



“The Exclusive Source Of Truth On Which We Stand–Pt.3”

- I. The Word of God as God’s Divine Revelation–Various (4/12/26)
- II. The Word of God as God’s Manifested Authority–Various (4/19/26)

III. The Word of God as God’s Sufficient Provision–2 Tim 3:16-17

Paul supplies 3 features of the Scriptures that sufficiently supply all Christians with what is necessary for ministry:

1. The Divine Origin of the Scriptures (v.16a)

(1 Tim 5:18; 2 Pet 3:15-16)

2. The Multifaceted Benefits of the Scriptures (v.16b)

(1 Tim 1:3-4)

3. The Comprehensive Result of the Scriptures (v.17)

The sufficiency of Scripture means that Scripture contains all the words of God he intended his people to have at each stage of redemptive history, and that it now contains everything we need God to tell us for salvation, and for trusting and obeying him [completely]. (1)

The Scriptures are not a preexisting body of human literature into which God breathed something divine, but rather they owe their very existence to the out-breathing of God’s Spirit. Apart from God’s out-breathing in time and space through specific human authors under the power of His Holy Spirit, the Scripture would not exist. It is the Scriptures, not the writers of the Scriptures, which are inspired. (2)

The word "inspired" is not to be understood as indicating something "extra" superimposed on the writer or writing, to make the writing different from what it would otherwise be. It indicates rather how the writing came into being. It asserts that the writing is a product of the creative activity of the divine breath. The word thus goes right back to the beginning or first cause of the emergence of Scripture and indicates that Scripture has in its origin this distinctive hallmark, that it owes its very existence to the direct creative activity of God himself. Although men wrote it, it is God who brought it into being. Its content and character have all been decisively determined by the originating and controlling activity of the creative Spirit. For this reason, the context affirms that Scripture is profitable "for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training for righteousness" since its character and quality, and indeed its very existence, are God-determined. (3)

Spiritual transformation cannot happen apart from the Holy Spirit’s working through the Word. The Scriptures provide the means by which a person views, interprets, and responds to life’s problems...God has provided Christians with everything they need for life and godliness (2 Pet 1:3). Every spiritual, mental, or emotional problem that mankind can face or experience has an answer in the Word. Sexual, verbal, and physical abuse have been with us since the days of Cain. Marriage problems, poor self-esteem, addictions of every kind, jealousy, violent rage, depression, and virtually every other psychological dysfunction have answers in the Scriptures...The Scriptures alone provide a comprehensive framework for human transformation. (4)

¹ Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine* (Leicester, England: Grand Rapids, Mich: Zondervan Academic, 1994), 127.

² John A. Kitchen, *The Pastoral Epistles for Pastors* (The Woodlands, TX: Kress Christian Publications, 2009), 419.

³ Alan M. Stibbs, "The Witness of Scripture to Its Inspiration," in *The Scripture Cannot Be Broken: Twentieth Century Writings on the Doctrine of Inerrancy* edited by John MacArthur (Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 2015), 207–8.

⁴ Jacob Z. Elwart, *SECULAR PSYCHOLOGY’S GREAT HEIST: THE THEFT OF SOUL CARE FROM THE CHARGE OF THE CHURCH*, DBSJ 26 (2021): 128, 129.