

Sunday, May 5, 2019
God's Final Warning
Revelation 22:18–19

I. What Is the Warning? Not to Tamper with What?

- A. Not to Tamper with the Book of Revelation? Rev. 22:18
 - 1. Because this Book Is a Gift from the Triune God Rev. 1:1, 4
 - 2. Because this Book Promises God's Blessing for Reading and Hearing it Rev. 1:3; 22:7
 - 3. Because this Book Is Current, Giving Us God's Perspective to Live in the World Dan. 2:45; Dan. 12:4, 9; Rev. 22:10–12
 - 4. Because God Gave this Book to Encourage His People Rev. 1:9, 11
Rev. 2:2–3, 13, 19, 3:10; 6:11; 13:10; 14:12; 16:15; 18:4; 20:4; 22:7, 11, 14
- B. And Also, Not to Tamper with All of Scripture?
 - 1. John's Awareness of Writing the Conclusion to Scripture Rev. 1:1
 - 2. John's Use of All of Scripture
 - 3. John's Warning Is Repeated Through the Rest of Scripture Deut. 4:2; Deut. 12:32; Matt. 5:18–19

II. What Is the Warning? Not to Tamper How?

- A. Not to Tamper with the Very Words—Written Revelation from God Rev. 22:18
Heb. 6:18; Rom. 3:4; Titus 1:2; Isa. 45:19
- B. Not to Tamper by *Addition* to Written Revelation Rev. 22:18
- C. Not to Tamper by *Subtraction* from the Written Revelation Rev. 22:19; 2 Cor. 4
- D. Not to Tamper or There Will Be Consequences Rev. 22:20

III. Why the Warning? Why Not to Tamper with God's Word?

- A. Definition of Sufficiency of Scripture
2 Tim. 3:15–17; Heb. 1:1, 2; Jude 1:3; Ac. 20:20, 27; Gal. 1:8, 9; 2 Thess. 2:2
- B. Clarification of Sufficiency of Scripture
 - 1. Sufficiency Does Not Mean: must Always Have a “Proof Text” Heb. 5:13–14
 - 2. Sufficiency Does Not Deny: We must Have The Spirit's Illumination 1 Cor. 2:9–12
- C. Believer's Protection in Sufficiency of Scripture
 - 1. Scriptures Alone Are Sufficient, Not Tradition
 - 2. Scriptures Alone Are Sufficient, Not Man-made Rules
 - 3. Scriptures Alone Are Sufficient, Not Claims of God Speaking
 - 4. Scriptures Alone Are Sufficient, Not Feelings

Quotes:

“The Bible says exactly what God wants to say because the Holy Spirit was responsible for every word written in Scripture. He is the divine Author behind the human authors.” (Ward)

"If the Bible is the Word of God and if God is a God of truth, then the Bible must be inerrant—not merely in some of its parts, as some modern theologians are saying, but totally. . . ." (R C Sproul)

"The doctrine of infallibility is not peripheral. What is at stake is the character of the witness wh the Scripture provides for the whole compass of our faith. It is concerned with the nature of the only revelation by which we possess respecting God’s will for our salvation." (John Murray)

“Before and after you read the Scripture, pray earnestly that the Spirit which did inspire it, may expound it to you, and lead you into the truth.” (Richard Baxter)

"God does not today guide people directly without using the Scripture. There are no divinely given ‘hunches’. God does not give people direct mental impressions to do this or that. People do not hear God's voice speaking within them. There is no immediate and direct unwritten communication between God and the individual human being. If the Scriptures are actually sufficient, such communication is unnecessary." Paul Wooley (Infallible Word)

"The finality of Scripture if it has any meaning, demands that those who profess commitment to Christ and the church in its collective capacity, direct all thought, activity, and objective by this Word as the revelation to us of God's mind and will." (John Murray)

“The Christian who bases his doctrines on his reason, feelings, or experience has no way to counter someone whose reason, feelings, or experience tells him that witchcraft is good. Once we assume that ‘man is the measure of all things’ then all our beliefs become relative and subjective. Religion is reduced to ‘paying your nickle and taking your choice.’ Religious truth as truth becomes a farce.” (Morey)

“Unless evangelicals recover their confidence in the sufficiency of Scripture, their claim that Scripture alone is authoritative will remain empty. It will remain a charade.” (Wells)

“The whole counsel of God concerning all things necessary for his own glory, man's salvation, faith and life, is either expressly set down in Scripture, or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from Scripture: unto which nothing at any time is to be added, whether by new revelations of the Spirit, or traditions of men. Nevertheless, we acknowledge the inward illumination of the Spirit of God to be necessary for the saving understanding of such things as are revealed in the Word: and that there are some circumstances concerning the worship of God, and government of the church, common to human actions and societies, which are to be ordered by the light of nature, and Christian prudence, according to the general rules of the Word, which are always to be observed.” Westminster Confession, I.6