

## 2 Timothy 3:14-17

7-31-05

*“Sweeter than Honey!”*

### 1. **Intro:**

- 1.1. **Prayer:** Lord, **Your Word is durable** - outlasting all its critics, surviving all the attempts of its enemies to exterminate it.  
It is **miraculous in its results** - transforming the lives of those who read and believe it.  
It is **marvelous in its harmony** - agreeing in all its parts, written over a period of 1600 years, by about 40 different authors.  
It is **Fabulous in its preservation** - maintaining its accuracy and reliability down through the centuries.
- 1.2. **Position Wanted:** I would like a job as tutor, teacher and advisor to your family. I will never take a vacation. I will never be out of humor. I don't drink or smoke. I won't borrow your clothes or raid your refrigerator. I will be up in the morning as early as anyone in the household and will stay up as late as anyone wishes. I will help solve any problems your children might have. I will give you the satisfaction of knowing that no question your children ask will go unanswered. For that matter, I will answer any of your own questions on subjects that range from "How we got here?" to "Where are we headed?" I will help settle bets and differences of opinion. I will give you information that will help you with your job, your family and all of your other interests. In short, I will give you the knowledge that will insure the continued success of your family. ***I am your Bible. Do I get the job?***
- 1.3. **I had my bible rebound:** I could write anything on it in gold writing. I chose one thing to place on it...**“Holy Bible”** [It's ok if you have your name on it]
  - 1.3.1. **Why?** – **Often when we say less, it says more!**
  - 1.3.2. **Holy**(set apart) & **Bible**(book) – **It is set apart, unique, exclusive, & matchless from any other writing!**
- 1.4. **Last Week: Q:** How do we live for Christ in such exceedingly fierce times?
  - 1.4.1. **1<sup>st</sup> Expect Terrible Times!** (2-9)
  - 1.4.2. **2<sup>nd</sup> Follow the Right Examples!** (10-13)
  - 1.4.3. **3<sup>rd</sup> Stick with the Scriptures!** (**Now this week**, 14-17)
- 1.5. **Q:** What is our **only weapon** against the spiritual warfare of vs.13?
  - 1.5.1. The only answers to Satan's lies is **God's truth!**
- 1.6. **Q:** What is the longest ch. in the bible? (Ps.119)  
**Q:** What is its theme? (the Word) [every vs of the 176 vss speak of it, except 1-3]  
**Q:** What is unique about that Psalm? [it uses the 22 letters of the Heb alphabet; in effect saying, the Word of God is everything from A to Z]

## 2. **STICK WITH THE SCRIPTURES! (14-17)**

- 2.1. This section sums up the whole purpose of the bible!
- 2.1.1. **Salvation**(14,15) & **Christian Living**(16,17)
- 2.2. **Our sub-points will cover...** *What the bible will do for us! It will:*
- 2.2.1. **Assure us** of God's word; **Make Us** – wise for salvation;  
**Teach Us** – what's right; **Show Us** – what's wrong;  
**Correct Us** – How to be right; **Instruct Us** – How to stay right;  
**Complete Us** – for eternity; **Equip Us** – for every good work.
- 2.3. **[1] SALVATION!** (14,15)
- 2.4. "What the **brush** is to the artist in painting a picture, what the **hammer** is to the carpenter in driving a nail, what **water** is to the laundress in washing clothes, so **the Bible** is to God in saving souls." (Donald Grey Barnhouse)
- 2.5.
- 2.6. (14) **Assure Us** – of God's Word!
- 2.7. **Continue** – the "pres. imp." calls for a constant & continual habit of life.
- 2.8. **Learned & been Assured of** – They did not merely teach him the facts of the bible; they gave him **assurance & spiritual understanding**. (i.e. his mom, grandmother, & best friend Paul)
- 2.9. (15) **Make Us** – wise for salvation!
- 2.10. **Childhood** - the Jewish parents' duty was to teach their children the law when in their **fifth** year. (LKGNT)
- 2.10.1. **Start your children young...getting them into the Word.**
- 2.10.1.1. [Great children's devotions] bible stories.
- 2.10.2. You know your pastors, Sunday School teachers, fathers, mothers, grandparents. You know they have **taught** you, you know their **lives match** the teaching of their **lips**.<sup>1</sup> [lips & lives!]
- 2.11. **Holy Scriptures** – O.T.
- 2.12. **[2] CHRISTIAN LIVING!** (16,17)
- 2.12.1. Spurgeon said, "The scriptures were not given for our **information**, but for our **transformation!**"
- 2.13. **All** – not some!
- 2.13.1. **Not Concept, or Thought Inspiration, but Verbal Inspiration!**
- 2.13.2. **Concept, or Thought Inspiration** = only the concept, or thoughts, of men were given by inspiration. {**Trouble w/this? Pick & chose**}
- 2.13.3. **Verbal Inspiration** = the very words were given by the H.S.(the writers weren't left absolutely to themselves in the choice of words they should use)

