

Series: Foundations

C.R. 2-13-22

“Our Anchor”

**Text:** 2 Timothy 3: 12-17

**Intro:** Today we will start a new series of sermons that we have entitled “Foundations”. I believe that so many people, and families, and churches have been blown away because they never established the foundation correctly. It is good for us a church to examine the structure of what we do, and why we do it that way often.

The old country song said, “You’ve got to stand for something, or you will fall for anything”, has some real elements of truth in it, but you also just can’t stand for anything and have a true foundation. You can’t build on sand. That foundation must be stable and sure, and trustworthy.

If asked why we do certain things as a church many times our answers might sound like, “well that’s just the way you are supposed to do it”, or “because we have always done it that way”, or “because that’s the Baptist way”. But why do we do what we do, and why do we do it the way we do it? The answer should begin and end with “because the scriptures teach us to do it that way”.

We are facing some unprecedented challenges in our days. In v.13 of our text today we read that “evil men and imposters will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived”. With imposters, and deception everywhere how do we know what is false and what is true? I would answer by saying “Study the truth”. Study the genuine and not the counterfeit. We as a church desire to be a scriptural church. Desiring to study it, be led by it, and anchored by it.

From this text let's look at our anchor

### 1) The Origin (v.16)

- a. Paul writes that “all scripture is God-breathed”. That the origin of it is from the very breath of God.
- b. This is the doctrine of the inspiration of Scripture. It is vitally important.
- c. God's word has been attacked by Satan from the start. Gen 3:1 “Yea, hath God said?”.
- d. This is where it all begins. It is the anchor point. Do I believe that the Bible is the Word of God?
- e. Which of the following statements comes closest to describing your views about the Bible -- the Bible is the actual word of God and is to be taken literally, word for word, the Bible is the inspired word of God but not everything in it should be taken literally, or the Bible is an ancient book of fables, legends, history and moral precepts recorded by man?
- f. A Gallup poll in 2017 cited a record few Americans believe the Bible is the literal Word of God. The Number was 24%
- g. Meanwhile, about half of Americans -- a proportion largely unchanged over the years -- fall in the middle, saying the Bible is the inspired word of God but that not all of it should be taken literally.
- h. Which parts should not be taken literally?
- i. In our text today it says ALL scripture is God given, and God-breathed.
- j. The Holy Spirit of God used men of God to write the Word of God. Each writer had their own style of writing, and vocabulary, but the source of what they wrote was God.

- k. Revelation means the communication of truth to man by God: inspiration has to do with the recording of this communication in a way that is dependable.

## 2) The Objective (v.16)

- a. The objective of scripture is to instruct us for daily living.
- b. The Bible teaches us about science, life, death, God, and history, and it is true.
- c. The Bible is the road map for our lives. For salvation, guidance, for relationships, for finances, for marriage, for the raising of kids, for death, and on and on we could go.
- d. Doctrine (what is right), reproof (what is not right), for correction (how to get right), for instruction in righteousness, (how to stay right).
- e. Look at 2 Timothy 2:15. This book must be studied. Rightly divided: correctly analyzing and accurately dividing.
- f. Note: A book that has been written by God deserves our study and utmost attention.
- g. It is the Bible that reveals our need for salvation. It is a mirror that shows us our sin and shows us His love. It makes it clear that a lost sinner cannot save himself.
- h. God has given us a book that shows us who He is and what He wants for us, and how we are to live.
- i. It is to our great benefit to know this book correctly.
- j. **Illustrate** with exegesis, and isogesis. The objective is not to make this book say what we want it way, but to study, examine, and divide this book to hear what God is saying.

### 3) The Outcome. (v.17)

- a. Two important words here. Perfect-complete, and furnished-equipped.
- b. The reason this is a foundation of what we do is because the word of God furnishes and equips a believer, so that they can live a life that pleases God and do the work that He wants us to do.
- c. **Wiersbe:** A Christian who studies the Bible and applies what he learns will grow in holiness and avoid many pitfalls in this world.
- d. **Parents:** It is vital that you help your kids in the understanding of the Bible. Note that Paul said to Timothy, you have known the scripture from childhood.
- e. The purpose of Bible study is not just to understand doctrine or be able to defend our faith (these are important), but the ultimate purpose is for our equipping. To equip us for the work we are to do.
- f. In this passage today Paul is encouraging a young Timothy that you can make it through these dark days and trials by continuing in the things you have learned, and by continuing to study and learn.
- g. We are not asked to just survive, but we can thrive. God can use us greatly, and longs to use us greatly and we can accomplish that by knowing Him more and discovering His will for us more.
- h. As we continue to move forward as a church, and as we study this book more it will change us more and more.
- i. Unlike what is happening in so many places we must not place less emphasis on the Word but more. We must dig deeper, allow the scriptures to guide our decision making.
- j. Our view of Scripture must not change.

**Conclusion:** Over the past three decades, Americans' view of the Bible as the literal word of God has been declining, while their view that the Bible is a collection of fables, myths and history recorded by man has been increasing. The shift is most pronounced among young adults, indicating the trend is likely to accelerate in the years ahead.

Americans in all age groups still largely accept the Bible as a holy document, but most of these downplay God's direct role in it. That could mean people are more willing than in the past to believe it is open to interpretation -- if man, not God, wrote the Bible, more can be questioned. And that, in turn, may have consequences for where Americans come down on a number of morally tinged issues.

It is our job to make sure in our homes, and in this house of Worship the Bible remains the anchor of all we do. It is God breathed and it is true.