



Scripture

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“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” *2 Timothy 3:16-17*

“For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”
2 Peter 1:21

Study

The Inspiration of Scripture

- The Bible is the word of God (*2 Timothy 3:16*) written through the words of people (*2 Peter 1:21*).
- Jesus’ view of Scripture should be our view of Scripture.

The Authority of Scripture

- Because Scripture is God’s word, it is the authority for all doctrine and practice.
- The “authority of Scripture” is shorthand for “the authority of God through Scripture.”
- The Bible is completely truthful (and therefore inerrant) in all it affirms.

The Attributes of Scripture (SCAN the Scriptures)

- Sufficiency: Scripture is sufficient for salvation and growing in godliness.
- Clarity: The basic message of Scripture is clear and can be understood by everyone.
- Authority: Scripture is the ultimate authority for all doctrine and practice.
- Necessity: Scripture is necessary for a right understanding of God and salvation.

The Canon of Scripture

- The canon is the closed collection of inherently authoritative and uniquely inspired written texts recognized by God’s people as the word of God (*2 Kings 23:2-3*; *1 Thessalonians 5:27*).
- The Old Testament found in Protestant Bibles today is the same Old Testament used during the first century AD.
- The New Testament books are the only books that pass the following criteria for being in the canon: apostolic (written by or tied to an apostle), catholic (universally accepted), and orthodox (consistent in doctrine).

The Purpose of Scripture

- The written word of God leads to knowing and following the incarnate Word of God.
- Scripture is essential for “training in righteousness” (*2 Timothy 3:16*).

Discussion

- What influences challenge Scripture for ultimate authority in our culture today?
- How can Scripture be a part of “training in righteousness”?
- Even though we know that “all Scripture is breathed out by God” (*2 Timothy 3:16*), why do you think it is still tempting to pick and choose only certain parts?