

# Midweek Study

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# FOUNDATIONS

of Our Faith

## The Rock On Which We Stand

Article 1: The Scriptures

***"All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." 2 Timothy 3:16-17***

### The Baptist Faith and Message 2000 – Article One – The Scriptures

The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation.

*Exodus 24:4; Deuteronomy 4:1-2; 17:19; Joshua 8:34; Psalms 19:7-10; 119:11,89,105,140; Isaiah 34:16; 40:8; Jeremiah 15:16; 36:1-32; Matthew 5:17-18; 22:29; Luke 21:33; 24:44-46; John 5:39; 16:13-15; 17:17; Acts 2:16ff.; 17:11; Romans 15:4; 16:25-26; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 1:1-2; 4:12; 1 Peter 1:25; 2 Peter 1:19-21.*

## I. The Bible is God's Revelation

- "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims the work of His hands." Psalm 19:1 (NKJV)
- "From the creation of the world His invisible attributes, that is, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what He has made." Romans 1:20 (NKJV)

## II. The Bible Has God for Its Author

- "This volume is the writing of the living God. ... everywhere I find God speaking: it is God's voice, not man's; the words are God's words, the words of the Eternal, the Invisible, the Almighty, the Jehovah of this earth. This Bible is God's Bible; and when I see it, I seem to hear a voice springing up from it, saying, 'I am the book of God: man, read me.'" -Charles Haddon Spurgeon

### III. The Bible Has Salvation for Its End

- "Do this so that you may fear the Lord your God all the days of your life by keeping all His statutes and commands I am giving you, your son, and your grandson, and so that you may have a long life." Deuteronomy 6:2 (NKJV)

### IV. The Bible is Truth Without Any Mixture of Error

- "Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth." John 17:17 (NKJV)
- "All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like a flower of the grass. The grass withers, and the flower drops off, but the word of the Lord endures forever." 1 Peter 1:24-25 (NKJV)

### Definitions to Remember

- **Canon** – “The books that Christians are supposed to measure their lives by.” God’s people consistently believed these 66 books were authored by God. Canonicity takes up the issue of which books belong in the Bible.
- **Inerrancy** – “The Bible is totally without mistakes, in the original manuscripts.” The Word of God, in its original manuscripts, when all of the facts are known, will be shown to have no errors whatsoever.
- **Inspiration** – “The Bible came from God.” Though human authors wrote it, the end result of the Bible is what God Himself intended for us to have.
- **Infallibility** – “The Bible will not lead me wrong.” I can trust what my Bible teaches me and promises me.
- **Sufficiency** – “The Bible is all I need.” My Bible has all the words of God we need for salvation, for trusting Him, and for obeying Him.
- **Authority** – “The Bible deserves the same respect I give to God.” To disbelieve or disobey any part of Scripture is to disbelieve or disobey God.
- **Holy Bible** – “Sacred Book”
- **Gospels** – “New Testament accounts of the life, death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.”
- **Epistles** – “New Testament letters by Paul, James, John, Peter and Jude”
- **Revelation** – “The Bible is God making Himself known to me in writing.” (not the book of Revelation)
- **Scripture** – “The writings (Latin “scriptura”; Greek “graphe”), meaning the OT and NT which has been historically recognized as God’s Word in written form.”
- **Illumination** - “The work of the Holy Spirit, which helps me understand the sense and significance of what my Bible is saying.”
- **Interpretation** – “The process of determining the biblical author's intended meaning.”
- **Application** – “The process of determining the current relevance of Scripture and then actively responding.”