

- The good in “every good work” (also in 2 Timothy 2:17) is a moral good or righteousness
- This doesn’t teach that the Bible tells us everything worth knowing or equips us for everything worth doing in *any* area
- This does mean that Scripture provides us everything we need to live the righteous lives God demands
  - Salvation (2 Timothy 3:15)
  - Sanctification (John 17:17)
  - Guidance (Psalm 119:105)
  - Spiritual warfare (Ephesians 6:17)
  - Understanding our own thoughts and motives (Hebrews 4:12)

## Sola Scriptura (Scripture Alone)

Sola Scriptura means that all truth necessary for our salvation and spiritual life is taught either explicitly or implicitly in Scripture

## Sola Scriptura (Part II)

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Pastor Philip Bovenkamp

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- “All Scripture” includes the 39 books of the Old Testament and the 27 books of the New Testament

### Inspiration of Scripture

God guided the writers of Scripture so that, using their own personalities, vocabularies, and writing styles, they composed without error the exact words God intended in the original manuscripts

#### Qualifying Elements of the Definition of the Inspiration of Scripture

“...using their own personalities, vocabularies, and writing styles...”

- When we compare different parts of Scripture, the differences in the writing is apparent (compare Luke 3:1-3 with Mark 1:4)
- This in no way limits the degree to which these are God’s words

“...they composed...”

- This was not a mechanical inspiration; the writers were active participants
- This is shown by their personalities, vocabularies, and writing styles
- We also see it explicitly or implicitly asserted in their writings (Luke 1:1-3)

“...without error...”

- God prevented the writers from making any errors as they composed
- The writers' involvement in no way compromised the finished product

“...in the original manuscripts...”

- This definition of inspiration applies specifically to what the writers originally wrote
- We have confidence in our copies and translations, but the copiers and translators weren't inspired

### The Core of the Definition of the Inspiration of Scripture

“God guided the writers so that they composed the exact words God intended”

- Peter described the process of inspiration (2 Peter 1:20-21)
  - Scripture is never the writer's own interpretation
  - Scripture does not originate from the will of man
  - The words of Scripture come from God as men were inspired by the Holy Spirit
- Inspired does not mean merely influenced or motivated
- Breathed out means that the Scripture itself emanated from God (2 Timothy 3:16)
  - God did not produce only the big ideas or doctrines but every word (Matthew 5:18)

- Nor did God breath *into* what human writers had produced, somehow elevating it to Scripture

### **Authority of Scripture**

- The best proof of the authority of Scripture is the inspiration of Scripture
- If these are truly God's words then they have God's authority

The authority of Scripture means that all the words in Scripture are God's words in such a way that to disbelieve or disobey any word of Scripture is to disbelieve or disobey God

- Authority has two aspects:
  - It is trustworthy and true
    - We should believe it (John 17:17; Psalm 19:7; Proverbs 30:5)
    - We should trust it (2 Timothy 3:15; John 17:17; Hebrews 4:12)
  - It has the right to command
    - We should obey it (Deuteronomy 11:1; Luke 11:28; James 1:22)

### **Sufficiency of Scripture**

- The word complete (*artios*) in 2 Timothy 3:17 means “able to meet all demands”
- There is nothing that God requires of you that Scripture does not inform you of and equip you for