



# **REDEMPTION CITY CHURCH**

**God, the Gospel, and Culture**

Why Theology Matters for Today's World

# **Revelation + Theological System**

**Bibliology | Inspiration | Inerrancy | Canonicity | Perspicuity |  
Sufficiency | Permanency**

**Kevin Amundson – March 20, 2022**

**“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.”**

**2 Timothy 3:16-17**

# **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

# Bibliography

## The Study of Scripture as Revelation

- Verbal, Plenary Inspiration
- Inerrancy
- Canonicity
- Perspicuity
  - Analogia Fide | Analogia Scripturæ
- Sufficiency
  - Sola Scriptura | Tota Scriptura
- Permanency

**Holy Scripture**

# Holy Scripture

## The Word of God is Comprised of the Old and New Testaments

- Old Testament
  - Written before the birth of Jesus
  - Comprised of 39 Books
- New Testament
  - Written after the birth of Jesus
  - Comprised of 27 Books

# Revelation



# Revelation

## The Act of God Revealing Himself to Mankind

- From the Greek 'apokalupsis' meaning to unveil or uncover.
- God is a personal and revealing God. He has chosen to reveal himself to mankind.
- Mankind is the creature, and the recipient of God's revelation.
- We should have a very humble and reverential attitude in response.
- There is both Natural and Special Revelation

# Natural Revelation

## His Eternal Power and Divine Nature Have Been Clearly Perceived

For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.

Romans 1:20

- Natural revelation is clearly perceived in the world around us.
- This revelation cannot save man. It can only condemn him.
- Fallen mankind actively suppresses this knowledge.

# Special Revelation

**Long Ago, at Many Times and in Many Ways, God Spoke**

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son,

Hebrews 1:1-2

- Special Revelation is God's spoken and enscriptured Word.
- God delivered his Word through various means; prophets and Christ.
- Special Revelation leads to salvation.

**Inspiration**

# Inspiration

## All Scripture is breathed out by God

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16–17

- God superintended the human authors of Scripture.
- What the authors wrote was simultaneously their words and God's.
- God's communicated *to man through* man, by the Holy Spirit.

**Verbal, Plenary Inspiration**

# Verbal, Plenary Inspiration

Not an Iota, Not a Dot, will Pass

For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

Matthew 5:18

- Verbal Inspiration extends to the actual words, not just concepts.
- Plenary Inspiration refers to the entire Bible, not just the parts that seem to speak directly to issues of faith and practice.
- Formal Equivalent translations are preferable to Dynamic Equivalents.

**Inerrancy**



# Inerrancy

## Your Word Is Truth

The sum of your word is truth,

Psalm 119:160

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

John 17:17

- God's Word is truth. It is without error or fallacy.
- Inerrancy applies to the autographa written in the original languages.
- Inerrancy is ascribed to any copy that faithfully transmits God's Word.

**Canonicity**

# Canonicity

## Speak According to This Word

To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn.

Isaiah 8:20

- God's Word is self-authenticating.
- The prophets word's are measured against the established Word.
- The Church does not determine the Canon of Scripture, but recognizes the Canon in accordance with the testimony of Scripture.

# The Apocrapha

## Noncanonical Books

“Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord GOD,

“when I will send a famine on the land—  
not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water,  
but of hearing the words of the LORD.”

They shall wander from sea to sea,  
and from north to east;  
they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the LORD,  
but they shall not find it.

Amos 8:11–14

Also Hosea 3:4

**Perspicuity**

# Perspicuity

## The Testimony of the Lord is Sure, Making Wise the Simple

the testimony of the LORD is sure,  
making wise the simple;

–Psalm 19:7

- Perspicuity refers to the clarity of Scripture.
- The Bible is able to be understood. It is not a mystery.
- God has given us wisdom in and by his Holy Scripture.

# Analogia Fide

## The Analogy of Faith

The analogy of faith is a principle whereby a theologian uses the general sense of the meaning of Scripture, constructed from the clear or unambiguous passages as the basis for interpreting unclear or ambiguous texts.

- Seeks to understand unclear or ambiguous texts by understanding them in light of the rule of Faith and the thrust of the Gospel.

