

ALL SUFFICIENCY OF THE SCRIPTURES

2Tim 3:14-17

INTRODUCTION:

- A. One of the causes of religious division is the failure to recognize that the Bible is the complete all sufficient revelation from God
- B. Creed books came from the idea of man that he could improve God's book and make it more intelligible
- C. This is an insult to the wisdom of God

DISCUSSION:

I. THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

- A. In creation: "create" to make something from nothing "And God said..." Gen 1 ten times (see also Jhn 1:1; Col 1:16)
- B. Miracles of Christ (He spoke and it was done)
 1. Stilling the tempest Matt 8:23-27
 2. Raising Lazarus Jhn 11:38-46
- C. Human redemption (His word power to salvation) Rom 1:16
 1. Make us wise unto salvation 2Tim 3:15
 2. Able to save Jas 1:21
 3. Able to build up and give inheritance Acts 20:32
- D. God's promises never fail 2Pet 3:9
 1. Promise of coming of Christ: to serpent Gen 3:14,15; to Abraham Gen 12:1-3; To David 2Sam 7:12,16,17
 2. Though over a thousand years intervened the promise was fulfilled Gal 3:16,17; 4:4,5

II. THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE SCRIPTURES, THE REVELATION OF GOD'S WORD TODAY

- A. Word revealed by the Holy Spirit that we might know the mind of God 1Cor 2:11-13
 1. Holy men spake as moved by Holy Spirit 2Pet 1:21
 2. Spirit brought all things to remembrance Jhn 14:26
 3. Spirit guided apostles into all truth Jhn 16:13
 4. Purpose of His work: to reveal God to man and this work has been finished
- B. The revelation of God is then complete, perfect
 1. Furnishes us all things pertaining to life and godliness 2Pet 1:3
 2. Furnishes unto all good works 2Tim 3:16,17
 3. The faith once for all delivered Jude 3
 4. Note: The term all is inclusive. If the Bible contains all the Truth, how could there be a spiritual truth that is not revealed? Therefore how can one be walking in truth when practicing doctrines not revealed in its pages
- C. The word of God does not become outdated by modern civilization Isa 40:8; Heb 4:12

1. Though customs change the same devil wars against men's souls 1Jhn 2:15,16
2. Temptations appear in different attire but we fall through the same avenues of lust men have always fallen Jas 1:13-15

III. MAN IS FORBIDDEN TO GO BEYOND THE SCRIPTURES

- A. Any who would speak another doctrine is accursed of God Gal 1:8,9
 1. If we go beyond doctrine we have not God 2Jhn 9
 2. Forbidden to add or subtract Rev 22:18,19
- B. If man's word conflicts with God's word then man is the liar not God Rom 3:4
 1. Man cannot direct his own steps Jer 10:23
 - a. Man's ways not God's ways Isa 55:8,9
 - b. May seem right but end in death Prov 14:12
 2. Though a man may think himself religious he may be lost Matt 7:21-23
 - a. Be careful we do not believe a lie 2Thess 2:9-12
 - b. Satan's ministers appear as preachers of righteousness 2Cor 11:13-15
 3. We must walk by faith 2Cor 5:7 and faith comes by hearing God's word Rom 10:17
 - a. Must speak as oracles of God 1Pet 4:11
 - b. We can do all this only if we trust the all sufficiency of the Bible, the word of God

CONCLUSION:

- A. Many religious people say they agree with these principles until they are shown from the Bible that they are practicing vain religion
- B. Then they want to revert to the saying "Just so your heart is right with God it makes no difference." NOTE: statement made by Luke Timothy Johnson from article in bulletin 7-26-15
- C. Surely ones heart must be right, but for it to be right one must be obedient to the all sufficient word of God 1Jhn 2:3-5; 5:3

Luke Timothy Johnson recognized this in an article written in 2007 in support of gay unions: "I think it important to state clearly that we do, in fact, reject the straightforward commands of Scripture, and appeal instead to another authority when we declare that same-sex unions can be holy and good. And what exactly is that authority? We appeal explicitly to the weight of our own experience and the experience thousands of others have witnessed to, which tells us that to claim our own sexual orientation is in fact to accept the way in which God has created us. By so doing, we explicitly reject as well the premises of the scriptural statements condemning homosexuality—namely, that it is a vice freely chosen, a symptom of human corruption, and disobedience to God's created order." (Homosexuality and the Church)