

Week 3 Scripture Course Notes

Attributes of Scripture Part 1

Intro:

Review:

1. ***The Necessity of Revelation*** (Luke 1:4; John 6:63; 14:9; 1 Cor 2:14; 1 John 1:4; Jude 3;)

2. ***Divine Inspiration*** (Isaiah 59:21; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20-22)

1 Corinthians 7:12 - a rejection of divine inspiration?

3. ***The Authority of Scripture*** (Luke 16:16-31; John 5:39-47; Romans 15:4; Ephesians 2:20)

Inerrancy vs Infallibility -

Discussion Questions:

1. Reflect on this quotation. “Most people who share our cultural tradition, if asked where Christians supposed that a particular revelation of God is to be found, would probably answer that it is in the Bible. At once the question arises whether the Bible is supposed to be itself the revelation, or to be the record of the revelation. Is the revelation in the book or in the events in which the book records?” William Temple, *Nature, God, and Man*
2. Reflect on this quotation. Do you agree? Disagree? If so, why? “The authority of scripture rests on that of the gospel and its content – the saving presence of God in the person and history of Jesus Christ. Only insofar as they bear witness to this content do the words and sayings of scripture have authority in the church....How far this is true must be tested for each writing and each saying in each writing” - Wolfhart Pannenberg, *Systematic Theology, vol 1*, 463.
3. Reflect on this confession of the authority of scripture. What error does each phrase respond to? “The whole counsel of God concerning all things necessary for His own glory, man's salvation, faith and life, is either expressly set down in Scripture, or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from Scripture: unto which nothing at any time is to be added, whether by new revelations of the Spirit, or traditions of men. Nevertheless, we acknowledge the inward illumination of the Spirit of God to be necessary for the saving understanding of such things as are revealed in the Word:13 and that there are some circumstances concerning the worship of God, and government of the Church, common to human actions and societies, which are to be ordered by the light of nature, and Christian prudence, according to the general rules of the Word, which are always to be observed.” Westminster Confession of Faith 1.6