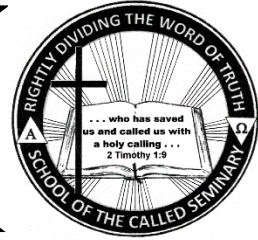


Course DC103: The Infallible Word of God

¹⁶ All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Tim. 3:16-17



Intro: Sir Isaac Newton is accredited with saying: "If all the great books of the world were given life and were brought together in convention, the moment the Bible entered, the other books would fall on their faces as the gods of Philistia fell when the ark of God was brought into their presence in the temple of Dagon." There is no book like the Bible, a collection of 66 books – 39 Old Testament books and 27 New Testament. The Bible is both historically and prophetically perfect (testified to by archaeological finds), but it is also *Living and Immutable* – it shall never pass away. The great theme of the Bible is Jesus Christ, revealing how the sinful and fallen race of Adam may be brought back into a right relationship with God through Him.

I.) The Word of God

Divine Authorship:

- ¹⁶ All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Tim. 3:16-17
- ²⁰ knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹ for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. 2 Pet. 1:20-21
- ⁷ The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; ⁸ the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; ⁹ the fear of the Lord *is* clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. Ps. 19:7-9
- Every word of God is pure; He *is* a shield to those who put their trust in Him. Prov. 30:5
- Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven. Ps. 119:89
- For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. 1 Thess. 2:13
- For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Heb. 4:12
- Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away. Matt. 24:35
- . . . and the Scripture cannot be broken. . . John 10:35
- . . . the word of God which lives and abides forever . . . the word of the Lord endures forever. 1 Pet. 1:23,25

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II.) The Old and New Testaments Relationship

¹⁶ So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, ¹⁷ which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. Colossians 2:16-17

There is great insight in the saying that, “*The Old Testament is the New Testament concealed, and the New Testament is the Old Testament revealed.*” In preparing the world for “the fullness of time” (Gal. 4:4) when Jesus would come, God delivered/revealed the gospel in the Old Testament through the means of shadows and types (somewhat in the manner of living parables). However, the New Testament deals with *the reality* of the Old Testament shadows and types *which are found in Jesus Christ*. For example, clearly the institution of the Passover Lamb in the Old Testament pointed to the reality of Jesus Christ’s work on the cross, “The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29). R. R. Byrum said, “We often speak of the gospel according to Matthew, Mark, Luke or John . . . but too often we pass by the ‘gospel according to Moses.’”¹ Not only does the New Testament testify that Jesus is the Savior of the world, but the Old Testament does as well – as Jesus Himself pointed out: “. . . *these are they which testify of Me*” (John 5:39).

O. T. Shadows and Types (left) and their N. T. Realities (right):

(The Bible contains multitudes more.)

Blood of the Passover Lamb, Free from Egypt:

- (Blood of the Passover Lamb applied on the doorpost of the houses of those saved and brought out of Egypt) Exod. 12:21-23, 27

Old Testament Covenant, By Animal Blood:

- (First Covenant dedicated by animal blood) Exod. 24:5-8, Heb. 9:18-22

The Levitical Priesthood and Day of Atonement:

- (The High Priest entering in once a year into the presence of God behind the veil with animal blood which could not take away sin) Lev. 16:2, 13-14, Heb. 9:7-8

The O.T. Temple, the House of God:

- (The building where God’s presence dwelt/met with them) 1 Kings 6:1-2, 8:10-11, Isa. 66:1-2

Bread from Heaven (Manna):

- (Bread from heaven that they may live according to the flesh) Deut. 8:3

The Red Sea Crossing, Deliverance, Sustaining:

- (God delivering and sustaining the people with Moses) Exod. 14:19-29, 17:6

Blood of Christ, Free from Sin:

- (Jesus, the Lamb of God who takes away sin, gloriously triumphing over all that opposed our salvation) John 1:29, Col. 1:13-14, Luke 1:72

New Testament Covenant, By Jesus’ Blood:

- (New Covenant in His Blood) Matt. 26:28, Heb. 8:6, 10:29, 13:20

Jesus, Our High Priest, Atonement Made:

- (Jesus offering His own Blood which takes away sin, once for all time before the presence of God) Heb. 8:1-2, 9:11-15, 10:23-24

The N.T. Temple, the House of God:

- (The Church [the saved], the Holy Spirit in us) 1 Cor. 3:16, Heb. 3:5-6, 1 Pet. 2:4-5, Eph. 2:19-22

Jesus, the True Bread from Heaven:

- (Feeding on Him we have eternal life) John 6:58

Delivered and Sustained in Christ:

- (God delivering and sustaining His people in Christ) 1 Cor. 10:1-4

¹ Russell R. Byrum, *Shadows of Good Things* (Anderson, IN: Gospel Trumpet, 1923 [reprint Faith Pub. House]), 7.

