

What is the Bible? Lesson 2 – The Inerrancy of Scripture

Introduction:

- Some people say that what the Bible says about spiritual matters is true, but that it contains _____ about scientific, geographical, and historical matters.
- If the Bible contains errors, then how can we know if what it says about spiritual matters is _____?
- If the Bible is the Word of God, and if God can only speak the truth, then there is no way to avoid the conclusion that the Bible contains _____.

1. The _____ of Scripture.

A. The _____ of inerrancy.

- Inerrancy means that Scripture is without any error in its facts or teaching, and always tells the _____ concerning everything it talks about.
- The Bible can be considered inerrant even though it sometimes uses the ***ORDINARY*** language of everyday speech.
 - **EXAMPLE 1:** Even though the sun never moves, the Bible can speak of the sun rising and setting each day, because that's a perfectly true description of the sun from the _____ of man on the earth.
 - **EXAMPLE 2:** The Bible sometimes uses an _____ number when counting or measuring things.
- The Bible can be considered inerrant even though it sometimes includes quotations that are not _____.
 - In the cultures of the Bible, you were not expected to have quote someone's words exactly, you simply had to give a _____ representation of what they said.
 - **EXAMPLE 1:** This explains why _____ words are sometimes different in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Matt 6.9–13 Pray then like this:

- “Our Father **in heaven**,
hallowed be your name.
10 Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
11 Give us this day our daily bread,
12 and forgive us our **debts**,
as we also have forgiven **our debtors**.
13 And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Luke 11.2–4 And he said to them, “When you pray, say:

- “Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
3 Give us each day our daily bread,
4 and forgive us our **sins**,
for we ourselves forgive **everyone who is indebted to us**.
And lead us not into temptation.”

- **EXAMPLE 2: Sometimes there are _____ in how the New Testament quotes the Old Testament.**

Psa 110.1 The LORD says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand, **until I make your enemies your footstool.**”

Matt. 22:44 The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, **until I put your enemies under your feet**”

- The Bible can be considered inerrant even though it sometimes includes unusual or uncommon _____.
- God used ordinary people who used their own _____ language to write the Scriptures.
- The Bible can be considered inerrant even though it sometimes includes figures of speech and _____.

John 8.12a Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “**I am the light of the world.**”

John 10.7 So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, **I am the door of the sheep.**”

- The Bible can be considered inerrant even though it sometimes includes true accounts of people telling _____ and being deceitful.

Gen 3.4–5 *But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”*

Gen 27.19 *Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me; now sit up and eat of my game, that your soul may bless me.”*

- Inerrancy doesn’t mean that everything recorded in the Bible is true, it means that everything that the Bible _____ as true really is true.

B. Some points of _____ about the inerrancy of Scripture.

- Some people _____ think that if you name a doctrine by a word that’s not in the Bible, then that doctrine isn’t true.
- We are free to use terms that are not in the Bible to helpfully _____ a Biblical teaching.
 - **EXAMPLE 1:** Even though the word _____ does not occur in Scripture, it is still a true teaching about the nature of God.
 - **EXAMPLE 2:** Even though the word _____ does not occur in Scripture, it helpfully summarizes the truth of Jesus’ birth in the flesh.
- We do not have the original Hebrew and Greek manuscripts of the Scriptures, but we do have _____ copies and translations of them.
 - God has supernaturally _____ His Word with remarkable care and providence!
 - For over 99 percent of the words of the Bible, we know what the original manuscript said, because when we compare all of the copies that we’ve found, we can _____ what the original manuscripts said.

John 11.35 *“Jesus wept.”*

- Some manuscripts read:
 - “Jesus wept”
 - “then Jesus wept”
 - “and Jesus wept”
 - “and then Jesus wept”

- No doctrine of any importance depends upon any of the remaining differences because the very few differences that remain are almost entirely trivial, and do not affect the _____ of the text.
- We have many accurate _____ of the Bible in many languages that accurately communicate the meaning of the original text.

C. The problems with _____ the inerrancy of Scripture.

- If we deny the inerrancy of the Scriptures, we are making our own human minds to be a higher _____ of truth than God's Word itself.
- If we deny the inerrancy of the Scriptures, we will wonder if we can really _____ anything God says.
- If we begin to doubt the minor details of the Bible, we'll eventually begin to doubt the major _____ of the Bible.

2. The written Scriptures are our final _____.

***2 Tim 3.15–16** and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the **sacred writings**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 **All Scripture is breathed out by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,*

- We must continually remember that we have in the Bible God's very words, and we must not try to " _____ " on them in some way, because this cannot be done.

***Rev 22.18–19** I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone **adds** to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, 19 and if anyone **takes away** from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.*

Conclusion:

- The written and preserved Scriptures are truthful and _____ because they are the inspired and authoritative Word of God.
- The Scriptures are _____ in everything they record.
- The Scriptures will never lead us _____.