason. They are wrong. I would not deprecate reason. It is valuable and altogether indispensable. To test the claims of any professed revelation, reason is necessary. It is wholly necessary in order to receive the revelation thus tested. Nevertheless, it is not the source of authority.

The reasoning faculties of mankind have been affected by the fall of the race. Sin has not left these untouched but has unsettled their delicate balance and accurate functioning. Absolute reliance cannot be placed on their operation. Even if this were not so, there is such a thing as truth and reality wholly apart from, and independent of, reason.

Truth is not what I believe. Truth is not even what I know. Truth is fact. I may not believe it. I may not know it. That does not change it. It is there nevertheless, waiting to be discovered and believed.

Truth does not depend on the unsettled and changing opinions of men. It was truth before it was believed. It remains truth, whether it is believed or not. Reason does not originate or

create it. It merely discovers it. Consequently, reason is not a source. Truth goes back beyond reason.

Others would have us believe that the church is the source of authority, particularly in matters of theology. They are wrong.

The church is the product of truth. It does not originate it. It came into being by accepting divine revelation. It is not the source of that revelation. Truth goes beyond the church, is antecedent to it.

### **The Source of Authority**

It is in the Bible that we have the source of authority. It is in the Bible that we have embodied and preserved the revelation God has made. That revelation is in this Book in its clearest, purest, its fullest form. The Bible is true, and it contains the truth. In it we possess the best available form of God's revelation to man.

It is not a Book of one age, one race, or one language. From its earliest years it has passed readily, by spontaneous reception, from race to race and from people to people. As the centuries have passed, it has migrated without violence into new regions, and found a home among widely different tribes, separated though they have been by every conceivable difference of climate, government, custom, culture, and religion. As it conquered the conquering Goths and other barbarians of the early centuries, so today its sway is felt throughout the whole world, heathen and civilized alike.

That its power is not derived from race or clime is demonstrated when it is taken to savage, cannibal islands and transforms barbarians into peaceful, law-abiding citizens; when it changes a wild, native warrior into the editor of a paper, and a Negro slave into the president of an African republic. It changes human lives for the better wherever its teachings are followed and its truths accepted.

It has stimulated the intellects and energies and attracted the love and veneration of men. The literary geniuses of the world, in struggling to give utterance to their thoughts, have drawn largely from this Book. The greatest masters of prose -Bacon, Milton, Ruskin, Macaulay-have, perhaps unconsciously but no less really, laid hold of Scripture phrase and metaphor.

The influence of the Bible on Shakespeare's genius and writings is so striking as to have stimulated many writers to analyze and trace it. The extraordinary influence and authority of this Book, as compared with that of any and all others, is seen, too, in other aspects of life, in sculpture, in painting, in music. It has stimulated genius in these fields as has no other agency. Its majestic scenes have become the outstanding themes of painting and music. The greatest masters of these arts never weary of embodying the ideas it suggests. Its altogether unique word pictures, its vivid narratives, its poetry and pathos, have served as an inexhaustible source of inspiration to painters.

Every event of outstanding importance recorded in its pages has been made the subject of some great oratorio, on which the gifts of their genius have been lavished by such masters as Handel, Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, and Mendelssohn. The greatest paintings of Raphael and

Michelangelo can be traced to it. The greatest modern epic, *Paradise Lost*, and the greatest musical creation, *The Messiah*, are built on the mighty themes of the Bible.

The position the Bible has occupied, and increasingly occupies, amid such various circumstances, through such distant ages, among such different races, amid such fluctuations of taste, and in spite of all the opposition of its enemies makes it an altogether singular phenomenon.

For twice a thousand years the Sacred Scriptures have gone hand in hand with advancing civilization, with science, law, letters, learning, the arts in brief, with the moral and intellectual cultivation of the human race, always stimulating and leading the way.

### **A Universal Book**

So the Bible is one of the greatest facts in the history of mankind. It is universal in its appeal. Though it is Oriental in its origin and background, nevertheless its teachings carry a profound appeal to, and wield a powerful influence among, every people and race on earth. It influences every type of mind, every degree of intellect, every gradation of life. Prince and peasant, artisan and mechanic, ruler and subject, employer and laborer, learned and unlearned—all alike read its fascinating pages, study its profound truths, and are benefited thereby.

Its words are spirit and life. It is different, wholly different, from every human product. Milton's *Paradise Lost* is poetry. Shakespeare's writings are tragedy and comedy. Cicero's writings are eloquence. But Christ's word is life. "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life."

