

# SCRIPTURE

## Statement of Faith: Essential & Foundational Doctrines of Christianity

### I. What is the Word of God?

- A. The Word of God is the Discourse of God
- B. The Word of God Has Different Forms
  - 1. Verbal Communication (Speaking)
  - 2. Visions and Dreams
  - 3. Urim and Thummim
  - 4. Prophets
  - 5. Scripture: God's Word in Written Form

### II. What is Scripture?

- A. Scripture is the Inspired Word of God: 2Timothy 3.15-17
  - 1. Scripture is the verbally inspired Word of God because God inspired the words.
  - 2. Scripture is the plenary inspired Word of God because it is the complete collection of God's words.
- B. Scripture is the Preserved Word of God: Psalm 12.6-7
- C. Scripture is the God's Inspired Word Preserved in Copies and Translations
  - 1. Scripture is something a person can hold in his hand and read: Matthew 21.42; Acts 8.32-35.
  - 2. Scripture is something a person can ignore: Matthew 22.29; Mark 12.24.
  - 3. Scripture is something a person can hold in their hands and "search": John 5.39; Acts 17.11.
  - 4. Scripture is something a person can open, declare, and explain publicly (i.e., in public, to common, ordinary people) in order to demonstrate that Jesus is the Christ: Acts 17.3; 18.28.
  - 5. What translation is the Scripture in the English language?

### III. What is Scripture Like?

- A. Scripture (the Bible) is Inerrant
- B. Scripture (the Bible) is Clear
- C. Scripture (the Bible) is Necessary
  - 1. (Rom 10.13-17) Scripture is necessary for salvation.
  - 2. Scripture is necessary for a healthy spiritual life.
  - 3. Scripture is necessary to know the will of God.
- D. Scripture (the Bible) is Sufficient
  - 1. Scripture is sufficient for salvation.
  - 2. Scripture is sufficient for sanctification (growth and maturity in Christ and Christ-likeness).
- E. Scripture (the Bible) is the Final Authority

### Conclusion:

Scripture is the inspired words of God (contained in the 66 books of the Bible: 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament) preserved by God in copies and translations that people can hold in their hands, read for themselves, study, preach, teach, and even ignore if they so choose. The Scripture in the English language is the Bible commonly referred to as the King James Bible, or the Authorized Version (the KJV is the final authority for all matters of doctrine and practice for those who speak English).