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<sup>1</sup> Kent Hughes

- 2.13.4. **Not *Partial* Inspiration, but *Plenary/Full* Inspiration!**
- 2.13.5. **Partial Inspiration** = The bible only “contains” the word of God.  
 2.13.5.1. This implies the bible contains much that is **not** inspired.  
 2.13.5.2. **And then who decides which is, or isn’t?**
- 2.13.6. **Plenary/Full Inspiration** = It holds **All** Scripture to be inspired.  
 [Plenary = full and complete and not limited in any respect]
- 2.14. **Inspiration** – God-Breathed, filled with the breath of God. Out-breathed!
- 2.14.1. Just as we must expel breath from our mouths when we speak, so ultimately Scripture is God speaking.
- 2.14.2. Mt.4:4 “**Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God**”.
- 2.14.3. Yet, though the Bible is the **Vox Dei** (the voice of God) & the **Verbum Dei** (the Word of God) that doesn’t suggest it was written by God’s own hand nor fell from a parachute from heaven.<sup>2</sup>  
 2.14.3.1. **The Spirit of God, enabled the men of God, to write the Word of God!** (www)  
 2.14.3.2. **See - 2 Pet. 1:20,21.** [for the Spirit of God is the Breath of God!]  
 2.14.3.2.1. Though penned by man its ultimate source is God.
- 2.14.4. **Revelation** = means God’s presence in the events of history.
- 2.14.5. **Inspiration** = means His presence in the recording of those events.<sup>3</sup>
- 2.14.6. **Illumination** = spiritual Illumination refers to the influence of the H.S. common to all Christians.
- 2.14.7. **Revelation** = 2 ways.
- 2.14.8. [1] God revealed something to the mind of the author (like *creation account to Moses*)
- 2.14.9. [2] They recorded what they observed, or that fell upon their ears (like *Luke’s careful investigation*).
- 2.14.10. **Infallible & Inerrant** – It is incapable of making a mistake, it always tells the truth.
- 2.14.11. **Not Natural Inspiration** – They would say, “The bible is inspired the way Shakespeare was inspired!”  
 2.14.11.1. No, David said, “**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me**”.  
 2.14.11.2. **The Spirit’s operation was in & upon the writers.**
- 2.14.12. **Not Verbatim Inspiration** – God did not dictate his messages to the writers. They were not robbed of their individuality, personalities, or memories.
- 2.14.13. **Not Mechanical Inspiration** – The writers were not passive instruments or machines.
- 2.14.14. **Inspiration** then is the process whereby God breathed out His Word...in which He is its source & superintendent!

<sup>2</sup> R.C.Sproul; Essentials; pg.15.

<sup>3</sup> C.A. Trentham; Studies in Timothy; pg.128.

