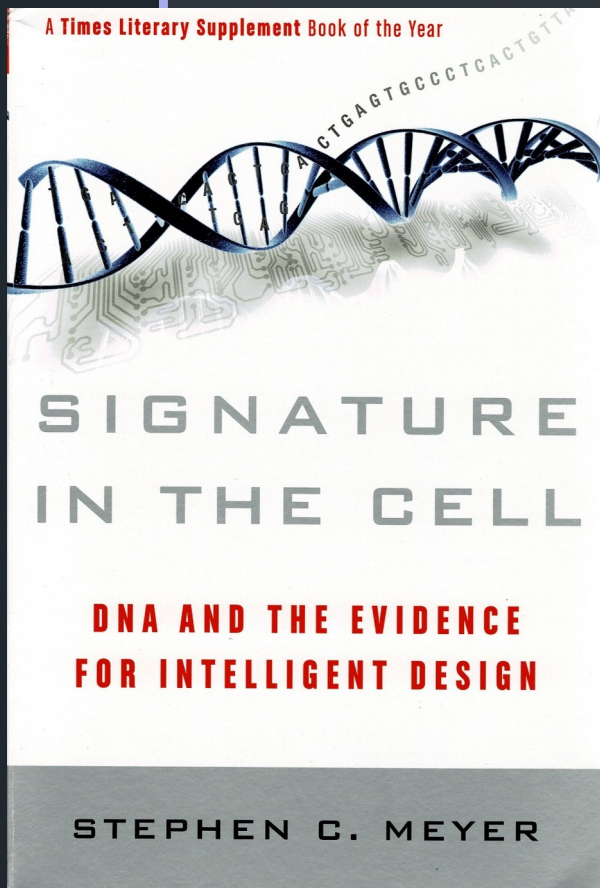




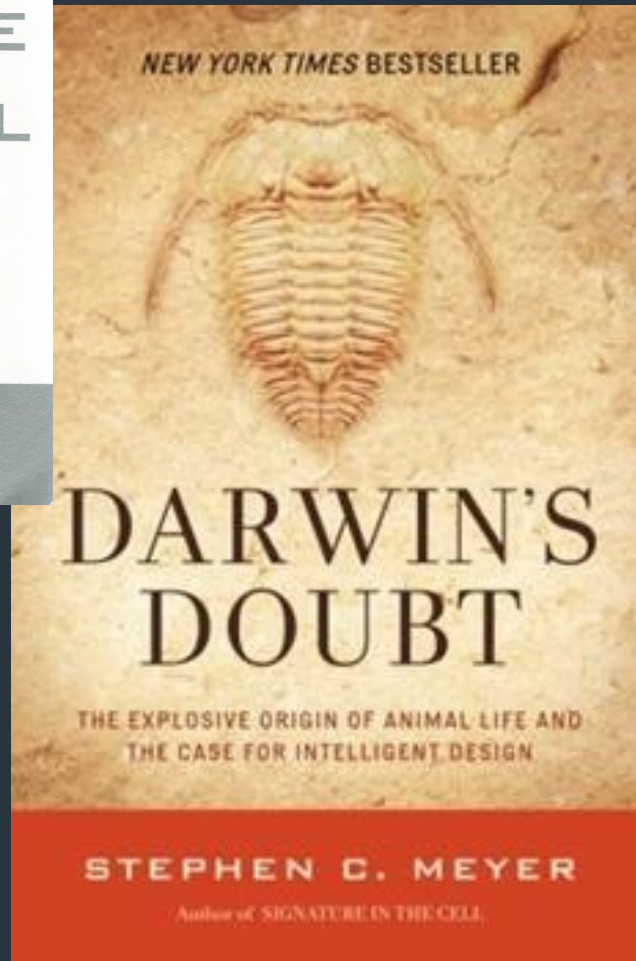
March 6, 2022

Making your Bible Come Alive

1. Refer to the Bible to see what it claims about itself.
2. Take you on a short history lesson to demonstrate how other folks found life in the Bible.
3. Present to you the ultimate object of life that is found when your Bible comes alive.



Making your Bible come alive



“Another excellent book by Stephen Meyer. I particularly like his refutation of the concept of self-assembly of biological system. The book explains the difference between specified complexity and order and shows that natural forces cannot generate the kind of complexity we see in living systems. I know from my personal work in the Systems Centre at Bristol University that complex systems do not create themselves but require an intelligent designer...”

Dr. Stuart Burgess, professor of design and nature, head of mechanical engineering at Bristol University.

How can I make these books come alive?



