

Systematic Theology - Lesson 2

Doctrine of the Word

I. Introduction

- Understanding the doctrine of the Word should inspire a deeper love for the Word.
- The Word is the rule over our faith.
- This lesson covers two main points:
 1. Canon of Scripture
 2. Qualities of Scripture

II. The Canon of Scripture

1. The word “**Canon**” comes from the Greek for “_____,” “Rule,” or “Standard.”
2. The Old Testament canon was recognized by the Jews of Jesus’ day without dispute.
3. Jesus affirmed the traditional Hebrew divisions: Law, _____, and Writings.
4. The Apocrypha was included in the Greek OT but not treated as Scripture by the early church.
5. Early Christians did not choose the books of the Bible—they _____ and inherited them.
6. Books had authority because they came from _____, not because the church approved them.

III. Four Criteria for the New Testament Canon

1. Apostolicity – Written by an apostle or someone in close contact with one.
2. Antiquity – Must originate from the time of the _____.

3. Orthodoxy – Must conform to the rule of faith and _____ doctrine.

4. Universality – Widespread and continuous _____ in the early church.

IV. Attributes of Scripture

1. Divine Inspiration – Scripture is inspired by God, not merely man.

2. Biblical Inerrancy – In its original manuscripts, the Bible is without _____.

3. Biblical Infallibility – Because the Bible is true, it never _____ or misleads us.

4. Clarity – Ordinary people can understand Scripture rightly.

5. Necessity – The Bible is necessary for knowing the gospel and _____ growth.

6. Sufficiency – Scripture contains everything needed for faith and _____.

Answer Key (Fill-in-the-Blanks)

1. Measuring reed
2. Prophets
3. Received
4. God
5. Apostles
6. Sound
7. Use
8. Error
9. Deceives
10. Spiritual
11. Salvation