

Belgic Confession of Faith (1561)

Leader: Article V - Whence the Holy Scriptures Derive Their Dignity and Authority

People: **We receive all these books, and these only, as holy and canonical, for the regulation, foundation, and confirmation of our faith;**¹ **believing without any doubt all things contained in them, not so much because the Church receives and approves them as such, but more especially because the Holy Spirit witnesses in our hearts that they are from God, and also because they carry the evidence thereof in themselves.**² **For the very blind are able to perceive that the things foretold in them are being fulfilled.**

Scriptural texts that apply:

¹*“But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”*

(2 Tim. 3:14-17)

²*“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”* (2 Pet. 1:19-21)