

CLASS 8: INSPIRATION, INFALLIBILITY AND INERRANCY

8.1 INSPIRATION

A) Key Text #1: 2 Timothy 3:14-17

- The original _____ of the sixty-six books of the Bible make up the inspired, authoritative canon of Scripture.

B) Key Text #2: 2 Peter 1:19-21

- Some believe this means God _____ Scripture to the prophets and apostles.
- 1 Corinthians 2:12-13 –
- The Bible was written by the hand of man in ordinary _____ under the inspiration, direction and authority of the Holy Spirit.
- Each biblical book has at least two _____ : human and divine.

8.2 INFALLIBILITY AND INERRANCY

C) Key Text #3: John 17:17

- Until the 1960s, the two terms “infallible” and “inerrant” were more or less used _____.
- Then, some argued that the Bible is infallible but not inerrant, meaning that the Bible tells the truth only necessarily in areas of _____ and _____.
- Proverbs 30:5 –
- 2 Timothy 3:16 –
- Acts 24:14 –

- The Bible teaches that Scripture is inerrant (aka. infallible), without error and truthful in _____ that it teaches.

Grudem, *Systematic Theology*: “The inerrancy of Scripture means that Scripture in the original manuscripts does not affirm anything that is contrary to fact... The definition in simple terms just means that the Bible always tells the truth, and that it always tells the truth concerning everything it talks about” (91).

- Genesis 15:17 –

- Judges 12:5-6 –

- Matthew 28:1-2//Luke 24:4 –

- Mark 9:5//Matthew 17:4 –

- Inerrancy does not exclude the use of _____, free quotations, figures of speech or summaries. Scientific, numeric and historic statements are true to the degree of _____ implied by the author.

Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy: Article XIII b – “We deny that it is proper to evaluate Scripture according to standards of truth and error that are alien to its usage or purpose. We further deny that inerrancy is negated by Biblical phenomena such as a lack of modern technical precision, irregularities of grammar or spelling, observational descriptions of nature, the reporting of falsehoods, the use of hyperbole and round numbers, the topical arrangement of material, variant selections of material in parallel accounts, or the use of free citations.”

8.3 TEXTUAL CRITICISM

D) Key Text #4: Matthew 24:35

- Psalm 119:89 –

- Luke 21:33 –

- Matthew 5:18 –

- Inerrancy applies to the _____ manuscripts. Our copies today are subject to textual _____ criticism, which preserves the _____ of the originals

Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy: Article X: “We affirm that inspiration, strictly speaking, applies to the autographic text of Scripture, which in the providence of God can be ascertained from available manuscripts with great accuracy. We further affirm that copies and translations of Scripture are the Word of God to the extent that they faithfully represent the original.

We deny that any essential element of the Christian faith is affected by the absence of the autographs. We further deny that this absence renders the assertion of Biblical inerrancy invalid or irrelevant.

8.4 RESOURCES

B. B. Warfield, *The Inspiration and Authority of the Bible*.

The Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy (1978)