

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

WEEK 2 - BIBLIOLOGY

DEFINITION OF BIBUOLOGY: The Doctrine/Study of the Scriptures (the Bible).

NAMES FOR THE BIBLE:

1. The Bible - from Greek "biblos" . . . referred to: Sacred writings of the Christians.
2. Scriptures - from Latin "scriptum", meaning: Writings
3. Oracles of God - They that speak with authority.
4. The Word of God -implies that it is not just words of men (Eph.6:17; Heb.4:12)
5. Old & New Testaments/Covenants:
 Old Testament: Record of creation and the history of Israel.
 New Testament: Study and teaching of redemption in Christ.

THE REVELATION OF GOD:

I. GENERAL REVELATION:

- a) Nature - glory and splendor of universe reveals God's nature and power (Isa. 40:26; Rom. 1:20; Psalm 19:1).
- b) Human History - unfolding sequence of historical events reveals God's character.
- c) Conscience - the internal, personal expression of God in humans.

II. SPECIAL REVELATION:

- a) Theophanies - visible appearances of God (eg. Gen. 18:1-22; Josh.5:13-15).
(eg. Gen. 28:12-16; Matt. 1 :20; Dan. 2:3).
- b) Dreams and Visions - God revealed Himself to various people in this way.
- c) Direct Communication - audible voice by which God spoke to people (eg. Ex. 3:1-6; 1 Sam. 3:1-4).
- d) Angels - messengers who brought words from God that revealed His plans (eg. Gal. 3:19; Luke 2:10, 13; Matt. 28:5-7).
- e) Miracles - God acting in an extraordinary way, setting aside natural laws in order to do so.
- f) Jesus Christ - God wrapped Himself in human flesh and gave us a revelation of what He's really like (Heb. 1:1-2).
- g) Scriptures - today they are the one and only accurate revelation of God ... they have the final word.

INSPIRATION OF THE SCRIPTURES

1. **DEFINITION OF "INSPIRATION"** ... (from Greek "Theopneustos" which means "God-breathed"): the process by which Spirit-moved writers recorded God-breathed writings which are authoritative for Faith and practice.
2. **BIBLICAL BASIS OF INSPIRATION**
 - a) 2 Tim. 3:16 - All scripture is given by inspiration of God.
 - b) 2 Pet. 1:21 - Men spoke from God as they were carried by the Holy Spirit.
3. **BIBLICAL VIEW OF INSPIRATION** "Verbal Plenary Inspiration" - ALL of the Bible, even the very WORDS, are inspired by God (Ex. 4:12; Ex. 24:4, Jer. 1 :9).

SCRIPTURAL PROOFS OF INSPIRATION

1. 2 Tim. 3:16 and 1 Cor. 2:13 - it is Verbally Inspired - both Old and New Testaments.
2. Matt. 5: 18 - it is Irrevocable - not one bit of it will pass away until it is fulfilled.
3. John 10:35 - it is Unbreakable - Jesus said Scripture cannot be broken.
4. Matt. 4:4,7,10 and Matt. 22:29 - it has Final Authority - Jesus used the Scriptures to overcome temptation; He said we do wrong because we don't know the Scriptures.
5. Luke 24:44 - it is Plenary (which means Entire) - the Law, the Prophets, the Psalms, the Writings . . . ALL of it!

EVIDENCES OF INSPIRATION

1. Holy Spirit - bears witness to the inspiration of the Bible (2 Pet. 1:20, 21).
2. Dynamic Ability of the Bible - it is a powerful book, able to change lives.
3. Fulfilled Prophecy - the chances that all things will come to pass in the proper order are billions and billions to one, and yet they do! (eg. Over 300 prophecies concerning the Messiah were fulfilled in Jesus).
4. Moral Superiority of the Bible - it has the highest moral ethic of all literature.
5. Universality of the Bible - it is the best seller in the world (only 0.5% of all books are in demand 7 years after publication; Bible is after thousands).
6. Indestructibility of the Bible - it has survived attacks from its enemies, physical and verbal; it has survived the misinterpretation of people (and still has the truth)!
7. Agreement with Science - it talks of medicine that is proven today to be true (eg. Lev. 2; Lev. 11:29; Prov 14:30; Deut. 14:21).

FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE

1. Because it is the inspired Word of God, it has the right to command obedience.
2. Human traditions, reason or experience cannot be substituted as final authorities.
3. God has forbid adding to or taking from His Word (Deut. 4:2; Prov 30:6; Rev. 22:18).

ILLUMINATION

1. DEFINITION: The work of the Holy Spirit in enabling the reader to understand the Word of God.
2. NEED FOR ILLUMINATION: a) God's thoughts are higher than ours.
b) Sin has blinded our minds.

3. WORK OF ILLUMINATION:

