

OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES
1689 LONDON BAPTIST CONFESSION OF FAITH

CHAPTER 1

1A THE NECESSITY OF SCRIPTURE, (*paragraph*) pgf 1

- 1B They are necessary because of the need for a perfect revelation
- 2B They are necessary because of the inadequacy of general revelation
 - 1C General revelation makes us inexcusable
 - 2C General revelation cannot tell us the way of salvation
 - 1D Therefore God gave special revelation
 - 2D He caused that special revelation to be written down
 - 1E For the sake of preserving and propagating the truth
 - 2E For the sake of establishing and comforting the church
 - 1F Against the flesh
 - 2F Against Satan
 - 3F Against the world
 - 3B They are necessary because of the cessation of special revelation

2A THE IDENTITY OF SCRIPTURE – 66 books, pgf 2

- 1B All are equally inspired
- 2B All are equally authoritative

3A THE EXCLUSION OF THE APOCRYPHA, pgf 3

- 1B No inspiration
- 2B No authority

4A THE BASIS OF THE AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE, pgf 4

- 1B Not by virtue of human declaration
- 2B But by virtue of divine origin

5A THE AUTHENTICITY OF SCRIPTURE, pgf 5

How do we know the Scriptures are the word of God?

1B By the testimony of the church

2B By the testimony of the Bible

3B By the testimony of the Holy Spirit

6A THE COMPLETENESS OF SCRIPTURE, pgf 6

1B General statement

1C They are a sufficient guide

They contain everything necessary for:

1D God's glory

2D Man's salvation

3D Faith

4D Life

1E By direct statement

2E By clear inference

2C They are a finished guide

1D Nothing is to be added

1E No new revelations from God

2E No old traditions from men

2D Nothing else is needed

2B Qualifying statement

1C The necessity of divine illumination

2C The necessity of human application

7A THE CLARITY OF SCRIPTURE, pgf 7

1B Difficulty is admitted

2B Clarity is asserted

8A THE AVAILABILITY OF SCRIPTURE, pgf 8

1B The languages of inspiration

1C OT – Hebrew

2C NT – Greek

1D These were the common languages of the people

2D The manuscripts have been preserved by God

3D Controversy is to be settled by appeal to the original languages

2B The necessity of translation

1C We have a right to read the Scriptures

2C We have an interest in reading the Scriptures

3C We are commanded to read and search the Scriptures

3B The results of translation

1C The Scriptures are to dwell plentifully in all

2C Acceptable worship is to be carried out by all

3C Hope and comfort is given to all

9A THE INTERPRETATION OF SCRIPTURE, pgf 9

1B There is only one meaning to any passage

2B Parallel passages explain obscure passages

10A THE FINAL AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE, pgf 10

1B It has superior authority

2B It has exclusive authority