

## **Echoes of the Reformation: Five Truths that Shape the Christian Life**

### **Sola Scriptura – The Authority of Scripture**

*Sola Scriptura means that only Scripture, because it is God's inspired Word, is our inerrant, sufficient, and final authority for the church.*

Matthew Barrett, *God's Word Alone*

#### **"because it is God's inspired Word,"**

*"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)

God is the \_\_\_\_\_

God did not give to man \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal Plenary Inspiration – Dual authorship in scripture – "Human authors wrote exactly what they intended in their own distinct style, yet at the same time what they wrote was superintended by the Holy Spirit so that what the human author said, God said, down to the exact words and phrases."

p. 225, *God's Word Alone*, Matthew Barrett

*"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)

#### **"inerrant,"**

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

Psalms 19:7 (ESV)

Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy

Article XII – *"We affirm that Scripture in its entirety is inerrant, being free from all falsehood, fraud, or deceit."*

Inerrancy keeps us off the slippery slope of \_\_\_\_\_.

*"...persons denying the full truth of Scripture may claim an evangelical identity while methodologically they have moved away from the evangelical principle of knowledge to an unstable subjectivism, and will find it hard not to move further."*

Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy

Inerrancy affirms that God is \_\_\_\_\_.

Secret Church 17 – "God is **true**; The Bible **is** the Word of God; The Word of God is **true**."

*"The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever."*

Psalms 119:160 (ESV)

**"Sufficient,"**

*"You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you."*

Deuteronomy 4:2 (ESV)

\_\_\_\_\_ Revelation is not enough. (Romans 1)

General Revelation is not enough to save us but it is enough to condemn us all.

Special Revelation that can save comes only from the Word. (The Gospel requires words.)

"The Bible contains all we need in order to know and walk with God." – Platt

*"...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)

The Bible is sufficient for God's \_\_\_\_\_ our \_\_\_\_\_ and our \_\_\_\_\_

**"Final Authority"**

The Bible is our chief, supreme, and ultimate \_\_\_\_\_.

The Bible \_\_\_\_\_ authority for believers. We rely on pastoral/elder authority, tradition/church authority, etc.

But these "...other authorities should only be followed if they align with Scripture, submit to Scripture, and are seen as subservient to Scripture, which alone is our supreme authority." – Barrett, p. 23

*"these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned."*

1 Corinthians 2:10-14 (ESV)