

Directional Devo
The Epistles to Timothy
2 Timothy 3:16-4:1
2/23/16

All Scripture

vv.16-17 *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, (17) that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

Notice that he reminds Timothy that no matter what men do, the Word of God is inspired.

Inspired literally means *God-breathed*.

We believe in what is called the plenary verbal inspiration of the Bible.

Let's take a look at each of those words to see what they mean.

A. Plenary means "full" or "all."

In other words, we believe that all of the Bible is inspired.

B. Verbal means "by means of words" or "word for word".

This means that not only is the message of the Bible inspired, but the very words in that message are inspired.

Matthew 5:18 *For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*

A "jot" is the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet.

A "tittle" is a small appendage that differentiates two similar letters.

They are the equivalent of dotting an I and crossing a T.

Therefore, verbal inspiration of necessity requires dictation.

C. Inspiration, of course, as we mentioned before means *God-breathed*.

As such, Paul's lists a few things to consider.

1. It is profitable for doctrine.

As a matter of fact, there is no doctrine outside of the Bible.

How is doctrine established? - It must have been taught by Christ in the Gospels, acted out in the Acts of the Apostles, and expounded upon in the Epistles.

Here are two examples of doctrine establishment.

Blood Atonement (Matt. 20:28; Acts 20:28; Gal. 3:13)

Deity of Christ (John 14:9; Acts 2:33; 2 Cor. 4:4)

Others can include Baptist, the second coming, the virgin birth, etc.

Cf. Psa 119:97-105

2. It is profitable for reproof.

This speaks of rebuke.

The dictionary says that it is “an act or expression of criticism and censure.”

This is done to those who have done wrong knowingly.

Hebrews 4:12-13 *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (13) And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.*

3. It is profitable for correction.

This speaks of gentle guidance when wrong unknowingly or restoring something to its proper condition.

The word implies the righting of something that has fallen or helping someone back to their feet.

Psalms 119:9-11 *How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. (10) With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! (11) Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.*

4. It is profitable for instruction in righteous *that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

Not only does Scripture provide rebuke and correction, but also continuous instruction and training.

It offers continual guidance on how to be righteous.

Acts 20:32 *"So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.*

1 Timothy 4:6 *If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.*

1 Peter 2:1-2 *Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, (2) as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,*

God wants each of us to be mature and equipped for all that He has for us.

Chapter 4

v.1 *I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:*

Now if Paul is referring to the unbelieving, he is speaking of the Great White Throne Judgment.

Revelation 20:12 *And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.*

However, if he is speaking of the believing, he is referring to the Judgment Seat of Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:10 *For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.*

Cf. 1 Cor 3:12-15; 1 Cor 4:1-5

This, unlike the first, is not a judgment of condemnation, but rather one of evaluation, because believers have already been judged and declared righteous, and therefore no longer under the condemnation of sin.

Cf. Rom 8:1-4