

7 August 2016

The scriptures Pt 1 – are a written record of God's holy words.

Scriptures that establish the teaching.

1. The scriptures are God's spoken words that have been written down.

"Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures...?" (Matt.21: 42).

Compare (c.p.) – "Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah: and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the Lord, which he had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book" (Jer.36: 4). See also Jer.36: 27 & 32, and Deut 31:24.

C.p. – "All scripture [is] given by inspiration of God..." (2Tim.3: 16).

Therefore, we say with certainty that men of God wrote down the words that God spoke under the inspiration of the holy Spirit. And these holy writings became known as scripture or holy scripture.

2. Today the scriptures are the writings of the Old and New Testament.

– "even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all [his] epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as [they do] also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction" (2Pet.3: 15 & 16).

3. The scriptures are pure, perfect, holy, and record God's truth.

"The words of the Lord [are] pure words: [as] silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times." (Ps.12: 6).

C.p. – "He is the Rock, his work [is] perfect" (Deut 32: 4).

C.p. – "But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth" (Dan.10: 21).

C.p. – "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures" (2Tim.3: 15).

Additional comments to the supporting scriptures.

The word "scripture" comes from the Latin word scriptura 'writings', from script – written. In the context of the Bible these include both the writings of the Old and New Testament.

Applying the teaching to our life today.

Given that God has promised to preserve His words ("Thou shalt keep them, O Lord, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever" – Ps.12: 7), when we look to the multitude of bibles we see only ONE being pure, perfect and truthful – the English text of the 1611 Authorised Bible (otherwise known as the King James Version – KJV).

At Bible Colleges and theological seminaries they do not use the word "scripture" or "scriptures" but rather use the word "Bible" or the phrase "holy Bible" to refer to God's written word.

I remember being challenged by that very point as to why the words "Bible" or "holy Bible" occur on the cover of my Good News Bible (GN)?

Question to think about:–

– why do teaching institutions and many who claim to be Christians today use the word "bible" or "holy bible" and not "the scriptures" or "scripture"?

A suggested answer:–

– the holy bible, or bible, is a collection of books that some scholars assert contain God's message, rather than His preserved words. Hence the reference to "The Bible" is very loose and non-specific, and based on the 200+ different versions in English. Man can change the words so long as he maintains the essence of God's message. Whereas "scripture" or "holy scripture" is specific to the holy writings of God, they are a record of God's words, forever "settled in heaven" (Ps.119: 89).