

The Authority Of The Bible (Part 2)

The Nature Of Scripture
2 Timothy 3:16-17

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The Authority Of The Bible

- “Our traditional approaches to scripture has likewise been challenged at the grass root level through a number of concerns, such as divorce, drugs, aids (*sic*), homosexuality, and women's roles ...”

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The Authority Of The Bible

- “The intuition has been that older approaches to hermeneutics do not help in getting closer to God and each other, nor do they help us sort out puzzling questions in regard to family breakdowns, divorce, and women's roles. **So in some manner interpretation of the scripture must be repositioned** so as to provide more help.”

(Thomas Olbricht, Hermeneutics: The Beginning Point, Christian Scholars Conference 1989, Pepperdine University, pp. 4,6.)

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The Nature Of Scripture

Inspired, 2 Timothy 3:16-17

The very words, selected by the Holy Spirit.
1 Corinthians 2:7-13; cf. 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Peter 1:20-21

Reveal “*all truth*.” John 16:13

“*All things that pertain to life and godliness.*” 2 Peter 1:3

➤ ***Scriptures are complete!***

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Chain Of Command

- ✦ God. 1 Corinthians 15:27
- ✦ Christ. Matthew 28:18-20
- ✦ Apostles. 2 Corinthians 5:18
- ✦ Scriptures. Ephesians 3:3; 2 Peter 1:12-15

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The Nature Of Scripture

All-sufficient. (Profitable) 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

- “*Doctrine*” Point out what doctrine is.
- “*For reproof*” Ephesians 5:11; 2 Timothy 4:2
- “*For correction*” Amendment of life. Repentance!
- “*For instruction in righteousness.*” Holy living. Titus 2:11-12
- “*That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*” (KJV) cf. 2 Timothy 3:13

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The Nature Of Scripture

Authoritative.

- The OT scriptures were bound as steadfast. Hebrews 2:2-3
- It was not to be altered. Joshua 1:6-8; Jeremiah 10:23

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The Nature Of Scripture

Authoritative.

- Jesus appealed to *“what is written.”*
Matthew 4:4,6,7,8-10; 21:12-13; John 8:37
- Jesus did not appeal to traditions or human opinions. Matthew 21:42; Mark 12:10; cf. 1 Peter 2:4-8; John 5:39

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The Nature Of Scripture

Authoritative.

- Jesus has all authority. Matthew 28:19
- Revealed in the *“Oracles of God.”* 1 Peter 4:11
- Cannot go *“beyond.”* 2 John 9; cf. Galatians 1:6ff; Galatians 2:5
- **COMPLETE:** 2 Peter 1:3

NOTE: For me to accept any ritual, handbook, catechism, manual, discipline, confession of faith, or prayer book to govern my life, would make void my faith in the all sufficiency of the Scriptures.

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The Nature Of Scripture

Understandable. Ephesians 3:3ff; 5:17

- David had earlier called the word of God *“a lamp to my feet and a light to my path”*
Psalms 119:105.
- *“The entrance of your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.”*
Psalms 119:130.

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The Nature Of Scripture

Understandable. Ephesians 3:3ff; 5:17

Genesis 1:27 “And God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”

Romans 1:16-17 “For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is revealed a righteousness of God from faith unto faith: as it is written, But the righteous shall live by faith.”

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The Nature Of Scripture

Determines fellowship.

- Fellowship with Christ. 1 John 1:3-4; 2:3-6; 2 John 9
- Fellowship with believers. John 17:20ff; Philippians 3:16; 2 Timothy 3:5

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The Nature Of Scripture

Standard by which we will be judged.

John 12:48; Luke 10:16; Matthew 10:40

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The Nature Of Scripture

Conclusion:

What the apostles SPOKE they also WROTE.

They taught the same thing in every church.

1 Corinthians 4:17; 7:17.

Why then is there division? cf. 1 Corinthians 1:10

A desire to break free of Biblical restraints has cultivated the soil for redefining the nature of Scripture! cf. 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12

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