

Chapter Two

BIBLIOLOGY

Bibliology is simply the study of the Bible, which is the Word of God. The Bible is the inspired source of knowledge about God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, salvation, and eternity. The word **Bible** means the sacred scriptures of Christians comprising the Old Testament and the New Testament. Without a proper view of the Bible, understanding God becomes clouded and distorted.

Bibliology teaches us that the Bible is **inspired**, meaning it is "breathed out" by God. The Almighty breathed or blew into action meaning He influenced, moved and guided by divine and supernatural inspiration His words into existence. God is the inspiring agent or influence behind the Word of God.

A proper bibliology holds to the **inerrancy** of Scripture, meaning that the Bible does not contain any errors, contradictions, or discrepancies. God used the personalities and styles of the human authors of Scripture to produce exactly what He wanted to be said. Bibliology enables us to know why other books were excluded from the Bible. For the Christian, the Bible is life itself. Its pages are filled with the very Spirit of God, revealing His heart and mind to us. What a wonderful and gracious God we have that loved us enough to give us His Word! He could have left us to struggle through life with no help at all, but He gave His Word to guide us, truly *Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path* (**Psalm 119:105**).

A key Scripture on Bibliology is **II Timothy 3:16** which states: *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for*

doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

Biblical inerrancy is the doctrinal position that in its original form, the Bible is without error; referring to the complete accuracy of Scripture, including the historical and scientific parts. God's inspiration without **preservation** is a divine waste of time. Therefore, preservation plays just as vital role in God's Word as inspiration. Biblical inerrancy in the preservation of God's Word means that the Word has been kept safe or protected from corruption or destruction. The Word has been saved from decomposition, rot or decay. Without preservation, God's sovereignty is challenged. Is Almighty God powerful enough to preserve His word? Yes! Unfortunately, most *modern* Christians today hold to the doctrine that God did NOT preserve His Word-thus multiple bible translations, concordances and lexicons.

⁶The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. ⁷Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever (Psalm 12:6-7).

Ah Lord GOD! Behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee (Jeremiah 32:17).

Biblical infallibility is the belief that what the Bible says regarding matters of faith and Christian practice is wholly useful and true. It is the belief that the Bible is completely trustworthy as a guide to salvation and the life of faith and will not fail to accomplish its purpose. Infallibility means incapable of error: unerring. Mature Christians equate **inerrancy** with **infallibility**.

Infallibility is a stronger term than **inerrancy**. Inerrant means there are NO errors; infallible means there can be NO errors, for God is **perfect**. Perfection means whole, entire, intact, flawless, pure, absolute, and complete. Perfect implies the soundness and the excellence of every part, element, and quality of a thing. God is flawless and so is His Word. *For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven (Psalm 119:89).*

The idea of **biblical integrity** also strengthens the concept of infallibility by suggesting that the Bible is complete and without error (inerrant). The declaration of Scripture purports that the **integrity** of the Bible—to include its present-day message, purpose, and content—has never been corrupted or degraded. The theological basis of the Christian faith, in its simplest form, is that as God is perfect, the Bible, as the word of God, must also be perfect, thus, free from error. Biblical inerrancy also teaches that God used the distinctive personalities and literary styles of the writers of Scripture, but that God's inspiration guided them to flawlessly project his message through their own language and personality.

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away (Matthew 24:35).

Prima Facie refers to evidence and claims from the Bible itself. The Bible is self-evident. “The Witness of the Spirit” is proof to the Christian to whom God speaks. The transforming ability of Scripture is yet another supernatural proof to a believer. The unity of the Scripture despite its different authors and topics, the historicity of the Bible and how the archaeological record confirms the Bible, the testimony of Christ, fulfilled prophecies, indestructibility of the Scriptures, and the integrity of its authors

are all commonly taught as ways Truth is established.

God is self-evident and this evidence is declared in His Word. ¹⁹*We have also a more sure word of prophecy, whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:* ²⁰*Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.* ²¹*For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost (II Peter 1:19-21).*

Which Bible is God's true Word?