

of the Hebrew Scriptures available. By carefully comparing these many very old copies, even the few mistakes copyists made can be found and corrected. Also, there are thousands of very old copies of the Greek Scriptures, some of which copies date back nearly to the time of Jesus and his apostles. Thus, as Sir Frederic Kenyon said: "The last foundation for any doubt that the Scriptures have come down to us substantially as they were written has now been removed."—*The Bible and Archaeology*, pages 288, 289.

¹⁹ This does not mean that there have not been attempts to change God's Word. There have been. A notable example is 1 John 5:7. In the *King James Version* of 1611 it reads: "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." Yet these words do not appear in any of the very early copies of the Bible. They were added by someone who was trying to support the Trinity teaching. Since it is clear that these words are not really part of God's Word, corrections have been made and the words do not appear in newer Bibles.

²⁰ So anyone who says that the Bible does not contain the same information as when it was originally written simply does not know the facts. Jehovah God has seen to it that his Word has been protected not only from mistakes copyists made but also from attempts of others to make additions to it. The Bible itself contains God's promise that his Word would be kept in a pure form for us today.—Psalm 12:6, 7; Daniel 12:4; 1 Peter 1:24, 25; Revelation 22:18, 19.

IS THE BIBLE REALLY TRUE?

²¹ Jesus Christ said in prayer to God: "Your word is truth." (John 17:17) But do the facts support this? When the Bible is carefully examined, do we find that it really is the truth?

19. (a) What is an example of an attempt to add to the Bible? (b) Why does 1 John 5:7 as it appears in certain Bible versions not belong in the Bible?

20. Why can we be sure that the Bible has been kept in a pure form?

21. How did Jesus view God's Word?