Moses Lifting Up the Bronze Serpent for Healing:

- (A serpent in the likeness of the poisonous serpents, but without venom; all who looked to it were healed) Num. 21:9

The Nation of Israel (God’s Special People):

- (Declared to Israel at Sinai through the mediator Moses to be God’s own special people, a kingdom of priests, a holy nation) Exod. 19:5-6

Abraham Offering Isaac, the Son of Promise:

- (Abraham offering his only begotten son of promise as a sacrifice) Gen. 22:2

Jesus Lifted Up on the Cross for Our Salvation:

- (Jesus made in the likeness of sinful men, but without sin, those who look to Him in faith are saved) John 3:14, Acts 16:31

The Church (God’s Special People):

- (Declared in Christ, our Mediator, to be God’s own special people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation) 1 Pet. 2:9, Gal. 3:7, 16,26-29, 4:21-31, Heb. 12:18-24

God Offering Jesus, the Son of Promise:

- (God delivering up His only Begotten Son for mankind at the cross) John 3:16

¹ For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. ² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. ³ But in those *sacrifices there is* a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For *it is* not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins. ⁵ Therefore, when He came into the world, He said:

*"Sacrifice and offering You did not desire,
But a body You have prepared for Me.*

⁶ *In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure.*

⁷ *Then I said, 'Behold, I have come—*

*In the volume of the book it is written of Me—
To do Your will, O God.' "*

⁸ Previously saying, *"Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them"* (which are offered according to the law), ⁹ then He said, *"Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God."* He takes away the first that He may establish the second. ¹⁰ By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*.

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The Old Testament is Relevant and Profitable, For Our Hope, For Our Warning:

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Rom. 15:4

Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. 1 Cor. 10:11

¹⁶ All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Tim 3:16-17

III.) The Bible, a Book of Prophecies

In innumerable ways, there is no book like the Bible! One such way is seen in the perfect fulfillment of multitudes of prophecies. Although there are many different types of Bible prophecies, this section will only look at *some* of the prophecies which concerned Christ's first coming, and how they were, without exception, perfectly fulfilled. Certainly, God has well demonstrated that those prophecies which still remain (*such as His second coming, resurrection of all the dead, Judgment Day, etc.*) will assuredly be fulfilled *just as He has promised*. For as Michael Omartian has said, "No one is better at keeping a promise."²

Prophecies Fulfilled in Christ: (*The Bible contains multitudes more.*)

Prophesied of the Messiah:

Fulfilled:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| • The Seed of Woman, Gen. 3:15 | Gal. 4:4 |
| • Descendent of Abraham, Gen. 12:3 | Matt. 1:1 |
| • Descendent of Isaac, Gen. 17:19 | Luke 3:34 |
| • Descendent of Jacob, Num. 24:17..... | Matt. 1:2 |
| • From Judah, the Ruler, Gen. 49:10 | Luke 3:33 |
| • Descendent of David, 2 Sam. 7:12-13 | Luke 1:32-33, Rom. 1:3 |
| • Heir to David's Throne, Isa. 9:7..... | Acts 2:30 |
| • Born in Bethlehem, Mic. 5:2 | Luke 2:4, 5, 7, Matt. 2:8-9 |
| • Born of a Virgin, Isa. 7:14 | Luke 1:26-31, Matt. 1:18-23 |
| • Priest, Order of Melchizedek, Ps. 110:4..... | Heb. 5:5-6 |
| • Triumphal Entry, Zech. 9:9 | Mark 11:7-10 |
| • Betrayed by a Friend, Ps. 8:2 | Luke 22:47-48 |
| • Crucified, the Soldiers Gamble
for His Clothes, Ps. 22:16-18 | Matt. 27:35-36 |
| • Bones Not Broken, Ps. 34:20 | John 19:32-36 |
| • His Side Pierced, Zech. 12:10 | John 19:34, 20:27 |
| • Substitutionary Sacrifice, Isa. 53:5 | Rom. 5:6-8, 1 Pet. 2:24 |
| • Buried with the Rich, Isa. 53:9 | Matt. 27: 57-60 |
| • Would Be Resurrected, Ps. 16:10 | Matt. 28:5-10, Luke 24:5-8 |
| • His Ascension, Ps. 68:18 | Acts 1:9, Eph. 4:8 |

