How Did We Get Our Bible? The Origin and Authority of Scripture

Objections to the Bible: What about Offensive Passages and Doctrines?

Intro: what sort of thing are we talking about?

What does the Bible say about offensiveness?

1. Avoid giving offense
   Matt 17:27; Rom 12:18; 1 Cor 9:19-23; Acts 16:3.

2. But when people *do* take offense…
   Luke 11:45-46; John 6:60-62; Mark 6:3-4; Matt 15:7-14
   [John 5:16-17, 18-23; 6:51-55…]

3. A theology of offense

4. How to respond to offense
   i. ***Luke 9:26***.

   ii. Test God! Deut 6:16 & Ex 17:1-7; Mal 3:10, Rom 12:2, Ps 34:8.

So what does this look like in practice?

1. Don’t cause needless offense!
    i. Don’t bother defending what the Bible doesn’t say

    ii. Don’t be afraid to say “I don’t know” - and then find out!

    iii. Don’t be horrible.

2. Do not be ashamed of genuine offense.
    i. Don’t give ground the Bible doesn’t give

    ii. Connect the offense to the offense of the cross

3. Taste and See