

The Authority of Scripture, Part 2—The Doctrine of Inerrancy

Introduction

Numbers 23:19; 2 Samuel 7:28; Proverbs 30:5; Matthew 4:1-11; John 10:35; Romans 10:18-21; 2 Peter 3:16

Nothing, therefore, can be more absurd than the fiction, that the power of judging Scripture is in the church, and that on her nod its certainty depends. When the church receives it, and gives it the stamp of her authority, she does not make that authentic which was otherwise doubtful or controverted but, acknowledging it as the truth of God, she, as in duty bound, shows her reverence by an unhesitating assent. As to the questions, How shall we be persuaded that it came from God without recurring to a decree of the church? it is just the same as if it were asked, How shall we learn to distinguish light from darkness, white from black, sweet from bitter? Scripture bears upon the face of it as clear evidence of its truth, as white and black do of their color, sweet and bitter of their taste.

—an excerpt from John Calvin's Institutes of the Christian Religion

I. The Doctrine of Inerrancy

A. Scripture, as the Word of God, reflects His _____.

i. Numbers 23:19

B. Scripture declares God's Word to be _____, and, consequently, Scripture is _____.

i. Proverbs 30:5 -

ii. 2Samuel 7:28 -

iii. Matthew 4:1-11 -

iv. John 10:35 -

v. Romans 10:18-21 -

vi. 2Peter 3:16 -

C. The Bible is inspired by God and reflects His _____, therefore it is _____; it is _____, therefore it is _____; it is _____, therefore it is _____.

D. Definitions:

i. Inerrancy –

ii. Infallibility –

iii. Is it possible for humans, without divine intervention from God, to be inerrant?

iv. What does biblical inerrancy NOT MEAN?

v. What does biblical inerrancy MEAN?

D. International Council for Biblical Inerrancy

E. What does it mean that the Bible is “self-attesting”?

F. What does it mean that the Bible is “self-authenticating”?