

The Authority of Scripture

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Nearly all serious discussions of the Gospel, Faith or Righteousness will eventually lead to a discussion of the authority that a Christian recognizes of scripture.

Attitudes of the world

Non-Christians who disapprove of Scripture

The scriptures are just the word of man

Recognition vs. Bestowment

The scriptures are full of errors

Win people not debates.

Non-Christians who are favorably disposed to the Scriptures

Folly

Attitudes of Christians

At the heart of a Christian's acknowledgment of the authority of Scripture, is how he puts it into practice.

Lets look at how Jesus treated scripture.

Matthew 4:1-11

In these verses, Jesus is not quoting scripture at Satan. Rather he is quoting the scriptures and applying them to *himself*. Because the Scriptures say...I shall/shall not...

Proofs

Scientific Proof

Structure of an argument

Paul states that the Jews were entrusted with the words of God and that all scripture is given by inspiration of God, Rom 3:1-2, 2 Tim 3:16

Peter claims that Paul's writings are on par with the other scriptures.
II Peter 3:15-16

Paul and Peter were appointed as apostles by Jesus Christ.
Acts 26, Matt 28

Jesus Christ was the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets
Various

This fulfillment qualified the prophets as true mouthpieces of God
Deut 13, 18

Who is authorized to write Scripture?

Prophetic authority

Substantiated by the requirements of a Prophet as outlined in Deut 13, 18

Apostolic authority

Those who were commissioned by Christ or who were authorized to commission.

Word of God vs. Word of Men

1 Thess 2:13 - We notice a number of things here:

Paul understood that the message he delivered to the Thessalonians was a message from God.

The Thessalonians received the message as the Word of God not as the words of men.

The Word of God works effectively in those who believe.