

# Bible Difficulties



# KJNP - Alaska





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# Radio Coverage





# Fairbanks - Ice Bridge





# Iditarod Trail Dog Sled Race





## A detailed map of Alaska showing two Iditarod routes from Fairbanks to Nome. The "Route for 2015" is shown as a solid red line with mileages between checkpoints: Fairbanks to North Pole (60), North Pole to Nenana (90), Nenana to Manley Hot Springs (66), Manley Hot Springs to Tanana (66), Tanana to Ruby (119), Ruby to Galena (50), Galena to Koyukuk (82), Koyukuk to Huslia (86), Huslia to Unalakleet (50), Unalakleet to Kaltag (47), Kaltag to Nulato (22), Nulato to Koyuk (50), Koyuk to Elim (48), Elim to White Mountain (18), White Mountain to Golovin (28), Golovin to Safety (22), and Safety to Nome (22). A scale bar indicates 0, 50, and 100 miles. The "Traditional southern route" is shown as a dotted black line, used on odd years. It starts at McGrath and goes through Nikolai, Rohn, Rainy Pass, Finger Lake, Skwentna, Willow, Wasilla, Yentna, and Anchorage. Other locations marked include Eagle Island, Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, Iditarod, Ophir, Takotna, and McGrath. Geographic features like Norton Sound, Seward Peninsula, Kuskokwim Mountains, and Alaska Range are labeled. Two red circles highlight specific starting points: one around Nome and another around Fairbanks/North Pole. A text box in the bottom left provides historical context about the 2003 race. A vertical credit line on the right reads "KEVIN POWELL / Alaska Dispatch News".



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# Midnight Sun Baseball

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# Bible Difficulties



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# Introduction

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- Hillsong worship leader Marty Sampson recently announced that he was “losing his faith.”
- One of his questions was: “Why is the Bible full of contradictions? No one talks about it.”



# Resources

## Encyclopedia of BIBLE DIFFICULTIES



Gleason L. Archer

A POPULAR HANDBOOK OF  
BIBLE DIFFICULTIES

## WHEN CRITICS ASK



Norman  
**GEISLER**  
Thomas  
**HOWE**



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# Key Principle #1

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- Whenever we consider a possible contradiction, we should consider the Bible innocent unless proven guilty.
- Aristotle's dictum: "The benefit of the doubt is to be given to the document itself, not arrogated by the critic to himself."



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# Historical Problems

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- Charge: Moses could not have written the Pentateuch (first 5 books of the Bible) since most people were illiterate at the time.
- Response: The Code of Hammurabi was discovered (written 1728 BC).





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# Historical Problems

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- Charge: The biblical writers artificially created the Hittites. This was either an error or an embellishment.
- Charge: The American Society of Archeology (1901) claimed that the Biblical account of the Hittites was false.
- Response: Excavations in 1906 at a location 90 miles east of Ankara, Turkey uncovered the capital of the Hittite Empire.



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# Two Creation Accounts

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- Charge: Genesis contains two different accounts of creation. These two accounts use different names for God and reflect different authors.
- Charge: The narratives contradict each other.





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# Two Creation Accounts

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Genesis 1	Genesis 2
Chronological	Topical
Broad Outline	Adam and Eve
Sequence is Important	Sequence is Irrelevant
Elohim (cultural)	Yahweh (personal)



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# Two Genealogies of Jesus

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- Charge: Matthew and Luke give different genealogies for Jesus.
- Response: Matthew (is written for the Jews) gives the genealogy of Joseph.
- Response: The genealogy in Luke is the genealogy of Mary (and focuses on His conception and birth).



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# Key Principle #2

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- A partial report is not a false report.
- We observe this in car accident reports as well as in crime scene reports.
- Example: inscriptions on the cross.



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# Inscriptions on the Cross

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Matthew: This is Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ King of the Jews.

Mark: \_\_\_\_\_ The King of the Jews.

Luke: This is \_\_\_\_\_ the King of the Jews.

John: \_\_ Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews.

The complete inscription was:

This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews



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# Peter's Denial

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- Charge: Mark 14 says that before a cock crows twice, Peter would deny the Lord. Matthew 26 and Luke 22 simply say that before the cock would crow, Peter would deny the Lord three times.
- Response: Matthew and Luke did not say the cock crowed only once as opposed to Mark's twice. They simply referred to the cock crowing. "Cockcrowing" was a proverbial expression for early morning. Mark merely provided more detail.



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# Angels at the Tomb

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- Charge: Matthew and Mark mention one angel at the tomb of Jesus. Luke and John refer to two angels at the tomb.
- Response: The mention of one angel does not contradict the report of two angels.
- Response: The discrepancy clears up when we realize that there were two groups of women.



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# Death of Judas

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- Charge: Charge: Matthew 27:5 says Judas hung himself. But Acts 1:18 says Judas fell and was burst asunder.
- Response: Judas hung himself on a precipice over the valley of Hinnom. The rope gave way, his body fell, and burst open and was mangled as described in Acts.





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