

**Without the truths of God as described in Sola Scriptura, the Bible would be reduced to a collection of historical, moral, and literary texts without divine authority or ultimate spiritual significance. In other words, it would be seen as merely a human document—valuable for its cultural and ethical insights but lacking the divine inspiration and infallibility that Sola Scriptura attributes to it.**

**If the Bible were not considered the ultimate source of God’s truth, several implications arise:**

**1. Loss of Divine Authority:**

- The Bible would no longer serve as the final standard for faith and practice. Instead, individuals or institutions might rely on human reasoning, tradition, or experience as the primary sources of truth.**
- Moral and doctrinal guidance would become subjective and open to broad interpretation without a clear authoritative foundation.**

**2. Reliance on Other Sources:**

- Without accepting the Bible as God’s ultimate truth, believers might turn to church traditions, personal revelations, or cultural philosophies to shape their understanding of faith and morality.**
- This could lead to fragmentation within Christianity, with no agreed-upon foundation for core beliefs and practices.**

**3. Questioning of Salvation and Doctrine:**

- Essential Christian doctrines, such as salvation through Jesus Christ, the nature of God, and the promise of eternal life, would become uncertain or potentially dismissed as human constructs.**
- The teachings of Christ and the apostles would be viewed as wise sayings rather than divine commands.**

**4. Historical and Literary Value Only:**

- The Bible might still be appreciated for its historical accounts, poetry, and moral lessons, similar to other ancient texts like the writings of philosophers or cultural epics.**

- It would be studied academically rather than spiritually, focusing on its influence on civilization rather than its divine message.

## **5. Spiritual Uncertainty:**

- Without the assurance that the Bible contains God's truths, individuals might struggle to discern God's will and purpose, leading to confusion and spiritual uncertainty.
- Faith might become more based on emotions or societal trends rather than a steadfast belief in God's revealed Word.

In contrast, proponents of Sola Scriptura argue that the Bible is God's inspired, inerrant, and sufficient revelation, ensuring that believers have a reliable guide for knowing God and living according to His will. They maintain that without this foundation, Christianity would lose its unity, consistency, and ability to proclaim absolute truth.

If the Bible were not considered the inspired and authoritative revelation of God's truth, the implications would ripple through Christian faith and practice, leading to significant shifts in understanding God, salvation, and morality.

### **1. The Nature of Truth and Authority**

- **Subjectivity Over Objectivity:** Without the belief that the Bible contains God's absolute truths, truth itself becomes subjective and relative, varying by personal interpretation, cultural context, or institutional decree.
- **Shifting Foundations:** Without a fixed, divinely inspired guide, people might seek truth through reason, experience, or tradition, leading to fluid and conflicting moral and theological positions.
- **Philosophical Skepticism:** The absence of divine authority in Scripture could lead to existential doubt—how can one be certain of God's will or character if no authoritative source exists?

### **2. Understanding of God**

- If the Bible is not seen as containing God's original truths, then our understanding of God would be fragmented and uncertain. Key theological concepts—God's nature, His attributes (justice, love, mercy, omniscience)—would become

**speculative rather than revealed.**

- **God's Revelation Questioned:** The Bible serves as the primary means by which Christians believe God has revealed Himself. Without it, the nature of divine revelation itself would be in question—does God reveal Himself at all, and if so, how?
- **Mysticism and Speculation:** People might rely more on personal spiritual experiences or philosophical speculation to understand God, which could lead to divergent and contradictory ideas about His character and intentions.

### **3. The Question of Salvation**

- **Christianity is built on the premise that salvation comes through Christ, as revealed in Scripture. If the Bible lacks divine truth, then doctrines of sin, grace, and redemption become debatable.**
- **No Clear Path to Salvation:** Without God's revealed truths, the concepts of sin, atonement, and salvation could be seen as cultural constructs rather than divine realities.
- **Alternative Views:** Humanity might resort to moralism (believing salvation is earned through good works), pluralism (all paths lead to God), or nihilism (no salvation exists at all).

### **4. The Role of the Church and Tradition**

- **Without the Bible as the ultimate source of truth, Christian authority might shift entirely to the Church or human tradition. This could result in:**
- **The elevation of human leadership to divine status, leading to potential abuses of power.**
- **The introduction of teachings not rooted in divine revelation but shaped by political, cultural, or ideological influences.**
- **Tradition Over Scripture:** Church councils, leaders, or popular opinion could become the dominant source of authority, rather than a consistent divine standard.

### **5. Morality and Ethics**

- **If the Bible lacks God's truths, moral and ethical teachings within it would be treated as subjective guidelines rather than universal commands.**

- **Moral Relativism:** Societal norms would dictate right and wrong, potentially leading to ethical inconsistency across cultures and generations.
- **Loss of Absolute Standards:** Teachings such as loving one's neighbor, justice for the oppressed, and the sanctity of life could be dismissed as outdated or irrelevant.
- **Cultural Influence:** Without divine authority, moral stances on key issues such as sexuality, justice, and social responsibility might fluctuate according to prevailing cultural trends rather than eternal principles.

## **6. Faith as an Experience Rather Than a Relationship**

- **The Bible presents faith as a relationship with God, grounded in His revealed Word.** Without it, faith might be reduced to emotional experiences, traditions, or philosophical musings.
- **Spiritual Instability:** Believers might lack confidence in their faith, seeking spiritual fulfillment in transient experiences rather than the steady assurance of God's promises.

## **7. The Bible as Merely a Historical Document**

- **Without divine truth, the Bible would be viewed primarily as:**
- **A cultural artifact with historical insights into ancient Jewish and early Christian communities.**
- **A literary masterpiece with wisdom and moral instruction, similar to works of other ancient religions or philosophies (e.g., Confucianism, Stoicism).**
- **A mythological text containing symbolic rather than literal truths.**

## **8. The Purpose of Life Becomes Uncertain**

- **The Bible provides believers with a purpose: to know and glorify God.** Without the truths of God revealed in Scripture, questions of purpose, destiny, and meaning become ambiguous.
- **Existential Confusion:** If the Bible is stripped of divine truth, life's purpose might be seen through a secular lens—focused on personal fulfillment, societal contributions, or evolutionary survival rather than divine calling.

## **9. The Challenge of Human Sinfulness**

- **Scripture teaches that humanity is fallen and in need of redemption. If the Bible does not contain divine truths, the concept of sin itself could be dismissed as a social construct rather than a spiritual reality.**
- **Self-Justification: People might redefine sin in ways that align with their desires, leading to self-justification rather than repentance and transformation.**

## **10. The Absence of Hope and Assurance**

- **One of the greatest gifts the Bible offers is the hope of eternal life and God's unwavering presence. Without the certainty that it conveys divine truths, such hope becomes speculative and uncertain.**
- **Fear of the Unknown: The fear of death and the unknown might become more pronounced, as the promises of eternal life and resurrection would lose their authoritative foundation.**

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**Without the truths of God as described in Sola Scriptura, Christianity would face profound challenges in defining doctrine, ethics, and the very purpose of faith. The Bible would lose its role as the infallible guide for living in accordance with God's will, and believers might struggle with uncertainty, moral relativism, and a diminished understanding of God's character.**

**Ultimately, Sola Scriptura upholds that the Bible is not just an ordinary book, but the inspired, sufficient, and authoritative Word of God. Without it, the core tenets of Christian faith—who God is, how salvation works, and what it means to live a righteous life—become ambiguous and open to human manipulation rather than divine direction.**

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