

II.V THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE SCRIPTURES: 2 Timothy 3:14-17 - Shepherd School

I. OPENING RAYER: All.

II. SERMON:

THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE SCRIPTURES: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

2 Timothy 3:14-17

14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned
conj. and ^{present active imperative} continue ^{prep. relative pronoun} in what you have learned ^{"manthanō"}

and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it
conj. and ^{"pistōō"} firmly believed ^{perfect} knowing ^{prep.} from whom you learned it ^{"manthanō"}

15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with
conj. and conj. how prep. from childhood ^{perfect, active, indicative} you have been acquainted with

the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation
definite adjective the sacred writings definite which are able ^{*sufficient*} to make you wise prep. for salvation

through faith in Christ Jesus.
prep. through ^{"pistis"} faith prep. in Christ Jesus.

16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching,
adj. All ^{"pas"} Scripture ^{"graphē"} is ^{"theopneustos"} breathed out by God conj. and adj. profitable prep. for teaching ^{*sufficient*}

for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,
prep. for reproof prep. for correction prep. and for training prep. in righteousness

17 that the man of God may be complete,
prep. that prep. the man of God definite may be complete ^{Fit Apt Perfect}

equipped for every good work.
perfect equipped prep. for every good work adj. for every good work

Notes:
 Paul may have even coined this term
 Eph. 6:4 "fathers..."
 Mt. 5:16 "Let your light shine..."
 Ti. 2:14 "Christ gave Himself for us to redeem us... to purify for Himself"

DOCTRINE. Christians must stand firm on the Scriptures because they are perfectly sufficient to be used by God to justify, sanctify, and equip for His glory.

OUTLINE. One imperative, and one reason for the imperative. Now, concerning the reason, there are nine specific points attached to it.

I. YOU, CHRISTIAN MAN, MUST ABIDE IN THE SCRIPTURES (1 Tim. 3:14).

2 Timothy 3:14 "But as for you, continue (*abide or remain*) in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it"

- **You must continue in the Scriptures, men, so that you** "may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes" (**Ephesians 4:14**).
- **Q. Is the diligent study of the Scriptures the anchor that keeps you near to Christ?** If not, you will be wrecked in your sufferings and you will drift in your victories.

Sufferings and victories are the two greatest tools the enemy uses to get you to depart from Christ.

In suffering, the enemy says, "Christ is not so good as He says!"

In prosperity, the he says, "Christ is not as good as this!"

- **THOMAS BROOKS:**
"Where one thousand are destroyed by the world's frowns — ten thousand are destroyed by the world's smiles. The world, siren-like, sings us and sinks us!"
— *Thomas Brooks, Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices*
- **But if you continue in the Scriptures, the Word of God will be that anchor which keeps you tied to Christ in the midst of life's storms.** Even when you are threatened with dashing against the rocks, the Scriptures will keep you near your Sovereign protector.
The Scriptures will also be that anchor which keeps you from drifting away from Jesus in fair-weather. Even when prosperity allures you to sail away from Jesus, God's very word will keep near your true Treasure.
- **Both in adversity and in prosperity, you and I must abide in the Scriptures!**

II. YOU, CHRISTIAN MAN, MUST ABIDE IN THE SCRIPTURES, BECAUSE THEY ARE SUFFICIENT (1 Tim. 3:15a).

I) The Scriptures are sufficient to teach even young children (v. 15a)

2 Timothy 3:15a "and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings,"

- **Children do not need videos or flannel graphs or picture Bibles; they need Fathers who will love them enough to explain and apply to them**

what God says in the Scriptures.

- **The Bible is sufficient to teach even young children!**
- **This is why God speaks to His people through Moses in Deuteronomy 6:6**, "These words that I command you today shall be on your heart.
7 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."
- **So Christ rebukes His disciples who would keep the young ones from him, in Mark 10:14, by saying**, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God."
- **Q.** Do you teach your children the Word of God, even your young children?

II) The Word of God is sufficient to bring you to faith in Christ Jesus (v. 15b)

2 Timothy 3:15b "which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus."

- **The Scriptures are sufficient to bring you to faith in Christ so that you may be justified!**
- The entirety of the Scriptures work together to put Christ before the eyes of our hearts!
 - In **Genesis**, Jesus is the Seed of the woman who will crush the head of the serpent.
 - In **Exodus**, Jesus is the Passover Lamb, slain so the LORD's people can be spared justice.
 - In **Leviticus**, Jesus is our true High Priest offering a better sacrifice than the rest.
 - In **Numbers**, Jesus is the Pillar of cloud by day and the Pillar of fire by night, leading His people to the Promised Land.
 - In **Deuteronomy**, Jesus is the Prophet like Moses whom we must listen to or perish.
 - In **Joshua**, Jesus is the Captain of the LORD's army, making war on His enemies.
 - In **Judges**, Jesus is the Judge we long for to correct our rebellious hearts.
 - In **Ruth**, Jesus is our Kinsman Redeemer.
 - In **1st and 2nd Samuel**, Jesus is our trusted Prophet, revealing God perfectly to us.
 - In **Kings and Chronicles**, Jesus is the King we long for who will rule righteously forever.
 - In **Ezra**, Jesus is the Rebuilder of the broken down walls of the city of

God.

