

## GOD'S WORD

# THE AUTHORITY OF THE BIBLE – Part Two

*Tanya Goffin*

*Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. (Ephesians 2:20, NLT)*

*Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, urging you to defend the faith that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people. (Jude 1:3, NLT)*

The authority of the Bible comes from God Himself through the prophets of the Old Testament leading to Jesus Christ who passed on His authority to the apostles. The Bible cannot be added to or changed.

- Question: What version of the Bible should I use? There are hundreds of English translations.
- Answer: It mostly doesn't matter (with one or two exceptions) avoid the New World translation and be careful of the Message Bible.

### Results Of Inspiration

*But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name. (John 20:31, NLT)*

*But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means. (1 Corinthians 2:14, NLT)*

Acts 1:8

Ephesians 1:17-18, NLT

- Genuine people, places and events
- Credibility – entirely truthful about every subject matter it discusses. Sources are important. The best commentary on the Bible is the rest of the Bible. Be careful of online sources. BUT, be careful of your own sources for Bible interpretation / hermeneutics. Use HCC sources / check with HCC leadership.

*When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. (John 16:13, NLT)*

- Canon - books measured, tested and proven to be the inspired Word of God.
- Infallibility - the Bible does not have mistakes. It is absolutely right.
- Ultimate authority in our lives. It's truth takes precedent over our feelings.

*That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him." But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God's deep secrets. No one can know a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit, and no one can know God's thoughts except God's own Spirit. And we have received God's Spirit (not the world's spirit), so we can know the wonderful things God has freely given us. When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit's words to explain spiritual truths. But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means. (1 Corinthians 2:9-14 NLT)*

Our natural minds are very susceptible to lies and half-truths. God is omniscient. It makes much more sense to listen and obey Him!

*Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome. (1 John 5:3, NLT)*

**Getting The Bible Into My Mind – Psalm 119**

*“You are my refuge and my shield; your word is my source of hope.” (Psalms 119:114, NLT)*

- Keeps us away from sin (vs 11, 37) knowing what we believe. Know the gospel.

*Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. (John 14:6, NLT)*

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mentally strengthening. (vs 28)</li> <li>• Not affected by other people’s unfair/ slanderous behaviour. (vs 42, 51, 69, 70, 78, 84-87)</li> <li>• Gives us hope in every circumstance. (vs 43)</li> <li>• Comfort/ preservation in suffering. (vs 50)</li> <li>• Source of joy and praise/delight. (vs 143)</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helps in dealing with insomnia. (vs 55,148)</li> <li>• Source of knowledge and wisdom/ sound judgement. (vs 125, 133)</li> <li>• Source of direction and clarity. (vs 105)</li> <li>• Source of peace. (vs 165; John 20:21)</li> <li>• Spiritual nourishment (vs 103). Maintaining spiritual life and growth.</li> </ul> |
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*But Jesus told him, “No! The Scriptures say, ‘People do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.” (Matthew 4:4, NLT)*

- More important than money. (vs 127)

**What Should We Do - We put God and His word first!**

**READ SCRIPTURE**

Deuteronomy 6:5-9, Revelation 1:3

*Search the book of the Lord, and see what he will do. Not one of these birds and animals will be missing, and none will lack a mate, for the Lord has promised this. His Spirit will make it all come true. (Isaiah 34:16 NLT)*

**STUDY SCRIPTURE**

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15, KJV)

Acts 17:10-11 - ‘Search’ = investigate/ scrutinise

**MEMORISE SCRIPTURE**

*And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart. (Deuteronomy 6:6, KJV)*

**MEDITATE ON SCRIPTURE**

*Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. (Joshua 1:8, NLT)*

Psalms 1:2 - ‘Meditate’ = ponder/ imagine

**SING SCRIPTURE**

Singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. (Ephesians 5:19, NLT)

Bless the Lord oh my soul; The lord’s my shepherd; The Messiah – the prophecies foretelling Jesus

Get into scripture. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you and speak to you if you are watching and are not sure if the Bible is true and you want to know Him.

**Sources:** *An introduction to systematic theology - Chip Kawalsingh; Systematic theology - Wayne Grudem; The Bible series of talks - Mike Winger; King James only controversy – James White*