Making your Bible come alive

- “For the word of God is **living** and **active**, **sharper** than any two-edged sword, **piercing** to the **division** of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and **discerning** the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must **give account.**”
 - Hebrews 4:12-13



Making your Bible come alive

- “And **without faith** it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must **believe** that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”
 - Hebrews 11:6
- “All Scripture is given by inspiration (God breathed), and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”
 - 2 Timothy 3:16-17



Making your Bible come alive

- “Forever, O LORD, your word is **firmly fixed in the heavens**. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.
 - Psalm 119:89-90
- “Consider how I love your precepts! **Give me life** according to your steadfast love. The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever.”
 - Psalm 119:159-160
- “...through the **living and abiding** word of God; for “All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, **but the word of the Lord remains forever.**” And this word is the good news that was preached to you.
 - 1 Peter 1:23-25



Making your Bible come alive

- **Assimilate the Word of God**
- “Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and **observe it with my whole heart.**
 - Psalm 119:33-34



Making your Bible come alive

- **Pray over it**
- “I entreat your favor with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise.”
 - Psalm 119:58



Making your Bible come alive

Ponder it:

- Precepts
- Promises
- Proverbs
- Prophecy
- Psalms, Poetry
- Prose
- Past, Present, Future
- Figurative | Literal | Symbolic | Metaphoric



Making your Bible come alive

- **Preserve it**
- “I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.”
 - Psalm 119:11
- I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.
 - Psalm 119:16



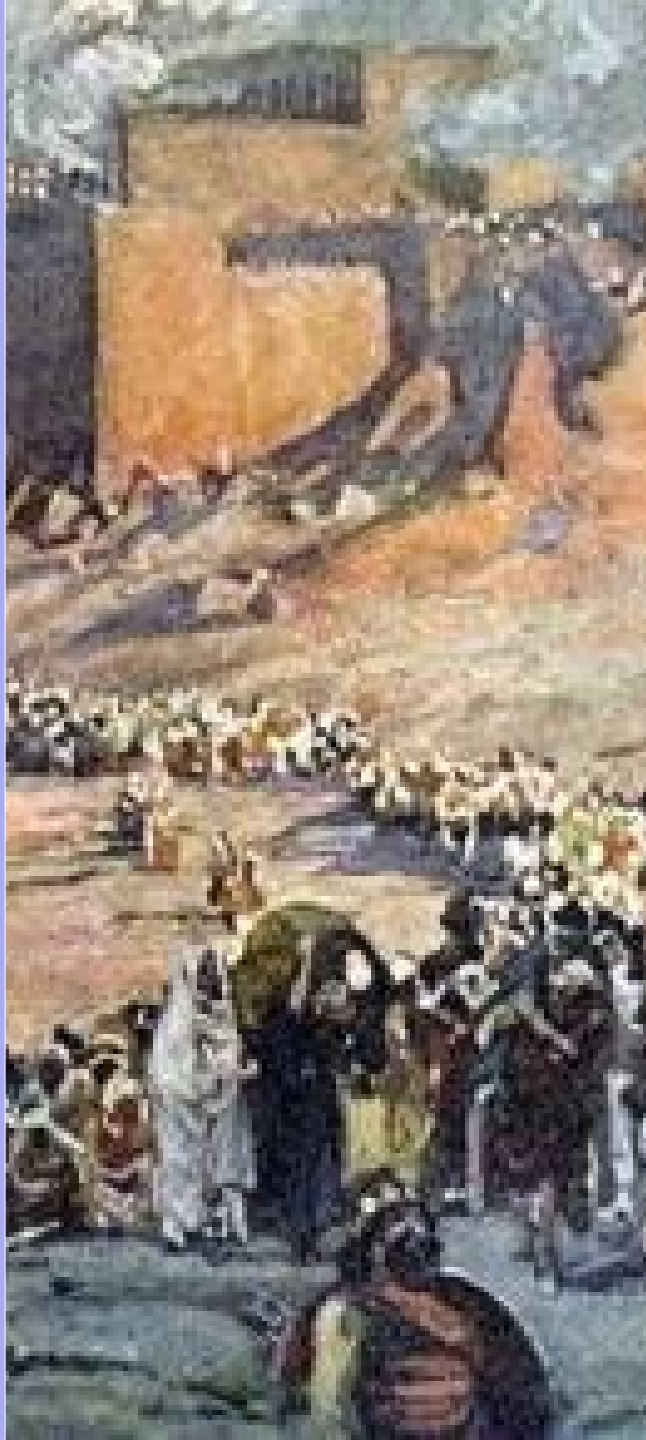
Making your Bible come alive

- **Practice it**
- “I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.
I do not turn aside from your rules,
for you have taught me.”
 - Psalm 119:101-102



Making your Bible come alive

- **Proclaim it:**
- “I will also speak of your testimonies before kings and shall not be put to shame....”
 - Psalm 119:46



Making your Bible come alive

- “And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. **I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until he come whose right it is; and I will give it him.**
- Ezekiel 21:25-27 (KJV)

Making your Bible come alive

- “Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fasting and prayers night and day. And coming... **she gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.**”
 - Luke 2:36-38 NKJV



Waiting for the one “whose right it is.”

Making your Bible come alive

- Return to Zion (538 BC)
- Greeks conquer Palestine **around 332 BC**
- Greek Hellenistic kings of the Seleucid Empire
- Waring with Ptolemaic Egyptian kings
- Antiochus IV Epiphanes (God Manifest) 175 – 164 BC



Antiochus IV Epiphanes

Making your Bible come alive....

