

God's Revelation
General Revelation and the Inspiration of Scripture
The Master's Disciples Series
September 7, 2024
Selected Scriptures

How do we know truth?

What is a valid source of truth?

The problem with presuppositions

Solution:

General Revelation

Psalm 19:1-3:

“The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; Their voice is not heard.”

Psalm 19:4:

“Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their utterances to the end of the world.”

Psalm 19:4c-6

“In them He has placed a tent for the sun, which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber; it rejoices as a strong man to run his course. Its rising is from one end of the heavens, and its circuit to the other end of them; and there is nothing hidden from its heat.”

What We Can Know about God from His Creation?

What We Can Know About God from How He Made Us?

Romans 1:18-20.

“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.”

What General Revelation Cannot Do

God's Specific Revelation

Prophets

Jesus

In John 14:9, Jesus said, **“He who has seen me has seen the Father.”**

Hebrews 1:1-2: **“God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son...”**

God's Revelation through His Scripture

Scripture defined: Scripture consists only and entirely of the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments.

Other presuppositions regarding Scripture:

Completely unique

Uniquely authoritative

The Inspiration of Scripture

2 Timothy 3:16-17:

“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”

What Did God Inspire?

The Conceptual Theory of Inspiration: God Inspired the Ideas

The Natural Theory of Inspiration: God Inspired the Human Authors

The Dictation Theory of Inspiration: God Told People Exactly What to Say

The Verbal and Plenary Inspiration of Scripture

Verbal

Plenary

Who can we trust?

2 Peter 1:20-21:

“But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.”

The Impossibility of a Human Source for the Scripture

The King James Only Controversy

Did God Inspire again in English?

Not a New Problem

Nehemiah 8:5-7:

“Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD the great God. And all the people answered, ‘Amen, Amen!’ while lifting up their hands; then they bowed low and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, explained the law to the people while the people *remained* in their place.”

The Infallibility of Scripture

The Perspicuity of Scripture

Clear

Lucid

Ordinary use of language

The Ultimate Point of God's Revelation

Hebrews 1:1-3:

“God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world. And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.”