

## THE INSPIRATION & AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE 2TIM 3:14-17

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. God gave Scripture: It expresses His authority for our salvation 2Tim 3:14-17
- B. We can trust the Bible as God's Word:
  1. The Bible affirms God is its origin
  2. The Holy Spirit revealed all truth in Scripture
  3. We submit to God in submitting to Scripture

### DISCUSSION:

#### I. THE BIBLE AFFIRMS GOD IS ITS ORIGIN

- A. The Authors Affirm Divine Inspiration
  1. "Thus saith the Lord:" 413 times in Old Test.
  2. David guided by inspiration 2Sam 23:1-2
  3. Paul guided by inspiration 1Cor 2:9-13
  4. Writers of O & N Testaments inspired 2Tim 3:16-17
- B. Scripture Reflects God's Own Nature
  1. God's Word: infallible Psa 19:9
  2. God's Word: immutable, unchangeable Gal 1:8-9
  3. God's Word: indestructible Matt 24:35
  4. God's Word: all-sufficient 2Pet 1:3
  5. God's Word: final Rev 22:18-19

#### II. THE HOLY SPIRIT REVEALED ALL TRUTH

- A. The Spirit Revealed All Truth in Words
  1. Verbal inspiration: God guided the very words spoken & written - guarantees the truth, the whole truth, & nothing but the truth of God given!
  2. Authors of Scripture speak of words given
    - a. The Spirit guided David's words 2Sam 23:1-2
    - b. The Spirit guided Paul's words 1Cor 2:13
  3. Spirit gave words of truth to Apostles Jhn 16:13
  4. Works through his word to save Jhn 16:7-13
- B. Fallacies of False Theories of Inspiration
  1. Natural "inspiration:" talents for poetry, philosophy, writing skills, etc.
    - a. Reduces "God's Word" to human opinions skillfully expressed: 66 books by 40 such authors would be full of contradictions
    - b. No human power knows God's mind 1Cor. 2:9
  2. Thought "inspiration:" God gave ideas which men formed into words
    - a. Men forget, fumble words – Spirit prevented such dangers Jhn 14:26
    - b. Allows cultural & historical errors – Spirit prevented such dangers Jhn 16:13

3. Dictation theory: God dictated every word
  - a. God dictated at times Ex 20:1-17
  - b. Matt, Mk, Lk, Jhn Record same events in their own vocabulary and as they remembered through power of the Holy Spirit Jhn 14:26
  - c. Dictation not always needed 1Cor 1:1, 11
  - d. Cannot explain miracle of inspiration

#### III. SUBMIT TO GOD BY SUBMITTING TO SCRIPTURE

- A. Scripture Reveals God's Plan for Our Salvation
  1. Reveals our sin: we violate God's law 1Jhn 3:4
  2. Reveals His love, grace, & mercy 1Jhn 4:9-10
  3. Reveals conditions of pardon & fellowship with him leading to heaven Matt 28:18-20
  4. New Testament records his instructions for every phase of the new life Matt 28:20
    - a. How to grow in fellowship with God: prayer, Bible study, reverence, humility
    - b. Guidance for godly marriages & homes
    - c. Proper relationship with men
    - d. Guidance for employers & employees
    - e. Proper relationship to civil government
    - f. Serving God in the church of Christ
- B. Scripture Expresses God's Love & Authority
  1. Word expresses God's authority 1Cor 14:37
  2. Guides church under God's authority 1Tim 3:14-15
  3. Teach & follow God's written pattern in faith & love 2Tim 1:13
- C. Reject All False Claims of Revelation
  1. Teaching in Bible only true revelation 1Jhn 4:1-6
  2. Beware: Many claim revelations not found in the original teaching in the Bible!
  3. Idols, gods - Hindu *Vedas* - Muslim *Koran* - Masonry's secrets – Astrologers – Nostradamus - Jeane Dixon – Popes – Creeds -Joseph Smith, *Book of Mormon* - Mary B. Eddy, *Science & Health* – Dreams - Intuition, feelings

### CONCLUSION

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