Judah Maccabee

- (Judas Maccabeus) was a Jewish priest and a son of the priest Mattathias. He led the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire (167–160 BCE).
- The Jewish holiday of Hanukkah Hanukkah ("Dedication") commemorates the restoration of Jewish worship at the Second Temple in Jerusalem in 164 BCE, after Judah Maccabee removed all of the statues depicting Greek gods and goddesses and purified it.



Making your Bible come alive....

- **Jonathan Apphus** was one of the sons of Mattathias and the leader of the Hasmonean dynasty of Judea from 161 to 143 BCE.



Making your Bible come alive....

- **Simon Thassi** was the second son of Mattathias and thus a member of the Hasmonean family. The name "Thassi" has a connotation of "the Wise", a title which can also mean "the Director", "the Guide", "the Man of Counsel", and "the Zealous". 135 BCE



Making your Bible come alive

John Hyrcanus

-a Hasmonean (Maccabean) leader and Jewish high priest of the 2nd century BCE (born 164 BCE, reigned from 134 BCE until his death in 104 BCE). In rabbinic literature he is often referred to as *Yohanan Cohen Gadol* - John the High Priest".



Making your Bible come alive....

Alexander Jannaeus

- ...born **Jonathan** the second king of the Hasmonean dynasty, who ruled over an expanding kingdom of Judea from 103 to 76 BCE. A son of John Hyrcanus, he inherited the throne from his brother Aristobulus I, and married his brother's widow, Queen Salome Alexandra. From his conquests to expand the kingdom to a bloody civil war, Alexander's reign has been generalised as cruel and oppressive with never-ending conflict. The major historical sources of Alexander's life are Josephus's *Antiquities of the Jews* and *The Jewish War*.



Making your Bible come alive

Salome Alexandra, (76–67 BCE),

- ...was one of only two women to rule over Judea (the other being Athaliah). The wife of Aristobulus , and afterward of Alexander Jannaeus, she was the last regnant queen of Judea, and the last ruler of Judea to die as the sovereign of an independent kingdom.



Making your Bible come alive

- Aristobulus was the younger son of Alexander Jannaeus, King and High Priest, and Salome Alexandra. After the death of Alexander in 76 BCE, his widow succeeded to the rule of Judea and installed her elder son Hyrcanus II as High Priest in 73 BCE. When Salome died in 67 BCE, Hyrcanus succeeded to the kingship as well.



Making your Bible come alive

- Antigonus was the second son of Aristobulus II, and together with his father, were carried off as a prisoner to Rome by Pompey in 63 BCE. Antigonus eventually escaped and returned to Judaea in 57 BCE. Despite an unsuccessful attempt to oppose the Roman forces there, the senate released him, yet he refused to surrender his dynastic rights. After the death of his older brother Alexander, Antigonus claimed that his uncle Hyrcanus was a puppet of the Idumaeen Antipater and attempted to overthrow him with the help and consent of the Romans.



Making your Bible come alive

John Hyrcanus

- Died 30 BC, a member of the Hasmonean dynasty, was for a long time the Jewish High Priest in the 1st century BCE. He was also briefly King of Judea 67–66 BCE and then the ethnarch (ruler) of Judea, probably over the period 47–40 BCE.



Making your Bible come alive

Herod (c. 72 – 4 or 1 BCE),

- ...also known as **Herod the Great**, was a Roman client king of Judea, referred to as the Herodian kingdom. He is known for his colossal building projects throughout Judea, including his renovation of the Second Temple in Jerusalem and the expansion of the Temple Mount towards its north, the enclosure around the Cave of the Patriarchs in Hebron, the construction of the port at Caesarea Maritima, the fortress at Masada, and Herodium. Vital details of his life are recorded in the works of the 1st century CE Roman–Jewish historian Josephus.



Making your Bible come alive

- “Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.”
 - Luke 2:36-38 NKJV





Making your Bible come alive

- This makes every Bible come alive – Finding Jesus in its pages
- Who's right it is.....
- Arriving at the end of a long list of Jewish “Saviors, Kings, Messiahs”
- Prophesied and documented with divine precision
- Anna an eye-witness account of the previous 100 years of history
- Jesus lived a miraculous 3½ year ministry
- Was hated and crucified by wicked people
- He rose from the dead on the third day by the power of God
- He is coming back from heaven to save the world



Making your Bible come alive

- “This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. **And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.**”
 - Acts 4:11-12



Making your Bible come alive

- “To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, **which is Christ in you**, the hope of glory.”
 - Colossians 1:27



Making your Bible come alive

Prayer for Spiritual Strength

- “For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”
 - Ephesians 3:14-19



Making your Bible come alive

- “But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also **give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.**”
 - Romans 8:10-11



Making your Bible come alive

- “And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. **Whoever has the Son has life**; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.”
 - 1 John 5:11-12



Making your Bible come alive

- Being alive is really about Jesus
- The Bible is the book that brings Jesus to us
- We are promised that Jesus will live in our hearts
- It is through His name that we can be saved
- The call to action is for everyone to pick up their Bibles, read, ponder, pray, practice. Let it come alive!
- Let Jesus come alive.
- There is no other life to be found....
- Except through the miracle of this living book.



Making your Bible come alive

- “For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.”
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18

Making your Bible come alive

- “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.”

- Revelation 11:15

