

## LESSON 2.

### Chapter 1. "Of The Holy Scriptures"

#### I. Scripture's Necessity

- A. The compass of its necessity: "all saving, knowledge, faith and obedience"
- B. The basis for its necessity
  1. Insufficiency of general revelation
  2. Inscripturation of special revelation

#### II. Scripture's Identity

- A. The Canon of Scripture
- B. The Rejection of the Apocrypha

#### III. Scripture's Authority

- A. Of itself (Divine)
- B. With Us
  1. The testimony of the Church
  2. The excellencies of Scripture
  3. The inner work of the Holy Spirit

#### IV. Scripture's Sufficiency

- A. The Scope
- B. The Means
- C. The Implications
- D. Qualifications
  1. Illumination of the Spirit
  2. Common Sense of the Illuminated Mind

#### V. Scripture's Clarity (Perspicuity)

- A. Its qualification
- B. Its language

#### VI. Scripture's Availability

- A. Its preservation
- B. Its translation: need, warrant, extent, & purpose

## VII. Scripture's Finality

- A. Interpretation
- B. Answering questions

Recommended books on this topic:

Erwin W. Lutzer, *Seven Reasons Why You Can Trust the Bible* (very practical, apologetic)

J. I. Packer, *God Has Spoken* (practical)

F. F. Bruce, *The Canon of Scripture* (technical)

Robert J. Sheehan, *The Word of Truth* (practical)

Philip Wesley Comfort, ed., *The Origin of the Bible* (technical)

L. Russ Bush & Tom J. Nettles, *Baptists and the Bible* (practical/historical)

Josh McDowell, *Evidence That Demands a Verdict* (very practical, apologetic)

Don Kistler, ed., *Sola Scriptura!: The Protestant Position on the Bible* (great collection of writers)

Bernard Ramm, *The Interpretation of Scripture* (old, but good, basic hermeneutics\* textbook from a reformed perspective)

\* Hermeneutics: rules for interpreting Scripture. The origin of the term is from “Hermes,” the messenger of the gods in Greek mythology. Not everyone uses the same rules and that’s one reason why we end up holding different theological positions.