

# **The Holy Bible**

*Lorne Sanny*

## I. Introduction.

- A. The Bible simply means book.
- B. It is a holy book since it is given to us by God through the Holy Spirit speaking through men.
- C. It claims to be a revelation from God to man. (1 Thessalonians)

## II. The battle for the Bible. (Genesis 3:1)

- A. Satan attacked the veracity of God as early as in the Garden.
- B. God was subtly misquoted.
- C. All throughout history people have tried to destroy God's Word.
- D. The sole authority of the Scriptures was the reason behind the Reformation.
- E. Differing views.
  - 1. Evangelical view: the Bible is the sole authority.
  - 2. Traditional view: tradition supplies what the Bible is lacking in.
  - 3. Subjectivist view: the Bible is subjected to man's authority.
- F. Man has wrongly become the authority in modern theology.

## III. The Evangelical position on the authority of Scripture.

- A. This authority is that property by which it demands faith and obedience in all its declarations.
  - 1. Most people's issues with the Bible do not have to do with its veracity, but with submitting to its authority.
  - 2. We are to submit to the Bible - the Bible is not to submit to our reason. This does not make it unreasonable.
  - 3. The entire Bible is to be treated with an attitude of submission. The Word of Jesus is the judge. (Luke 24:25, Matthew 24:35, John 12:48, 2 Peter 3:15-16, Revelation 1:1)
- B. Dealing with the "problems."
  - 1. You begin first by faith.
  - 2. Faith demands some kind of evidence.

3. Some of the evidences of the Bible's veracity:

- a. Its overall unity and consistency.
- b. It fits with history meeting the context of history, making sense, being plausible, agreeing with other historical documents and standing up to archaeological history.
- c. It is consistent with life, puts its finger on the problem and shows the solution.
- d. It works.
- e. We know by obedience. (John 7:17, Proverbs 30:5)

C. Things we do with the Scripture.

- 1. We accept it by faith.
- 2. We obey it.
- 3. We use it. (2 Timothy 3)
  - a. The Scriptures do not save, but they bring us to Christ who does save.
  - b. The Scriptures are sufficient to lead us unto salvation. We hear Jesus through the Scripture by which we can invite Him in when He knocks. (Revelation 3)
  - c. The Scriptures are sufficient for our lives - the everyday problems we face.
  - d. The Scriptures are sufficient for our ministry.

**Application questions**

1. Explain the battle for the Bible. How can one support the claim that it is authoritative?

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2. What are we to do with the Bible? How would you communicate this to a nonbeliever if asked?

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3. What are you doing with the Bible? How do you plan to make getting into the Scripture a consistent habit? List three ideas.

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