“Is That You, God?”
1 Thess. 2:13

Introduction:
A. “Is that you, God?” – Little Scott’s innocent question.
   1. Asked by first century man about Jesus, His words, and His apostle’s words.
   2. Asked by modern man about the words of the Bible.
B. Yes, is my answer for two interwoven reasons:
   1. The Bible’s own claim (other evidence meaningless if no claims).
   2. The Bible’s own evidence (claim alone insufficient if not supported by evidence).

Discussion:
I. The Bible’s Claim to Being the Word of God.
   A. Paul’s claims (1 Cor. 14:37; Eph. 3:3-5; 1 Thess. 2:13)
   B. Peter’s claims (2 Pet. 1:16-21; 3:16)
   D. The prophets’ claims (cf. Jer. 1:1-4, 13, 2:1; Ezek 1:3)
II. The Bible’s Evidence Supporting the Claim.
   A. The very nature of the Bible.
      2. Not one writer, but over 40 writers.
      3. Not one period, but over 1600 years.
      4. Yet, reflects one mind with one theme – fall and redemption of man.
      5. Illustrate by wall mural.
   B. The credibility of the Bible.
      1. Its version of man’s origin versus other versions.
      2. Its candidness and calmness of expression.
   C. The first century outpouring of miraculous power.
      2. Unlike isolated non-verifiable claims in human history.
      3. A great outpouring of miraculous activity.
         b. Eyewitnesses of these miracles had all to lose and nothing to gain in this world.
         c. Course of this world changes by the events of the age.
      4. The resurrection and reaction to it.
   D. The Prophetic evidence.
      1. Concerning Christ (Isa. 53; Psa. 22).
      2. Concerning the kingdom (Isa. 2:1-5; Dan 2:44).

Conclusion:
A. If claims are not true, then not a book but deliberate deception or writers were deceived men.
B. If evidence not conclusive then one must explain both the claims and the events away.