

Theological Words Every Christian Should Know - “SUFFICIENCY” of Scripture

Definitions for “Sufficiency of Scripture”

☞ The sufficiency of Scripture means that Scripture contained all the words of God he intended his people to have at each stage of redemptive history [better: "dispensation"], and that it now contains everything we need God to tell us for salvation, for trusting him perfectly, and for obeying perfectly. —Wayne Grudem

☞ [The sufficiency of Scripture is] “the quality of the Bible in which it contains all necessary revelation to know all that God has desired us to know, do all that God has desired for us to do, and be all that God has desired us to be.” —Lyndon Unger

⚠ We do not need to supplement the Scriptures with....

2 Texts on Sufficiency of Scripture:

📖 Text A: Psalm 19:7-11

🔖 Titles/names for the Word —

🔖 Descriptions of the Word —

🔖 Power/ability of the Word —

💬 **Ask Yourself:** So what exactly do humans truly need in order to be what God created us to be — that the Word of God cannot supply for us?


 Text B: 2 Timothy 3:15-17


 Complete —


 Thoroughly Equipped —

 Every Good Work —

- Doctrine —
- Conviction (“Reproof”) —
- Correction —
- Instruction in Righteousness —


 **Grudem:** When we are facing a problem of genuine importance to our Christian life, we can approach Scripture with the confidence that from it God will provide us with the guidance for that problem.

 **Example 1:** Should I date an unbeliever?

 **Example 2:** Should I vote for an immoral presidential candidate?

3 Practical Application: Sufficiency of Scripture may be harmed when...

- (1) When believers lack Scriptural knowledge.
- (2) When believers do not trust the Scripture for counsel.

 *"To postulate some necessary connection or dependency relationships between psychology and Christian counseling, affirming in one way or another that psychology provides necessary training, background, or even information for Christian counseling, therefore, is to deny the Bible's claim to sufficiency; deny Christ's adequacy as a Counselor; believe that God left His church for over 1900 years without the necessary resources to solve human problems and live a godly life. Because of all of these facts I must strongly dissent from any integrationist position that explicitly or implicitly maintains that Christian counseling is dependent in any way on psychology."* —Jay Adams

- (3) When believers undermine the Scripture in witness and apologetics.

Bibliography / Recommended Resources:

- For a fine exposition on 2 Timothy 3:15-17, see Adams, Jay, *How to Help People Change: The Four-Step Biblical Process* (Zondervan, 2010).
- For a clear exposition of Psalm 19:7-14, see MacArthur, John. “The Sufficiency of Scripture” in *The Masters Seminary Journal* 15 (Fall 2004), 165-174.