

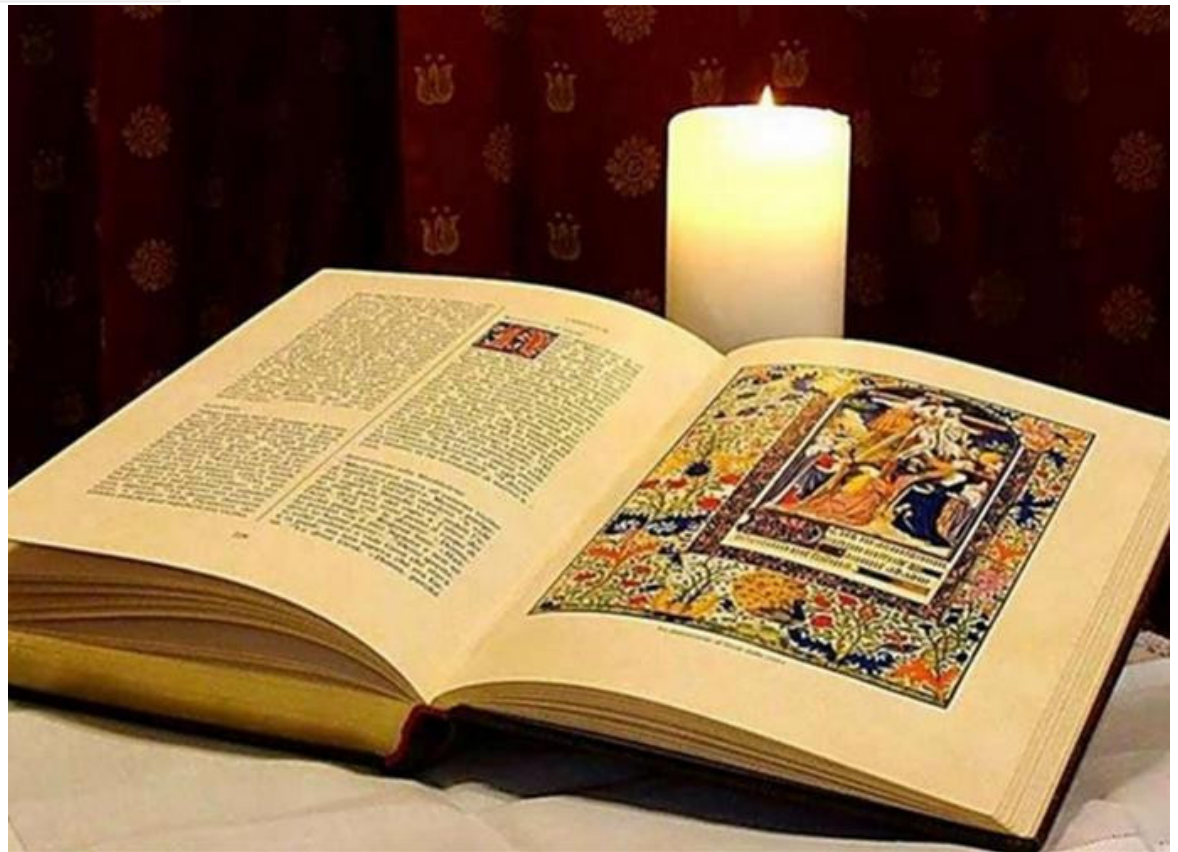
**GOSPEL PEARLS**

## Who can we trust?

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**GOSPEL PEARLS**

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*Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to*

*them and said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened. (Mark 6: 45-52)*

Fear and unbelief are two obstacles to faith. Fear grips us when we do not understand. Unbelief occurs when we place our own thinking and desires above God's plans. The result is the hardening of our hearts from which we can only be released if willing to trust in Jesus. So our entire freedom ultimately comes down to the choice in whom we trust. Those who say "I trust in no one" or "I only trust myself" are actually trusting untrustworthy people (we ourselves are often unreliable).