The words of the Bible are filled with living e. pointed with penetrating power. "The word of God is quick [living], and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

Here, in this Book, is truth, authoritative and final truth, the words of Him who Himself is very truth, who was dead, and is alive, and who holds the keys of death and the grave.

Therefore, in searching for the truth of this question of death, of what becomes of a man when he dies, we go to this source with complete confidence. The authority of the Bible we take as supreme and final. It is above reason. Not that reason and the Bible must of necessity be in conflict. The Bible is the light of reason, of human thought; it comes from God. Reason may be, should be, employed upon it. Reason examines its claims, weighs its evidence, tests, sifts, inquires, studies, analyzes, but the moment it becomes convinced, accepts the truth, and then takes a subordinate place and makes the Bible, the revelation of God, supreme.

The authority of the Bible is supreme because it is divine. It is above the church. The church is a witness to the Bible; it is not its author. It is a keeper of the Bible; it is not its maker. The Bible is above creeds. Creeds are often very able, but they are the productions of men, and therefore fallible and liable to error. The Bible was produced under the control and guidance and direction of the Spirit of God, and is therefore inerrant in its teachings. The creeds are not binding upon the conscience; the Bible is. They contain only human echoes of the heavenly message; the Bible is that message.

It is, therefore, to this divine Source that we turn in our search for light and truth on this supremely important question of the condition of man in death.

## **Your Bible - Unsullied History**

THE HUMAN heart longs for certainty. Especially in these confused times, people feel the need of security; the need of a foundation that is sure and certain. God has supplied this need. "But my God shall supply all your need." Philippians 4:19.

There is only one book in all the world where the past, present and future are combined in one record the past in authentic, unsullied history, instruction for the present, and clear statements about the future even of the end of our age.

All these are found in the Bible and nowhere else in the world. Much has been written regarding the Bible's predictions about the future, and much more regarding its instruction for the present; but little has been written of its unerring, unimpeachable historicity.

It was the amazing accuracy of Bible history that converted Sir William Ramsay from the unbelief of modern liberalism to a powerful champion of the veracity of the Scriptures. He said he found it "fascinating beyond description."

Speaking on one occasion to the students of the Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Sir William told how he had planned his life otherwise. He had sought the pleasant life of learning which would lead to a professor's chair. His literary associates regarded the Bible as a book of myths. He was a "worshipper of Wellhausen," and confesses that he accepted without question the findings of the brilliant scholars, who claimed that the life of Christ as recorded in the New Testament and the Acts of the Apostles were forgeries of later times.

### **A Statement Changed His Life**

He lost faith in God and interest in the Bible. He became interested in the study of archaeology, and planned a three-year expedition to Greek lands in connection with the Oxford University. His interest was in the study of the antiquities that related to the Greco-Roman days. This led to explorations among the ruins of ancient monuments, inscriptions and relics of art.

At this time he stated that the Book of Acts was regarded as probably the weakest link in the New Testament and that "no one that had any regard for his reputation as a scholar cared to say a word in its defense."

It was what appears to be a very unimportant statement in "The Acts of the Apostles" that changed his whole life. In his own words he relates: "The first thing that made me begin to doubt the judgment I had formed, or rather, had accepted from others, about the late origin of the Acts of the Apostles, was a discovery regarding the geographical statement in Acts 14:6, 'They . . . fled [from Iconium] unto Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and unto the region that lies round about.' In these words it is implied that Paul and Barnabas fled over a frontier into Lycaonia. Iconium, from which they fled, was not, it appears, in Lycaonia.



Here was a case, Sir William was sure, of another of the many mistakes in the Book of Acts. It was a recognized mistake by all scholars. Even many Christian workers reluctantly admitted an error here, for everyone knew that Iconium was the capital of Lycaonia.

“Smith’s Bible Dictionary,” which in its preface states that it contains “the fruit of the ripest Biblical scholarship of England,” and is probably the best known Bible Dictionary among Christians, states, “Iconium, the modern Konieh, was the capital of Lycaonia, in Asia Minor.” This was recognized by all. Every scholar admitted there was a mistake here in Acts.

