

F O U N D A T I O N S O F O U R F A I T H

THE
AUTHORITY
OF
SCRIPTURE

The
Church
Family Fellowship

An open book lies on a rustic wooden table. In the background, a person's hands are clasped together in prayer, resting on the table. The scene is softly lit, creating a contemplative atmosphere.

2 Timothy 3:13-17

"Evil people and impostors will become worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed. You know those who taught you, and you know that from infancy you have known the sacred Scriptures, which are able to give you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."





The Four Aspects of Scripture

Essentialness



Essence



Extent



Eminence



The Essentialness of Scripture



What Does It Mean to Be A Disciple?

Deep Commitment

- Devotion
- Diligence
- Discipline
- Dedication

To A Person or Way of Life



How do Disciples Learn?

- Interaction and Instruction
- Through the Study of the Master's Teaching



The Essence of Scripture



The Essence of Scripture

- Inspired
- Authoritative
- Infallible
- Inerrant



How Does God Reveal Himself?

- Jesus – the *logos*
- Through His Prophets
- Through Their Writings

- The Scriptures are God's Inspired word



What Does Inspiration Mean?

- Θεόπνευστος (*Theopneustos* God-breathed)
- Through prophetic agency
- In harmony with the agent

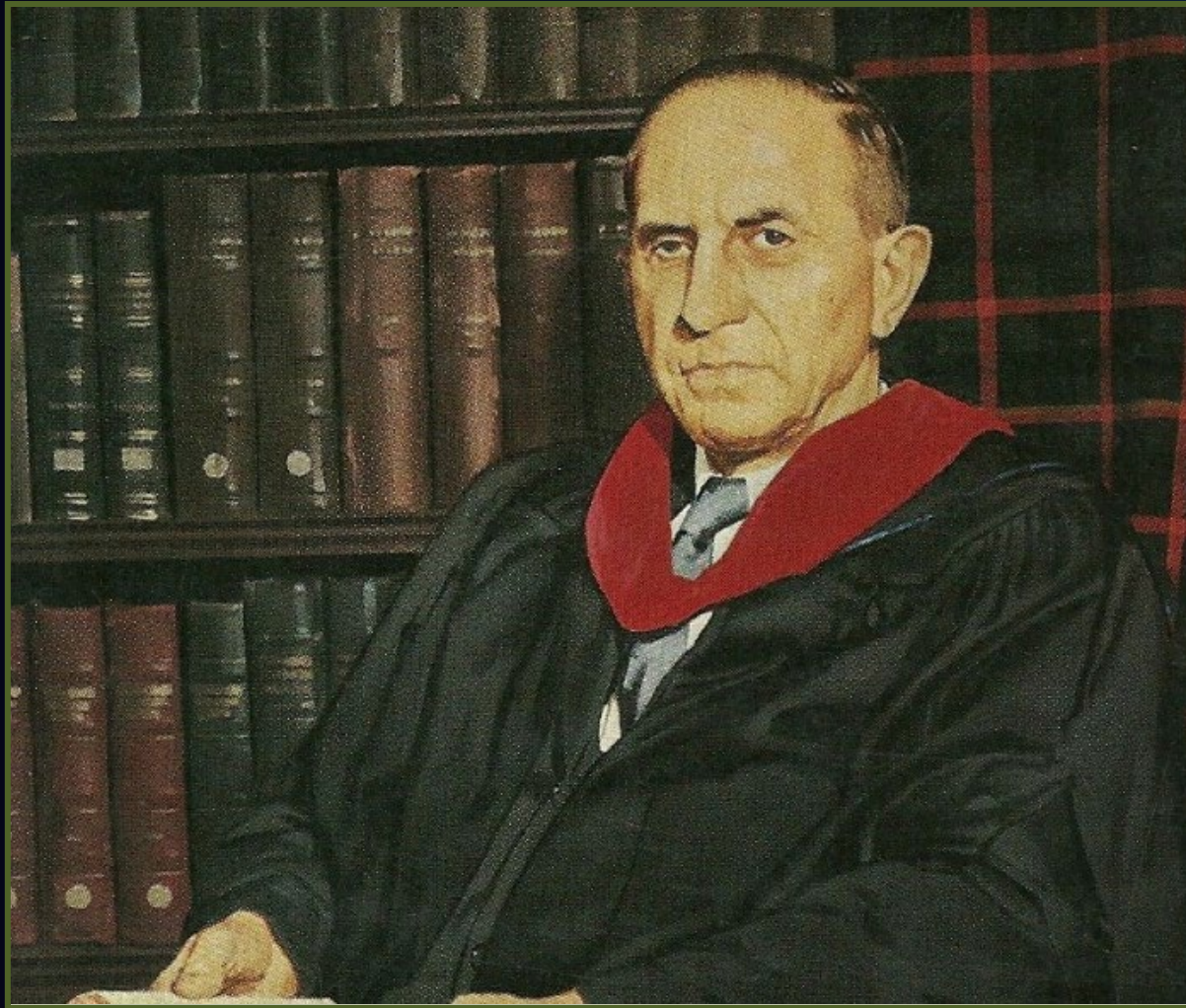
God COMMUNICATES His word to man by REVEALING it through inspiration and giving man ILLUMINATION to understand it.



