

full knowledge deep devotion



ESSENTIAL TRUTH #2 – We believe that God has spoken in the S_____ , both Old and New Testaments through the words of H_____ authors...

The Word of God tells us the Word of God is:

- I_____ by the Holy Spirit (1 Peter 1:20-21)
- God-B_____ and A_____ (1 Timothy 3:16-17)
- F_____ (Proverbs 30:50)
- P_____ (Psalm 19:7)
- E_____ (Isaiah 40:8)
- A_____ and A_____ (Hebrews 4:12)

According to the Word of God, a lot is at S_____, depending on what we do with it (Matthew 7:24-27).

How do we know the Bible is telling the truth?

- A_____
- S_____ - Current science does not support all biblical claims, but it does support some major foundational biblical claims including the claim that there is a beginning to the universe and the universe's fine tuning for life.
- F_____ P_____
- The presence of, and modelling of, M_____ teaching
- A C_____ S_____ despite contributions from ~40 human authors over many hundreds of years
- Strong M_____ evidence
- M_____ both past and present which have been done in Jesus' name - which aligns with Scripture (John 14:12; Mark 16:17-18; Acts 1:8; modelled in the book of Acts)
- Current and past T_____ of those claiming their lives have been T_____ because of their T_____ in Jesus – which aligns with Scripture (Galatians 5:16-24; 2 Corinthians 5:17; modelled by the Apostles, see for example Peter in Acts 4:13 compared to Luke 22:54-62)
- The S_____ of the G_____ despite, at times, fierce persecution and opposition – this aligns with Scripture (Matthew 24:9, 14, 28:18-20; see book of Acts. For further reading on the expansion of Christianity, I recommend Gonzalez's, *The Story of Christianity: Volume 1* or for a shorter read, Rodney Stark's, *The Rise of Christianity*).
- Jesus' U_____ of Scripture and T_____ about Scripture (examples in Matthew 4:1-11, 5:17-20, 22:29)
- The I_____ witness of the Holy Spirit to the truthfulness of Scripture (John 14:26, 16:13; 1 Corinthians 2:12-14)

Why does this matter?

- There are compelling R_____ to believe the Bible is telling the truth.
- What we do with the Word of God has implications for T_____, T_____, and E_____.

ESSENTIAL TRUTH #2

We believe that God has spoken in the Scriptures, both Old and New Testaments, through the words of human authors. As the verbally inspired Word of God, the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged. Therefore, it is to be believed in all that it teaches, obeyed in all that it requires, and trusted in all that it promises.

Additional Notes:

Reflection & Application

Take a moment to prayerfully consider the following questions.

What is one thing I learned about God today?

Why does this matter?

How might knowing this affect the way I live?

Going Deeper

Take some time this week to discuss these questions with others.

- 1. When people use the expression, "My Truth," do you think they are talking about objective truth or do you think they are simply talking about their own perspective? What's the difference? Why does it matter?*
- 2. The Bible makes claims about itself, such as, "The word of God is perfect" (Psalm 19:7). Is this merely a perspective or is it objectively true? What are some of the ways we can know the Bible is telling the truth?*
- 3. Of the ways given above, what is the most compelling reason to trust the Bible is telling the truth?*
- 4. Read Ephesians 6:17, Galatians 5:16, Luke 24:45, and 1 Corinthians 2:12-14. What role does the Holy Spirit play in a person's ability to understand and apply the Scriptures?*
- 5. Is there a particular teaching in God's word that you are being challenged by? What is it, and what about it makes it challenging?*