

The
Unshakable
TRUTH

JOSH McDOWELL
SEAN McDOWELL



HARVEST HOUSE PUBLISHERS

EUGENE, OREGON

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the first edition of the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, IL 60189 USA. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide.

Verses marked NASB are taken from the New American Standard Bible®, © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)

Verses marked NKJV are taken from the New King James Version. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Verses marked NLT are taken from the second edition of the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, IL 60189 USA. All rights reserved.

Verses marked MSG are taken from The Message. Copyright © by Eugene H. Peterson 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002. Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.

Verses marked GWT are taken from GOD'S WORD. GOD'S WORD is a copyrighted work of God's Word to the Nations. Quotations are used by permission. Copyright 1995 by God's Word to the Nations. All rights reserved.

Verses marked KJV are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

Verses marked NCV are taken from *The Holy Bible, New Century Version*, Copyright © 1987, 1988, 1991 by Word Publishing, Nashville, TN 37214. Used by permission.

Verses marked AMP are taken from The Amplified Bible, Copyright © 1954, 1958, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1987 by The Lockman Foundation. All rights reserved. Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)

All emphasis (italics) in Scripture verses has been added by the authors.

Cover by *Koachel Peterson & Associates, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota*

THE UNSHAKABLE TRUTH

Copyright © 2010 by Josh McDowell Ministry and Sean McDowell

Published by Harvest House Publishers

Eugene, Oregon 97402

www.harvesthousepublishers.com

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

McDowell, Josh.

The unshakable truth / Josh McDowell and Sean McDowell.

p. cm.

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN 978-0-7369-2870-0 (Hardcover)

ISBN 978-0-7369-2878-6 (International Edition)

1. Theology, Doctrinal—Popular works. 2. Apologetics. I. McDowell, Sean II. Title.

BT77.M364 2010

230—dc22

2010001136

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means—electronic, mechanical, digital, photocopy, recording, or any other—except for brief quotations in printed reviews, without the prior permission of the publisher. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the publisher grants permission to the purchaser of this book to photocopy its appendixes for use in a family or group celebrations activity.

Printed in the United States of America

10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 / LB-NI / 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

CONTENTS

PART I THE TWELVE UNSHAKABLE TRUTHS OF CHRISTIANITY

1. What We All Want out of Life	15
2. Twelve Truths That Define the Christian Faith	29
3. The Real Meaning of Truth	37

PART II THE UNSHAKABLE TRUTH OF GOD'S CREATION

||||| TRUTH ONE: GOD EXISTS |||||

4. Who Is God?	51
5. Evidence for God's Existence	57
6. Discovering Your Identity	67
7. Living Out Your Relational Image of God	75

||||| TRUTH TWO: GOD'S WORD |||||

8. Why God Gave Us His Words	85
9. Evidence That God's Word Is Reliable	93
10. The Protection and Provision of God's Word	105
11. Living Under God's Protection and Enjoying His Provisions	113

||||| TRUTH THREE: ORIGINAL SIN |||||

12. The First Broken Relationship	125
13. Evidence That Sin Has Consequences	133
14. Choosing Right from Wrong	139
15. Practical Examples of How to Make Right Choices	145

PART III
THE UNSHAKABLE TRUTH OF GOD'S INCARNATION

||||| TRUTH FOUR: GOD BECAME HUMAN |||||

- 16. We Rejected God—God Accepted Us. 155
- 17. Evidence That God Became Human to Redeem Us. 159
- 18. What God's Unconditional Acceptance Produces 171
- 19. How to Accept Others As God Accepts Us 177

||||| TRUTH FIVE: CHRIST'S ATONEMENT FOR SIN |||||

- 20. The High Price of Forgiveness 187
- 21. Evidence That Jesus Was God's Perfect Sacrifice 193
- 22. The True Meaning of Love. 199
- 23. How to Love Others As God Loves Us. 203

||||| TRUTH SIX: JUSTIFICATION THROUGH FAITH |||||

- 24. What Makes Us Right Before God?. 213
- 25. Evidence That Christ Has the Power to Save Us. 217
- 26. The Joy of Salvation 223
- 27. Explaining How to Have a Relationship with God 231

||||| TRUTH SEVEN: LIVING THE TRANSFORMED LIFE |||||

- 28. Understanding Your Purpose. 241
- 29. Evidences of a Changed Life 245
- 30. Seeing Yourself As God Sees You 255
- 31. Living Out a Changed Life 263

PART IV
THE UNSHAKABLE TRUTH OF GOD'S RE-CREATION

||||| TRUTH EIGHT: JESUS' BODILY RESURRECTION |||||

32. The Historical Necessity of Christ's Resurrection.	277
33. Evidence That Jesus Literally Rose from the Dead	281
34. Overcoming the Fear of Death	297
35. Living Bodily on Earth with Our Hearts in Heaven	303

||||| TRUTH NINE: THE TRINITY |||||

36. The Meaning of One God in Three Persons	313
37. Evidence That the Holy Spirit Exists	323
38. The Purpose of the Holy Spirit in Our Lives	327
39. How to Live in the Power of the Holy Spirit.	335

||||| TRUTH TEN: GOD'S KINGDOM |||||

40. Kingdoms at War.	349
41. Evidence That God's Kingdom Has Positively Influenced the World	355
42. Determining Your Kingdom Worldview	361
43. How Your Worldview Defines Who You Are, Why You Are Here, and Where You Are Going.	367

||||| TRUTH ELEVEN: THE CHURCH |||||

44. What Is the Church?	377
45. Evidence That God's Authentic Church Is Alive and Well	383
46. The Priority of the Church	391
47. How the Church Meets Human and Spiritual Needs	397