The Essence of Scripture

- Inspired
- Authoritative





John Murray on Scripture

“The inescapable fact is that, for our Lord, the Scripture, just because it was *Scripture*, just because it fell within the denotation of the formula ‘it is written,’ was a finality [Christ’s] attitude is one of meticulous acceptance and reverence. ...The only explanation of such an attitude is what Scripture said, God said.”

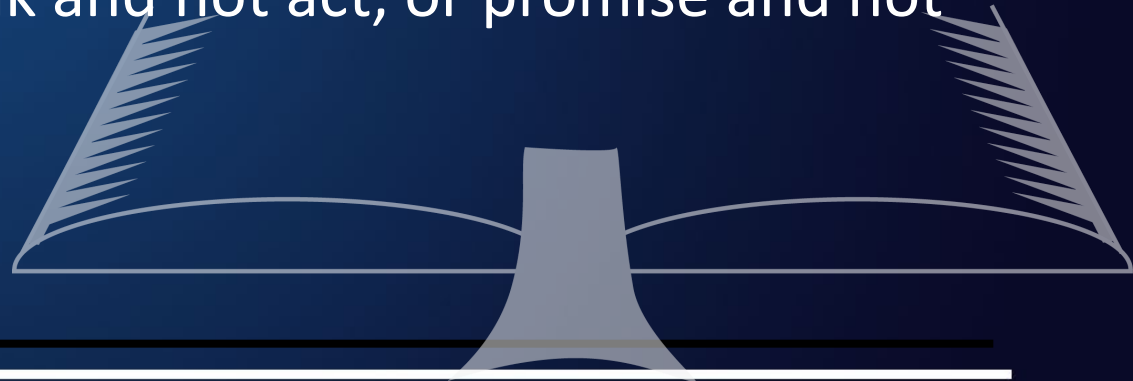
The Essence of Scripture

- Inspired
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The Infallibility of Scripture

- Trustworthy
 - John 10:35 - Jesus answered them, “Isn’t it written in your law, I said, you are gods? If he called those to whom the word of God came ‘gods’—and the Scripture cannot be broken— do you say, ‘You are blaspheming’ to the one the Father set apart and sent into the world, because I said: I am the Son of God?”
 - Numbers 23:19 “God is not a man, that he might lie, or a son of man, that he might change his mind. Does he speak and not act, or promise and not fulfill?”
- Universal
 - Timeless
 - Limitless



The Essence of Scripture

- Inspired
- Authoritative
- Infallible
- Inerrant



Inerrancy of Scripture

1. God, who is Himself Truth and speaks truth only, has inspired Holy Scripture in order thereby to reveal Himself to lost mankind through Jesus Christ as Creator and Lord, Redeemer and Judge. Holy Scripture is God's witness to Himself.
2. Holy Scripture, being God's own Word, written by men prepared and superintended by His Spirit, is of infallible divine authority in all matters upon which it touches: it is to be believed, as God's instruction, in all that it affirms: obeyed, as God's command, in all that it requires; embraced, as God's pledge, in all that it promises.
3. The Holy Spirit, Scripture's divine Author, both authenticates it to us by His inward witness and opens our minds to understand its meaning.

Inerrancy of Scripture

4. Being wholly and verbally God-given, Scripture is without error or fault in all its teaching, no less in what it states about God's acts in creation, about the events of world history, and about its own literary origins under God, than in its witness to God's saving grace in individual lives.
5. The authority of Scripture is inescapably impaired if this total divine inerrancy is in any way limited or disregarded, or made relative to a view of truth contrary to the Bible's own; and such lapses bring serious loss to both the individual and the Church.

