

Session 2

The Doctrine of Scripture

I. Discipleship Scenario

2. Discussion Questions

- a. “*The Authority and Inerrancy of the Bible*” (Chap. 2 of Bible Doctrine)

Review Questions

- Defend the statement: “*All the words of Scripture are God’s words.*”
- What is meant by the idea that all the words of Scripture are “self-attesting”?
- How can we know that God’s words are truthful?
- List and respond to three objections to the concept of inerrancy of Scripture.
- Name four possible problems that may result from a denial of Biblical inerrancy.

Questions for Personal Application

- Who would try to make people want to disbelieve or disobey something in Scripture? Is there anything in the Bible that you don’t want to believe or obey? If so, what’s the best way to deal with it?
- Do you know of any proven fact in all of history that’s shown something in the Bible to be false? Can the same be said about other religious writings such as the *Book of Mormon* or the *Qur’an*? If you have ever read any of these other books, can you describe the spiritual effect they have had on you? Compare that with the spiritual effect the Bible has had on you.
- Do you ever find yourself believing something, not because you have external evidence for it, but simply because it is written in Scripture? Is that proper faith according to Hebrews 11:1? Do you think that trusting and obeying something Scripture affirms will ever lead to you into sin or away from God’s blessing in your life?
- If you thought there were some small errors affirmed by Scripture, how do you think that would affect the way you read Scripture? How would it affect the priority you place on the biblical standard?

b. *“The Clarity, Necessity, and Sufficiency of the Bible ”* (Chap. 3 of Bible Doctrine)

Review Questions

- Define “clarity of Scripture”. Why can we say that Scripture is clear?
- Name and describe at least three things for which the Bible is necessary.
- Can people know anything about God apart from the Bible? If so, what can they know about Him?
- Is there anything required of us by God or forbidden to us by God that is not commanded or forbidden in Scripture? Explain.

Questions for Personal Application

- If the doctrine of the clarity of Scripture is true, why does there seem to be so much disagreement among Christians about the teaching of the Bible? Observing the diversity of interpretations of Scripture, some conclude, “People can make the Bible say anything they want.” How do you think Jesus would respond to this statement?
- Will a conviction about the clarity of Scripture affect the care you use when studying your Bible? Will it affect the way you approach Scripture when trying to gain a biblical answer to some difficult doctrinal or moral problem?
- When you are witnessing to an unbeliever, what is the one thing above all others that you should want him/her to read? Do you know of anyone who ever became a Christian without either reading the Bible or hearing someone tell him/her what it said? What then is the primary task of an evangelical missionary?
- When we are actively seeking to know God’s will, where should we spend most of our time and effort? In practice, where do you spend your time and effort? Do God’s principles in Scripture and the apparent guidance we receive from feelings, conscience, advice, circumstances, human reasoning, or society ever seem to conflict? How should we seek to resolve the conflict?
- Have you ever wished the Bible would say more than it does about a certain subject? Or less? What do you think motivates that kind of a wish? After reading this chapter, how would you respond to someone who expressed that same wish?

3. Scripture Memory Verse

2 Timothy 3:16-17 ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

4. Assignment for Next Time

Read chapters 4-5 in Bible Doctrine. Next meeting is _____.