

Luke 24:25-27 Inerrancy of Scripture

Jesus teaches us that because the Bible is the Word of God it is truth without any mixture of error, therefore it is folly not to believe all that the Scriptures teach.

1) The Bible is the Word of God.

- a) Luke 24:25 “Prophets” were God’s mouthpieces and amanuenses (Exod. 4:14-16)
- b) Jesus’ Bible—Luke 24:27, 44 TaNaK=Torah (Law), Nebi’im (Prophets), Ketubim (Writings/Psalms)
- c) Inspiration of Scripture the background for inerrancy (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Pet. 1:20-21; Matt. 5:17-18) – Verbal Plenary Inspiration
 - i) **Verbal**—The very words of the Bible, not just the general thrust or broad thoughts contained in the words: 1) Vocabulary; 2) Grammar; 3) Syntax
 - ii) **Plenary**—Every Word of every book of the Bible; all its parts; Luke 24:25 “all that the prophets have spoken”; “spoken” is understood as both oral and written speech as is clear from the following verse—“in all the Scriptures”
- d) Divine Origin/Human Agency
- e) **Application:** When you read/hear the Scriptures you are being addressed by God.

2) The Bible is truth without any mixture of error.

- a) Luke 24:26 (cf. vv. 44, 46) “was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer . . .”; “everything written about Me . . . must be fulfilled”; “Thus it is written that the Christ should suffer . . .”—necessary because willed by God and thus spoken/written by God, whose word is Truth (John 17:17)
- b) The logic of inerrancy: God cannot err. The Bible is God’s Word. Therefore, the Bible cannot err.
- c) The evidence of inerrancy/Divine Inspiration: “The Scriptures manifest themselves to be the Word of God by their majesty and purity; by the consent of all the parts, and the scope of the whole, which is to give all glory to God; by their light and power to convince and convert sinners, to comfort and build up believers unto salvation . . .” (LC Q. 4)
- d) The autographs—original writings
- e) God’s providence in faithfully preserving His Word
 - i) The plethora of copies that we have of the Scripture allow us to rule out the errors in copies so that we can have confidence that we have the original words, even though we don’t have the original manuscripts.
 - ii) A translation is the Word of God inasmuch as it accurately adheres to the meaning of the original text.
- f) **Application:** You can be confident in good English translations. Beware of recent NIV.

3) Jesus fully trusted the truthfulness of Scripture (John 10:35b).

- a) **Jesus based His arguments upon its grammatical and historical accuracy (Mark 12:26-27; Luke 20:37-38; Luke 20:41-44).**
 - i) **The Bible is historical**, being written in particular historical contexts and recording historical events. The Bible is about 2/3 narrative. When the Bible speaks of the truthfulness of God’s Word, it does not exclude this genre from God’s truth. Therefore, the historical record of the Bible is true.
 - ii) Normal conventions of historiography (approximations, rounding off, summaries, etc.)
 - iii) Ancient chronicles and archaeological discoveries can aid in understanding the world of the Bible, but should not be used to verify or correct the Bible.
- b) **Jesus based His ethical teaching upon its moral precepts (Matthew 5:17-19; 19:1-9; 22:34-40).**

- i) **The Bible is religious**, revealing God's instructions on living life before His face.
- ii) God's moral precepts are perfect (Psalm 19:7-9; 119:43).
- c) **Jesus based His own obedience upon its precepts and prophecies of the Messiah (Luke 4:1-13; 18:31-33).**
 - i) **The Bible is prophetic**, both interpreting historical events past and present and predicting future historical events.
 - ii) Jesus, in His humanity, did not orchestrate His own crucifixion, but submitted to it because He knew it was God's design from OT prophecy.
- d) **Jesus based His teaching about His own person and work on every part of the Old Testament (Luke 20:41-44; 24:25-27; 44-47).**
 - i) **The Bible is Christological**, revealing in rich variety the glory of Christ.
 - ii) Jesus pointed the Apostles to the OT Scriptures to open their understanding to His person and work.
- e) **Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to lead the Apostles into all truth for the completion of the inspired record of redemptive history (John 16:12-15).**
 - i) **The Bible is Apostolic**, bearing the authority of official ambassadors of Christ.
 - ii) 1 Thessalonians 2:13 Paul refers to the Apostolic Preaching as not the word of men, but the word of God
 - iii) 2 Peter 3:15-16 Peter includes Paul's writings among the other Scriptures
 - iv) 1 Corinthians 14:37-38 "If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or Spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord. If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized."
- f) **Application:**
 - i) If you have received Jesus as Savior and Lord, then His view of Scripture should be yours. In fact, you should see the Scriptures as the written Word of God that is perfectly embodied in Jesus as the incarnate WORD of God.
 - ii) Christian living made more simple: "The whole counsel of God concerning all things necessary for His own glory, man's salvation, faith and life, is either expressly set down in Scripture, or by good and necessary consequence may be deduced from Scripture . . ." (WCF I.6)
 - iii) Controversies settled here: "The supreme judge by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and all decrees of councils, opinions of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and private spirits, are to be examined and in whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the Scripture." (WCF I.10)
 - iv) Chief end of man: "The scope of the whole" is "to give all glory to God."