# Analogia Scripturæ

## The Analogy of Scripture

Scripturam ex Scriptura explicandam esse, or “Scripture is to be explained by Scripture.”

The analogy of Scripture specifically has in view the interpretation of unclear passages by comparing them with clearer passages that are related to the difficult text in question



# **SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE**

**Sola Scriptura**

# Sola Scriptura

## By Scripture Alone

In contrast to the Roman Catholic teaching of God Revelation being contained in both Scripture and Tradition.

- Only the Bible is God's Holy Revelation. Not the Bible + Tradition.
- Only Scripture can bind someone's conscience.
- Only the Bible presents the clear and perfect will of God.
- Nothing is to be added to God's Revelation.
- Sola does not mean solo.

**Tota Scriptura**

# Tota Scriptura

## The Total Scripture

The modern tendency is to remove or ignore portions of the Bible as unimportant, or no longer relevant. We affirm that God has established his total revelation for our instruction and training in righteousness.

- No part of Scripture can be ignored.
- All of Scripture is God's Revelation.

**Permanency**

# Permanency of Scripture

## The Word of Our God Will Stand Forever

The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the word of our God will stand forever.

–Isaiah 40:8

- As God's self revelation, he has established his Word for all time.
- God's Word does not become irrelevant. It is always applicable.

**APPLICATION**



# Application

## Man Shall Live By Every Word That Comes From the Mouth of God

“Man shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

Matthew 4:4, Deuteronomy 8:3

- Mankind is God's creation, and must live in terms of God's Word.
- The Bible, as God's Special Revelation is the starting point and final appeal in all matters pertaining to faith and life.
- God's Word defines what life is. Our feelings must be checked.

# Application

## Follow the Pattern of the Sound Words

Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 1:13

- Moses constructs everything after the pattern that he was shown on the mount (Exodus 25:9, 40; Acts 7:44)
- We are to pattern every area of our lives off of God's Revelation.

# Application

## The Things That Are Revealed Belong to Us

“The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.

Deuteronomy 29:29

- There are mysteries that belong only to God. Things we cannot know.
- That which he has revealed is for us and our children forever.
- God has hidden his wisdom and it is the glory of kings to search it out.

# Application

## It Is the Glory of Kings to Search Things Out

It is the glory of God to conceal things,  
but the glory of kings is to search things out.

Proverbs 25:2

- God has hidden his wisdom in Natural and Special Revelation.
- It is the glory of those who exercise rulership to search out the truth that God has revealed to mankind.
- We should devote much time to the study of God's Word.

# Application

## Take Every Thought Captive to Obey Christ

We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, [6] being ready to punish every disobedience, when your obedience is complete.

2 Corinthians 10:5-6

- We are to take every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.
- We begin by submitting our mind, and affections to obey God's Word.

**REVELATION + CULTURE**

**“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.**

**Deuteronomy 6:4-9**

# Individual Culture

## These Words That I Command You Today Shall Be On Your Heart

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart.

- The application of God's Word must begin with a profession of faith.
- We must submit our internal affections and desires to God's will.
- Our fallen nature is at enmity with God. We must arrest our passions.



# Familial Culture

## You Shall Teach Them Diligently to Your Children

You shall teach them diligently to your children,

- The basic unit of Biblical culture and society is the family.
- Marriage is the normal expectation for men and women. “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.” (Genesis 2:18)
- Celibacy is not normative. Paul says “each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.” (1 Corinthians 7:2)

# Societal Culture

## You Shall Talk of Them

and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. [8] You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes.

- The external feature of our cultural engagement is to be the speaking of the Work of God.
- When we practice hospitality, when we engage in enterprise or industry.

# Civil Culture

## Write Them on the Doorposts of Your House and on Your Gates

You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates

- The Bible functions as the basis for all justice and righteousness. “A single witness shall not suffice against a person for any crime or for any wrong in connection with any offense that he has committed. Only on the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses shall a charge be established.” (Deuteronomy 19:15, 2 Corinthians 13:1)
- We must properly distinguish between sin and crime.
- God’s word testifies to a covenantal structure of civil government.

**Questions?**