- In **Esther**, Jesus is the one who does not simply RISK his life, but GIVES his life to save his people.
- In **Job**, Jesus is our ever-living Redeemer.
- In **Psalms**, Jesus is the Son we must Kiss and our Good Shepherd.
- In **Proverbs** and **Ecclesiastes**, Jesus is the very embodiment of wisdom.
- In **the Song of Solomon**, Jesus is the Church's Loving Bridegroom, fairer than ten-thousand.
- In **Isaiah**, Jesus is the Prince of Peace, the Gospel Preacher, and the Suffering Servant.
- In **Jeremiah**, Jesus is the Righteous Branch.
- In **Lamentations**, Jesus is the better Weeping Prophet—who does not simply weep for sin but kills sin by letting himself be killed in the place of sinners.
- In **Ezekiel**, Jesus is the wonderful Four-Faced man.
- In **Daniel**, Jesus is the fourth Man in the fiery furnace with Shadrach Meshach and Abednego, he's the One who closes the lion's mouths for Daniel, and He is the Son of Man given an eternal Kingdom after His ascension.
- In **Hosea**, Jesus is the Faithful Husband, forever married to the backslider.
- In **Joel**, Jesus is the baptizer with the Holy Spirit.
- In **Amos**, Jesus is our true Burden-Bearer.
- In **Obadiah**, Jesus is the One Mighty to Save.
- In **Jonah**, Jesus is the better one that was thrown into the sea of God's wrath so those on board would be spared.
- In **Micah**, Jesus is the Messenger with beautiful feet.
- In **Nahum**, Jesus is the Avenger of God's elect.
- In **Habakkuk**, Jesus is God's evangelist.
- In **Zephaniah**, Jesus is our Saviour.
- In **Haggai**, Jesus is the restorer of God's lost heritage.
- In **Zechariah**, Jesus is the High Priest made dirty for our sin so we can be clothed in righteousness.
- In **Malachi**, Jesus is the Sun of Righteousness, rising with healing in His wings.
- In **the Gospel Accounts**, Jesus is the God-Man come to save sinners by the grace of his righteous life, sin-paying crucifixion, and death-defeating resurrection!
- In **Acts**, we see what the ascended Christ continued to do, by His Spirit, the first 30 years after He sat down at the right hand of His

- Father, the Majesty on high.
- **All the Letters of the New Testament** clarify who He is, what His gospel means, how we should live for Him, and to watch out for those who teach contrary to His Prophets and Apostles.
- In **Revelation**, Jesus is our coming King—He will slay men who refuse to come to Him and remain in their sin; He will perfect His people who trust Him by faith and who will renew the entire cosmos. Those who refuse to repent and believe in Christ and His gospel will be thrown in the fiery pit of hell to be punished for their sin for all eternity. Those who belong to Jesus in this life will belong to Him forever in the perfect life to come, where we will enjoy Him forever for His glory and our good.
- **Q.** Do you live like the Bible is sufficient to reveal Christ and bring sinners to faith in Him?

III) The Bible is sufficient because it proceeds from the mouth of God (v. 16a)

2 Timothy 3:16a "All Scripture is breathed out by God"

- **Notice Paul does not say his words**, but the very writings (Scripture / *graphē*) themselves proceed from the mouth of God!
- **As Thomas Watson says**, "The Two Testaments are the two lips by which God speaks to us."
- **Therefore, with the Bible, we must be like those in Luke 19:48 who hung on every word of Christ!**
- **Q.** Do you hang on every word of the Scriptures? Do you model that for your Family? Group? Church?

IV) The Scriptures are sufficient to profit you in the ways you most need to profit (v. 16b)

2 Timothy 3:16b "and profitable"

- **There is more profit in this book than all the treasures of the world combined!**
- Just as the Scriptures are sufficient to reveal how God justifies, **so they are sufficient to keep you faithful in Christ as you are sanctified!**

V) The Word of God is sufficient for doctrine (v. 16c)

2 Timothy 3:16c "for teaching,"

- The Scriptures sufficiently teach us what we must believe about God and ourselves, and, in addition, what we must do and avoid in order to glorify God and enjoy Him forever!

