Why did God write the Bible? To reveal Himself and His purpose for us: what He wants us to think and do.

- a. Most people don't give a hoot about God, and they are not interested in what He wants.
- b. That is why they attack the Bible

Attack #1 - IT WAS WRITTEN BY FALLIBLE MEN.

The assumption is that it cannot be relied on or trusted because perfect God was not its true author.

The Bible is divinely inspired, <u>2 Timothy 3:16</u> - All scripture is given by inspiration of God [God-breathed, THEOPNEUSTOS (Θεοπνευστοs)], and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be complete, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Luke 1:70 - He [God] spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from of old. . .

Attack #2 - IT CONTRADICTS ITSELF.

This simply is not true. Any possible contradictions are dismissed with proper hermeneutical study.

Example: *Israel refers to all the 12 tribes / Israel refers to the 10 Northern tribes only.

<u>Psa.12:6</u> - The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. <u>Psa.119:144</u> - Thy testimonies are righteous forever. <u>Titus 1:9</u> - [Pastors must] hold fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, that he may be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

Attack #3 - IT IS FULL OF ERRORS.

There were no errors in the original manuscripts of the Bible and the margin of error that exists in most Bible translations today are negligible. Psalm 19:7-8 - The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. John 17:17 - Sanctify them through thy truth: Thy Word is truth. [See the printout "Scientific Facts In The Bible"] Hebrews 6:18 - ...it is impossible for God to lie...

Psalm 111:7-8 - The works of His hands are truth and justice; All His precepts are sure. They are upheld forever and ever; They are performed in truth and uprightness.

Attack #4 - IT IS NO LONGER RELEVANT.

The Bible address the deepest needs and issues of every person of every generation of mankind.

<u>Hebrews 4:12</u> - For the word of God is alive 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 critic of the thoughts and intents of the heart. <u>Romans 15:4</u> - For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. <u>1 Peter 1:25</u> But the word of the Lord abides forever. <u>1 Corinthians 10:11</u> - Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction. . <u>Isaiah 40:8</u> - The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.

Attack #5 - YOU CAN'T TAKE IT LITERALLY

People who say this usually don't believe in absolutes; to them everything is relative. Example: <u>Colossians 3:18</u> - Wives, submit to your husbands... "Surely this cannot be taken literally in the 21st century in the post-modern era. What about women's rights, the feminist movement, etc.? Surely you don't believe that Jesus Christ literally rose from the dead or that He will literally come back to earth from heaven?."

This thinking is described in <u>2 Peter 3:3-4</u> - Know this first of all, that in the last days mockers will come with their mocking, following after their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation."

<u>Matthew 5:18</u> - "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished.

Attack #6 - NO ONE CAN KNOW FOR SURE WHAT THE BIBLE MEANS (It can have any interpretation.)

The Bible has only ONE correct interpretation. When using proper hermeneutical procedures called the ICE method of study, the correct interpretation of scripture can be assured. <u>2 Peter 1:20-21</u> - But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹ for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. <u>1 John 5:13</u> - These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, <u>IN ORDER THAT YOU MAY KNOW</u> that you have eternal life. <u>1 Corinthians 10:11</u> - Now these things happened to them as an example, and they were written for our instruction.

The problem is not with the Bible but with the one who rejects the Bible. <u>Proverbs 1:7</u> - The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

<u>Proverbs 4:13</u> - Take hold of instruction [B.D.]; do not let go. Guard her, for she is your life. [They ignore this command.]