

The Doctrine of Bibliology by Christopher Warrington

I believe that the very spoken Words of God written down are not the sole means of communication by God (Lk 1:1–3, Jn 14:26); but that God has also communicated to His Church through the Canon of Scripture (2Ti 3:16, 2Pe 1:20). I believe all 39 books of the Old Testament and 27 books of the New Testament are the total books which belong in the Bible.

In its full Canon, I believe the entire Bible is completely authoritative (Jn 14:26, 1Co 14:37) as being the very words of God (2Ti 3:16; 2Pe 1:20-21). This is what the Bible claims for itself (Dt 18:18-20, Mt 1:22), which we are convinced of as we read the Bible (Jn 10:27, 1Co 2:13). Thus, I believe that Scripture is self-attesting and, though useful, the Bible does not require outside evidence to prove its authority.

I believe that we can be assured of nearly 99% of what the original manuscripts stated. I believe that the Canon contains no error, within its original manuscripts, that is contrary to any fact (Ps 12:6; Pr 30:5; Nu 23:19); and that no false ideas of the author's day are found within the Biblical truths (Lev 11:44, Titus 1:2; Heb 6:18).

I believe in the Clarity of Scripture in that it is written so that God's Word could be understood by people of all ages (Gal 1:2; Php. 1:1), education backgrounds (Mt 12:3, 21:42, 22:29) and ethnic heritages (Ro 15:4; 1Co 1:2), who truly seek God with pure motives (1Co 1:18, 2:13-16).

I believe that the proper way of interpreting Scripture is with a group of believers thus preventing false teachers (Ac 20:29, 1Ti 4:1, 6:3). I believe that interpretation should also be done in humble prayer for guidance (Ps 119:18, 1Co 2:14) as well as by looking at the larger context of the Bible to test whether the interpretation agrees with the rest of Scripture.

Because Scripture is the very Word of God given to us in written form, I believe that the role of Scripture in Theology is to be a verifiable source to study from and interpret God's truths. I believe that we are to

meditate on these truths “day and night” (Jos 1:8, Ps 1:1-2, 119:97) in order that we may teach others what God has for us to learn (Lk 6:40, 2Ti 3:16).

I believe that the translation we use to study God’s Word should be as close to the original meaning as our language allows. I believe that every word is important and thus the translator should translate no less and no more than what the original manuscript contained (Mt 5:18, Rev 22:18). I choose to study primarily from either the New American Standard Bible or the English Standard Version.

I believe that Scripture is necessary for our spiritual lives (Dt 8:3, Lk 4:4): from understanding the message of Salvation through the Gospels (Ro 10:13-17, Jn 3:18) to maintaining Spiritual growth (Mt 4:4, 1Pe 2:2) and for understanding certain parts of God’s Will (Dt 29:29, 1Jn 5:3). The Bible is not necessary though for knowing that God exists as we can see evidence of that through nature (Ps 19:1, Ac 14:16-17, Ro 1:19-21).

I believe that the Bible is sufficient for guidance (Ro 8:9-16; Gal 5:16-25) in every aspect of our lives and that there is no modern knowledge which should ever be placed above or on par with the Word of God. I believe that since Scripture is completely sufficient, we are not to add anything to it, nor take anything from it thus limiting the revelation that God has given to us (Pr 30:5-6, Rev 22:18-19). I believe that the Bible is sufficient in knowing everything about sin and what to stay away from (Ps 119:1), everything about God’s commands and what He desires for us to do (Ps 119:44-45, 165), and everything about God that He wishes for us to know (Dt 29:29).