- 2.15. (16a) **Teach Us** – what’s right!
- 2.16. **Doctrine** – teaching.
- 2.16.1. **Q: Where do you find instruction for right living?**
- 2.16.1.1. {Dr. Phil, Dr. Laura, Oprah, Rush, Bill O’Reilly}
- 2.16.1.2. Oh, they have pretty good instruction at times.
- 2.16.2. **But, the only inspired source of instruction is the Word of God!**
- 2.17. (16b) **Show Us** – what’s wrong!
- 2.18. **Reproof** – proving, convicting, i.e. for refuting error & rebuking sin.
- 2.18.1. In Judaism **reproof** was especially important, where it had to be done **privately & gently** first.<sup>4</sup>
- 2.18.2. Scripture can **show** sinners their failures, **clarify** the point of doctrine, & **lead** them to a new sense of peace & wholeness.<sup>5</sup>
- 2.19. (16c) **Correct Us** – How to be right!
- 2.20. **Correction** – setting up straight (the setting upright on their feet).
- 2.20.1. Scripture can **help the misguided & disobedient of their errors & restoring them to the right paths.**<sup>6</sup>
- 2.20.2. If we accept Scriptures **reproofs** we will start **straightening out!**
- 2.21. (16d) **Instruct Us** – How to stay right!
- 2.22. **Instruction** – training in righteousness.
- 2.22.1. **Moral training that leads to righteous living!**
- 2.22.2. Same word as Eph.6:4 “bring them up in the **training** and instruction of the **Lord**” where a system of discipline is used by the parent to develop **Christian Character** in a child.
- 2.22.3. Here, it refers to a system of discipline that leads to a **holy lifestyle**.
- 2.23. Wiersbe observed an interesting comparison with the order of the epistles:
- 2.23.1. **Doctrine**/Romans; **Reproof**/1 & 2 Corinth;  
**Correction**/Gal.; **Instruction** in Rt/Eph & Col.
- 2.24. (17a) **Complete Us** – for eternity!
- 2.25. **Complete** – capable, sufficient, i.e. able to meet all demands.
- 2.25.1. It’s becoming **matured** in the things of God!
- 2.25.2. The bible transforms the “**child**” of vs.15 into the **mature person** in Christ in vs.17.
- 2.25.2.1. It equips the **saints** to become **servants!** (www)

<sup>4</sup> IVP Bible Background Commentary; pg.630

<sup>5</sup> Shepherd’s Notes; pg.58.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid; pg.58.

- 2.26. (17b) **Equip Us** – for every good work! [super-equipped!]
- 2.27. **Thoroughly/Adequately equipped** – completely outfitted, fully furnished, fully equipped, fully supplied.<sup>7</sup>
- 2.27.1. **Q:** Ever show up on a job sight & **forget some tools**?
- 2.27.2. **Q:** Ever put together a bicycle, swing set, or a BBQ & then were **lacking some parts**?
- 2.27.3. **Q:** Ever have to buy the **stripped down model** of automobile, when you really wanted the fully loaded model?
- 2.27.4. **Q:** Ever go to cook or bake something where half way through you realized you were **missing a couple ingredients**?
- 2.27.4.1. We don't like it – and God isn't any different?
- 2.27.4.2. It's the difference in an unfurnished vs. furnished apartment!
- 2.27.4.3. **God wants you Christian...** "*completely outfitted, fully furnished, fully equipped, fully supplied*" **so He can use you to your fullest potential!**
- 2.27.4.4. What a tragedy for any Christian to be labeled **spiritually unprepared for a task** when the means of preparation are readily at hand!
- 2.28. We must **study & practice** the Word of God!
- 2.28.1. **Study books** tell us **how**, but **the Bible** gives us the **motivation & power** to live what we learn.
- 2.29. **End: Ps.19:7-11.** [1 Sam.14:24-30 Jonathon, honey on a rod]
- 2.30. **If** you are **cold**, let it **WARM** you,  
**If** you are **asleep**, let it **WAKE** you,  
**If** you are a **backslider**, let it **WARN** you,  
**If** you are **defiled**, let it **WASH** you.  
**If** you are **disobedient**, let it **WHIP** you.  
**If** you are **uncertain**, let it **WITNESS** to you.  
**If** you are **unsaved**, let it **WIN** you!

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<sup>7</sup> LKGNT