What Inerrancy ISN'T

Linguistic qualifications:

- No use of nonliteral forms of speech
- No use of phenomenological language
- Absolute precision of description
- Strict “court transcript” style reporting of the words of speakers
- Conformity to linguistic conventions



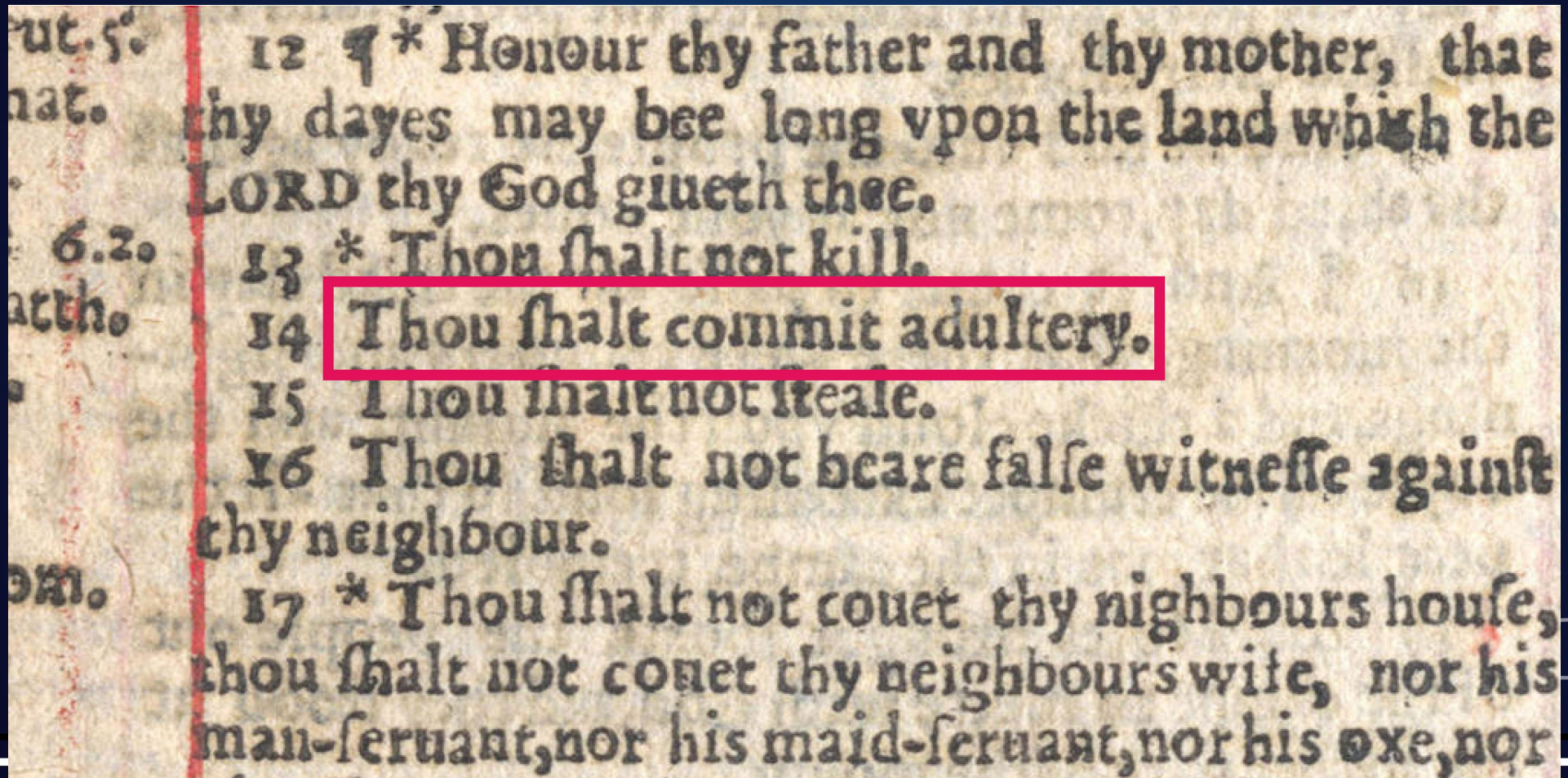
What Inerrancy ISN'T

Other qualifications - biblical inerrancy does not imply:

- Exhaustive information (cf. Deut. 29:29; John 20:30; 21:25).
- Inerrancy of all opinions held by biblical writers but not inscripturated
- No differences in perspective or emphasis
- Strict chronological order in all historical accounts
- Divine Dictation
- The perfection of any or all copies of the original biblical texts



The Best-Selling Bible of 1631!



The Extent of Scripture



The Eminence of Scripture



The Eminence of Scripture

- Psalm 119
- Psalm 1 – “How happy is the one who does not walk in the advice of the wicked or stand in the pathway with sinners or sit in the company of mockers! Instead, his delight is in the Lord’s instruction, and he meditates on it day and night. He is like a tree planted beside flowing streams that bears its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.”

What Does It Mean to Be A Disciple?

Deep Commitment

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- Diligence
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- Dedication

To A Person

