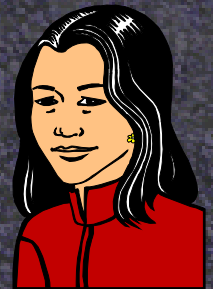


God Producing the Bible



How does the Bible fit in?

For Lansdale Presbyterian Church
Vern Sheridan Poythress, Ph.D., Th.D.
Westminster Theological Seminary



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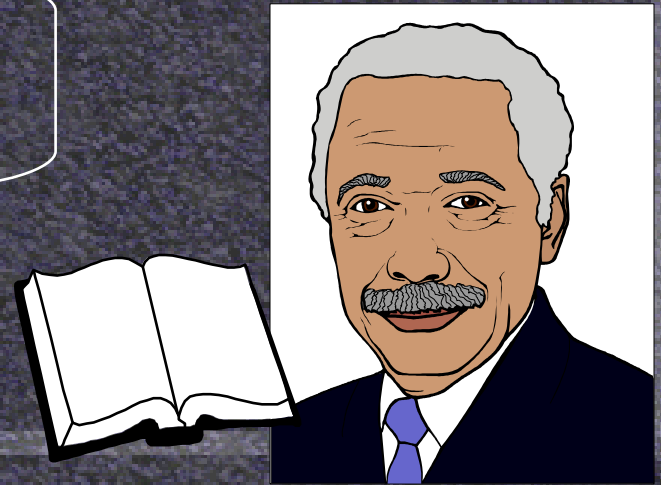
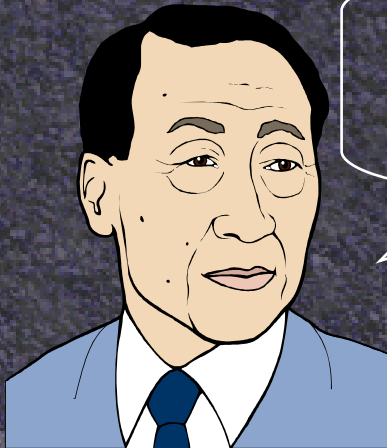
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The Challenge

What is the Bible?

The Word of God.

What are the implications?



A. Origin of the Bible

The Bible Is God's Word

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ...
--2 Tim. 3:16

The Bible Is God's Word (2)

For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. --2 Peter 1:21

The Bible Is God's Word (3)

Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, --
Acts 1:16

The Bible Is God's Word (4)

Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, "Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh"? --Matt. 19:5

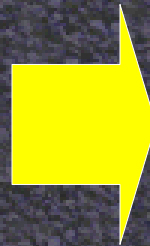
B. Authority

The Bible Has God's Authority

God speaks



God's authority



we listen

perfect knowledge

wisdom

truth

guidance

power

truthworthiness

The Bible Is Trustworthy

Scripture cannot be broken. --
John 11:35

Do not think that I have come to
abolish the Law or the Prophets; I
have not come to abolish them
but to fulfill them. --Matthew 5:17

The Bible Is Trustworthy (2)

For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

--Matthew 5:18

The Bible Is Trustworthy (3)

Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so? --Matthew 26:53-54

C. Why Do We Believe?

Evidence for the Bible

- The Bible's own claims for itself
- Jesus' testimony
- Fulfilled prophecy
- Remarkable contents
- Persuasion from the Holy Spirit

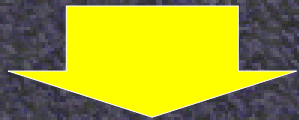
Jesus' Testimony

Scripture cannot be broken. --
John 10:35

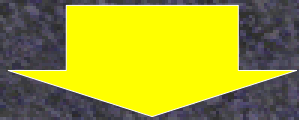
Do not think that I have come to
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but to fulfill them. --Matthew 5:17

Implication of Jesus' Testimony

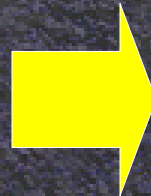
seeing Jesus' life



the resurrection



trusting in Jesus



trusting the Bible

Prophecy

He was despised and rejected by men;
a man of sorrows, and acquainted
with grief; and as one from whom
men hide their faces he was despised,
and we esteemed him not.

Surely he has borne our griefs and
carried our sorrows; --Isaiah 53:3-4

Remarkable Contents

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. --Eph. 2:8

Remarkable Contents (2)

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. -- 1 Cor. 1:18

Persuasion from the Holy Spirit

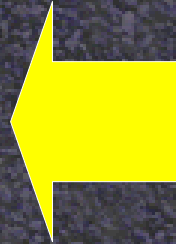
My speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. -- 1 Cor. 2:4-5

From the Holy Spirit (2)

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. -- 1 Cor. 2:14

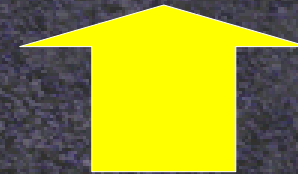
Conviction of Truth

Bible is
the Word of God



you see

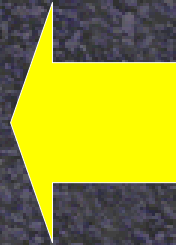
whether you
know it or not.



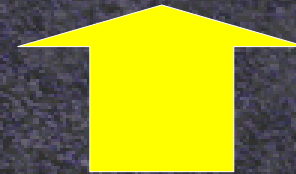
Spirit opens
your eyes

Conviction of Truth

Bible says it is
the Word of God



you see



Spirit opens
your eyes

Implications for God Speaking

- God is present in his speech.
- God is present when you read the Bible.
- God is committed to his truthfulness in his Word.
- God's Word has divine eternality and righteousness
- The Spirit empowers the Word.
- The Spirit is in harmony with the Word.

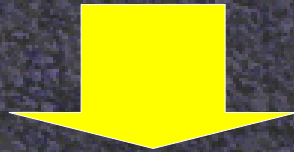
D. Applications

God's Presence in the Bible

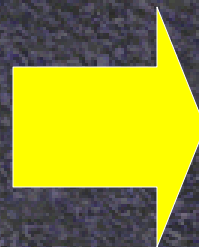
- God is present in his speech.
- The Bible is God speaking
- God is present when you read the Bible
- Reverence, fear, thankfulness, willingness to obey

God's Power in the Bible

God is
omnipotent



God's speech is
omnipotent



God speaks
with omnipotence
in the Bible

The Word of God gives Life

... since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God.

-- 1 Pet. 1:23

The Word of God Sanctifies

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. -- John 17:17

The Word of God Transforms

But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ... And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. -- 2 Cor. 3:16-18

E. God's Wisdom

God Guides

Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path. -- Ps.
119:105

God Gives Meaning

The testimony of the LORD is
sure, making wise the simple.
-- Ps. 19:7

God Gives His Mind

But we have the mind of
Christ. -- 1 Cor. 2:16

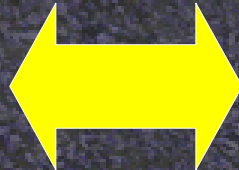
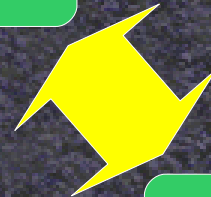
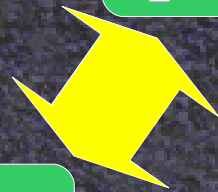
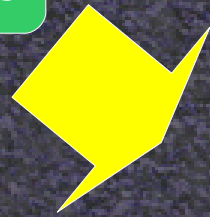
Presence, Power, Meaning

God gives

presence

power

meaning



The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandments of the LORD is pure, enlight'ning the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever; The judgments of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.