VI) The Bible is sufficient to reprove (v. 16d)

2 Timothy 3:16d "for reproof,"

VII) The Scriptures are sufficient to correct (v. 16e)

2 Timothy 3:16e "for correction,"

VIII) The Word of God is sufficient to train you for righteousness (v. 16f)

2 Timothy 3:16f "and for training in righteousness,"

Q. Why do we ultimately need to be profited by doctrine, reproof, correction, and trained in righteousness?

IX) The Bible is sufficient to make you fit and equipped to glorify God in all of life (v. 17)

2 Timothy 3:17 "that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

- Just as the Scriptures are sufficient to reveal how God justifies, and sufficient to keep you faithful in Christ as you are sanctified, **so they are sufficient to equip you to do every good work!**
 - *Good works when you are alone*
 - *Good works in your vocation*
 - *Good works in your home*
 - *Good works in the church*
 - *Good works in the public square*
 - *Good works in the civil government*

I) Good works are what God saved us to! (Ephesians 2:10)

- **Ephesians 2:10** "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."
- **Q.** Will you take God's workmanship and drag it through the mud by not being equipped by the Scriptures for every good work?
- **Men, go to the Word to be prepared to walk in the good works God has prepared beforehand for you!**

II) Good works are how we glorify God! (Matthew 5:16)

- **Matthew 5:16** "let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."
- **Q.** Will you not seek God's glory but waste your life by neglecting to be fit by the scriptures to let your light shine before men?

- Men, you must stare into the Scriptures until its light so brightens you that you shine for your Father's glory!

III) Good works are why Christ died! (Titus 2:14)

- **Titus 2:14** "[Jesus] gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works."
- **Q.** Will you be zealous for things that Christ died to purify you *FROM*, or zealous for good works which He died to purify you *FOR*?
- Men, do not dare be zealous for anything but that which Christ bled for! And He bled to redeem you for good works. Go to the Scriptures and be equipped for that purpose.

III. SONG:

B r e a k (start back at 7:10pm)

IV. 1689 Confession: Ch 1. Par 9-10 (finish by 7:35pm)

V. DISCUSSION (finish by 8pm)

Reformed Systematic Theology (vol. 1)

The Ten Commandments

Closing Prayer

SYLLABUS

📖 SHEPHERD SCHOOL - SEASON TWO (2026) - THE WORD, THE GOSPEL, & THE LAW 📖

WEEK	Scripture	Book I <i>(read before)</i>	Book II <i>(read before)</i>	1689 Confession	Certificate Essays	Certificate Exposition
1. 2/12	2 Timothy 2:1-7	INTRO	INTRO	INTRO	INTRO	INTRO
2. 2/19	1 Thessalonians 2:13	The Properties of the Written Word, Part 1: Authority and Clarity <i>Reformed Systematic Theology (vol. 1)</i> by Joel Beeke (pg. 334-351)	The Ten Commandments <i>Obedience & Love</i> by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 1 Par. 1-3		
3. 2/26	Isaiah 8:19-20	The Properties of the Written Word, Part 2: Necessity, Unity, Efficacy <i>Reformed Systematic Theology (vol. 1)</i> by Joel Beeke (pg. 352-370)	The Ten Commandments <i>The Preface to the Commandments (pg. 12-29)</i> by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 1 Par. 4-5		
4. 3/5	Psalms 19:7-11	The Properties of the Written Word, Part 3: Inerrant Veracity <i>Reformed Systematic Theology (vol. 1)</i> by Joel Beeke (pg. 371-382)	The Ten Commandments <i>The Preface to the Commandments (pg. 29-43)</i> by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 1 Par. 6-8		First Draft Exposition Due *Certificate path will meet an extra night this week
5. 3/12	2 Timothy 3:15-17	The Properties of the Written Word, Part 5: Sufficiency <i>Reformed Systematic Theology (vol. 1)</i> by Joel Beeke (pg. 395-408)	The Ten Commandments <i>The Right Understanding of the Law</i> by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 1 Par. 9-10		
6. 3/19	Matthew 19:17 + Romans 2:14-15	Introduction + The Essence of God's Law <i>God's Law Made Easy</i> by Kenneth Gentry (pg. 1-24)	The Ten Commandments <i>The First Commandment</i> by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 19 Par. 1-2		
7. 3/26	Matthew 5:17-20	Christ and God's Law + The New Testament and God's Law <i>God's Law Made Easy</i> by Kenneth Gentry (pg. 25-46)	The Ten Commandments <i>The Second Commandment</i> by Thomas Watson	1689 Confession Ch. 19 Par. 3-5	Short Essay on the Sufficiency of the Scriptures *1,000-1,200 words	

