

# The Authority of the Word of God

## Well, Not Exactly

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*“The Bible is God’s written revelation of who he is and what he has done in redemptive history.”*

—ESV study Bible

## 1. TWO WAYS GOD REVEALS REALITY TO US

### **A. GENERAL REVELATION**

*The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.*

—Psalm 19:1 (ESV)

*For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.*

—Romans 1:19-20 (ESV)

*“General revelation shows attributes of God - such as his existence, power, creativity and wisdom... this means all people have some knowledge that God exists, some knowledge of his character, and some knowledge of his moral standards.”*

—ESV Study Bible

### **B. SPECIAL REVELATION**

## 2. THE BIBLE IS FROM GOD

### **A. The Bible Claims to be the Word Of God**

*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,*

—2 Timothy 3:16 (ESV)

*For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

—2 Peter 1:21 (ESV)

*If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord.*

—1 Corinthians 14:37 (ESV)

### ***B. Jesus CONFIRMED the Old Testament***

*Have you not read this Scripture: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;*

—Mark 12:10 (ESV)

*And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”*

—Luke 4:21 (ESV)

*Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’ ”*

—John 7:38 (ESV)

### ***C. The Early Church CONFIRMED the New Testament***

*“The church no more gave us the New Testament canon than Sir Isaac Newton gave us the force of gravity. God gave us gravity, by his work of creation, and similarly he gave us the New Testament canon, by inspiring the individual books that make it up.”*

—Theologian J.I. Packer

## **3. WE NEED THE BIBLE**

### **A. For Salvation**

*and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.*

—2 Timothy 3:15 (ESV)

### **B. For Right Living**

*All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.*

—2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV)

**“Profitable”:** *It is Good for us!*

*The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple*

—Psalm 19:7 (ESV)

**1) “Teaching”:** *It shows us what is RIGHT*

**2) “Reproof”:** *It shows us what is WRONG*

**3) “Correction”:** *It shows us THE WAY to the Right Path*

**4) “Training in Righteousness”:** *It shows us HOW TO LIVE on the Right Path*

## **4. THE BIBLE IS OUR AUTHORITY**

*“The authority of Scripture means that all the words in Scripture are God’s words in such a way that to disbelieve any word of Scripture is to disbelieve or disobey God.”*

—Theologian Wayne Grudem

*“I am committed to the thesis that there are two answers to every question - God’s answer and everyone else’s. And when they contradict each other, everyone else is wrong.”*

—Pastor Tony Evans