### **The Acts-Trustworthy**

However, one day Sir William was tramping over the country, and on top of a slope he passed a landmark, a stone monument five feet in height, that had fallen over. It bore an official inscription placed there by the Roman Senate to mark the boundary between Lycaonia and Phrygia. Sir William states that his emotions were stirred within him as he read it. What a story this stone slab told? The Bible was right! The whole modern world of scholars was wrong!

This simple statement in Acts 14: 6 and that old statement cut in stone changed his life. The stones were crying out that the Bible is truly the Word of the Living God.

Other remarkable discoveries followed, for this, he records, was just the beginning of a long line of delightful discovery. The Book of Acts was no mere shoddy product of pious imaginations. It was correct in every detail. It was trustworthy. The accuracy was striking.

Another brief illustration might be given. In Acts 16: 12, Philippi is referred to as “the chief city of that part of Macedonia” or “the first” (see margin) of the district. Even Hort, the Greek scholar, marks this as a mistake, as the Greek word “meris” was never used for a district. Sir William discovered from the inscriptions of the first century that it was commonly used for district or region, especially in Macedonia. Thus the Bible was right again and the scholars were wrong.

Luke has been proved correct in his geographical and political remarks on provinces, regions and cities (Acts 13:49; 14:6; 15:4; 16:2, 6-8); correct in his intimate reporting of local custom (Acts 14:11; 17:34; 19:35); correct in his reporting of local religious facts (Acts 14:11, 12; 19:26-28); correct in his knowledge of Greek and Asian cities (Acts 16:13, 19; 17:17, 19, 22; 18:12; 19:26, 27). Most of the vindication thus established has come from archaeological research.

### **The Facts of History**

When mere mortals begin to criticize the Word of God, they certainly step on to dangerous ground, and while professing to be wise, they become fools.

Sir William Ramsay records, “The more I have studied the narrative of the Acts, and the more I have learned year after year, the more I admire and the better I understand. You may press the words of Luke in a degree beyond any other historians, and they stand the keenest scrutiny and the hardest treatment.”

Regarding Bible history, E. White wrote, “Here only can we find a history of our race, unsullied by human prejudice or human pride.” It is an “authentic history.” “The Bible is the most comprehensive and the most instructive history which men possess. It came fresh from the

fountain of eternal truth, and a divine hand has preserved its purity through all the ages.”  
(Emphasis supplied.)

We need not be surprised that liberal writers attack the history of the Bible because they know the Scriptures are based on history. If its history can be overthrown, the whole structure must crash. The Bible is largely history, for it deals with facts--actual happenings. It does not deal merely with moral principles and ethics. Its moral and religious teachings are interwoven in the facts of history. These historic facts are sure. They are “established facts.” (Luke 1:1, Moffatt).

These facts or happenings reveal God’s power, His purposes and His protection. Thus in some respects these historical sections of the Bible are the most important, for they are the basis of its sublime truths. For instance, the whole gospel and its salvation from sin would be pointless without the historical record of the fall of man. The Bible begins with history. Its first books are largely history, and on these historical facts the wonderful truths are based. The New Testament is similar to the Old Testament in its construction. Its first books, the Gospels and Acts, are largely history. The New Testament, like all Scripture, stands or falls on its historic record.

### **No Chaff Among the Wheat**

Many rationalists and agnostics have expressed to me their appreciation and respect for the ethics of the Bible, but they refuse to accept its historicity. Some would have us believe that the Bible is only an unerring guide as far as salvation is concerned, but that it errs in its historical parts. But how can we have a religious infallibility of the Scriptures if we question its historicity, when the whole gospel of salvation is based on its history? “All Scripture is given by inspiration.” 2 Timothy 3:16. Inspiration includes “all” and “all” means “all.” The historical parts which form the foundation to its sublime truths, its ethics, its chronology; its scientific statements, all are inspired. Question one phase and the whole is weakened.

Intellectualism would place the professor between the people and the Book. Too many, if they meet anything they dislike in Scripture either try to gloss over or explain it away. Like Ananias, who kept back part of the money, they would keep part away from the people. But what an insult to God to deface any part of His eternal Word! “The inspired writers did not testify to falsehoods.”

Thus there are no errors, no chaff among the wheat, no erring human element is mingled with the Divine. “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.”

“It is worn where fond hands have caressed it,  
And dog-eared where hearts found new ease.  
Ah, no! It’s not just the book of the month,  
It’s the Book of the Centuries.

“Its tale is as new as tomorrow  
Every land knows the story divine,  
Of this quiet eternal best seller,  
This precious old Bible is mine.”

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