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DIGGING FOR
TRUTH

THE DOCTRINE
OF SCRIPTURE
(PART 1)



DIGGING FOR
TRUTH

THE DOCTRINE
OF SCRIPTURE
(PART 2)



Digging for Truth Episodes 77 & 78



The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part One)

Jesus Christ and the Supreme Authority of Scripture

12. A power great enough to destroy the entire universe could not cause even "one dot of the Law to become void"

(Lk. 16:17; Mt. 5:18).



The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part One)

- **Self-Authenticating Authority**
 - **Inerrancy**
 - **Infallibility**
 - **The Authority of Christ
and OT Scripture**

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

**What about Jesus and
the New Testament?**

The Need for Written Revelation

**“Let this be recorded for a generation to come,
so that a people yet to be created may praise
Yahweh...”**

- Psalm 102:18

The Need for Written Revelation

“For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”

- Romans 15:4

The Need for Written Revelation

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord:
“Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: **Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you.**

Jeremiah 30:2

The Need for Written Revelation

Then the Lord replied:

**“Write down the revelation
and make it plain on tablets
so that whoever reads it may run with it.**

**For the revelation awaits an appointed time;
it speaks of the end
and will not prove false.**

Habakkuk 2:2-3a

The Need for Written Revelation

And the king [Josiah] stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all his heart and all his soul, **to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book.** And all the people joined in the covenant.

II Kings 2:23

The Need for Written Revelation

So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and put in place statutes and rules for them at Shechem.

And Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God.

Joshua 24:25-26

The Need for Written Revelation

**And now, go, write it before them on a tablet
and inscribe it in a book, that it may be for the
time to come as a witness forever.**

Isaiah 30:8

The Need for Written Revelation

- 1. An oral tradition would become easily corrupted because of man's sin**
- 2. Public Accessibility**
- 3. Universal Accessibility**

The Need for Written Revelation

4. God produces covenant documents so His people can accurately interpret His deeds and live according to His instructions

5. Eyewitnesses to God's acts and God's speech eventually die

6. To preserve God's Word for future generations

Thus we see a biblical pattern in which God triumphs over his enemies by redeeming his people; then he gives his canonical documents that function to structure, organize, and transform God's people into a suitable dwelling place for him. According to the Old Testament paradigm, then, *canon constitutes and shapes community, not the other way around* (2010: 119, emphasis added).

Andreas Kostenberger and Michael Kruger, *The Heresy of Orthodoxy*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books.

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

**In accordance with the Father's will,
Jesus sends the Holy Spirit
to empower selected men
to write the New Testament
covenant documents**

John 16:12–15

“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. **When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth**, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the **Father** has is mine; therefore I said that **he will take what is mine and declare it to you.**”

The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit

John 14:15-30

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, **he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.** - v. 26

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth...

(John 16:12-15)

Acts through Revelation

John 14:15-30

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. - v. 26

“All things...” Acts through Revelation

“Bring to your remembrance...” The 4 Gospels

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

**Commissioned by the Spirit of Christ, Paul and others
given apostolic authority are “ministers of a new
covenant.” II Corinthians 3:6**

**Jeremiah 31:31; Luke 22:20; 1 Corinthians 11:25; Hebrews 8:8; Hebrews 8:13;
2 Corinthians 3:14; Hebrews 9:15**

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things, and we know that his testimony is true.

John 21:24

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book, **but these are written** so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:30-31

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

Concerning marriage, Paul writes: “To the married, I give this charge (not I, but the Lord)...” (v. 10). Paul is appealing directly to Matthew 5:32.

I Corinthians 7: 10, 12

Then, in the next verse, Paul asserts his own, apostolic authority: “To the rest I say (I, not the Lord)...”

Paul is addressing matters not dealt with directly by Jesus. His authority is on par with Christ, because Christ has given him the authority in the Church.

I Corinthians 7: 10, 12

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

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**. If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.

I Corinthians 14:37-38

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, that you should remember the [written] **predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles**

II Peter 3:2

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

Here, Peter the Apostle (1 Peter 1:1), equates the authority of the apostles with the authority of the OT prophets.

The OT prophets are known only by Holy Scripture. Therefore, the logic is that the written words of the Apostles are also to be taken as Holy Scripture.

The Supreme Authority of Scripture (Part Two)

And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved **brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, 16** as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, **as they do the other Scriptures.**

II Peter 3:15-16

Summary:

- 1. Jesus' Authority = Scripture's Authority**
- 2. Christ promises to send the Holy Spirit to enable the Apostles to continue His mission**

Summary:

3. The Apostles produce new covenant documents

4. The New Covenant Documents possess the same authority as the Old Covenant Documents

Summary:

**The New Covenant Documents
carry Christ's Authority**

“When the NT Scripture speaks, Christ speaks.”

You are to deal with Scripture in such a way that you bear in mind that God Himself says what is written. But since God is speaking, it is not fitting for you wantonly to turn His Word in the direction you wish to go.

- Martin Luther

To read the Scriptures is therefore not primarily to be enrolled in school or to have discovered a more reliable alternative to Wikipedia. It is to stand face-to-face with God. It is to be summoned by the judge of the universe and to be confronted with the powers of the new creation.

- Sigurd Grindheim