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Concerning the life of Jesus, there are more than 300 prophecies (i.e., detailed information relating to His life, circumstances and coming) given in Scripture. Peter Stoner led a mathematical project which took 8 prophecies* in order to *conservatively* determine the probability that one man could fulfill these. To read chapter 3 of Stoner's book, "Science Speaks" concerning the conservative approach regarding each phase of their calculations, is to know that the astronomically huge number of 1 out of 10¹⁷ (or, 1 out of 100,000,000,000,000,000) given at the conclusion of their project for the 8 prophecies to be fulfilled by one man, is truly only a conservative estimate. In order to help grasp the astronomical number that 10¹⁷ is, consider that the earth's present population is estimated to be less than 8 billion people (or, 8,000,000,000). Remembering that this was from only 8 prophecies. Yet, if one were to try and extrapolate the odds for the more than **300 prophecies** that Jesus fulfilled, even taking the most conservative approach, it quickly becomes evident that the Bible is a book of infallible prophecies, and that Jesus is the Son of God, the promised Savior.³

² Michael Omartian, *Here He Comes* (song from album, *Adam Again*, Myrrh Records, 1976).
³ Peter Stoner, June 16, 1888 - March 21, 1980. Served as Chairman of the Departments of Mathematics and Astronomy at Pasadena City College until 1953; Chairman of the science division, Westmont College, 1953-57; Professor Emeritus of Science, Westmont College; Professor Emeritus of Mathematics and Astronomy, Pasadena City College. The 8 prophecies (and the relationship these prophecies must have to each other) considered: Mic. 5:2; Mal. 3:1; Zech. 9:9; Zech. 13:6; Zech. 11:12; Zech. 11:13; Isa. 53:7; Ps. 22:16. Stoner's *Science Speaks*, found at: <http://sciencespeaks.dstoner.net/Christ of Prophecy.html#c9>, Sept. 15, 2015.

Appendix

God's Word, The Believer's Infallible Rule of Faith:

- **Unerring guide:** “Your word *is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*” Ps. 119:105
- **To create faith:** “So then *faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*” Rom. 10:17
- **Able to make one wise for salvation:** “. . . and that from childhood you have known *the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith* which is in Christ Jesus.” 2 Tim. 3:15; “How can a young man cleanse his way? *By taking heed according to Your word.* . . . Your word I have hidden in my heart, *that I might not sin against You!*” Ps. 119:9, 11; “Through Your precepts *I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way.*” Ps. 119:104; “⁹⁷ Oh, how I love Your law! *It is my meditation all the day.* ⁹⁸ You, through *Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; For they are ever with me.* ⁹⁹ I have *more understanding than all my teachers,* For Your testimonies *are my meditation.* ¹⁰⁰ I understand *more than the ancients, Because I keep Your precepts.* ¹⁰¹ I have restrained my feet from every evil way, that I may keep Your word.” Ps. 119:97-101; “The law of the Lord *is perfect, converting the soul;* the testimony of the Lord *is sure, making wise the simple.*” Ps. 19:7; “Of His own will He brought us forth *by the word of truth,* that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.” James 1:18; “. . . *having been born again,* not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, *through the word of God* which lives and abides forever . . .” 1 Pet. 1:23
- **Needed for spiritual growth:** “. . . *as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word,* that you may grow thereby, ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord *is gracious.*” 1 Pet. 2:2-3
- **Maturity through the Word:** “I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able *to receive it,* and even now you are still not able; ³ for you are still carnal.” 1 Cor. 3:2-3; “¹² For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need *someone* to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. ¹³ For everyone who partakes *only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness,* for he is a babe. ¹⁴ But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, *that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.*” Heb. 5:12-14; “*So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace,* which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.” Acts 20:32
- **Use the Word:** “*It is written . . . It is written . . . For it is written . . .*” Matt. 4:4, 7, 10; “And take the helmet of salvation, and *the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God . . .*” Eph. 6:17; “But he *who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it,* and is not a forgetful hearer but *a doer of the work,* this one will be blessed in what he does.” James 1:25; “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: *Fear God and keep His commandments,* For this is man's all.” Eccl. 12:13
- **More powerful than our enemies:** “For *the word of God is living and powerful,* and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” Heb. 4:12; ²⁸ “The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream; and he who has My word, let him speak My word faithfully. What *is the chaff to the wheat?*’ says the Lord. ²⁹ *‘Is not My word like a fire?’* says the Lord, *‘And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?’*” Jer. 23:28-29; ⁴ “For the weapons of our warfare *are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,* ⁵ *casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God,* bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, ⁶ and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled. 2 Cor. 10:4-6