

## The Scriptures are Profitable

### Int.

1. Aim: To show that the Bible is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness which will make us perfect.
2. 2 Tim. 3:16-17 "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 perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." Completely - asv
3. All scripture is inspired
  - a. God breathed - revealed by God to the writers - no errors or mistakes
  - b. All scripture is inspired or else it is not scripture
  - c. The O.T. and the N.T. are inspired of God.
4. Scriptures can make us perfect
  - a. Complete - whole - mature - competent = esv
  - b. Be as God wants us to be
5. Profitable = helpful or serviceable, i.e. advantageous - useful
6. The Scriptures are profitable for:
  - a. Doctrine
  - b. Reproof
  - c. Correction
  - d. Instruction in righteousness
7. So we can be complete or perfect !

## Discussion

### I. PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE

- A. Doctrine - teaching, instruction, - that we might be taught (Thayer p. 144)
- B. Doctrine of Christ
  - 1. Gospel - Rom. 1:16 - to save "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."
  - 2. The doctrine or teachings of Christ are simple and easy to be understood
  - 3. Mark 12:17 "and the common people heard him gladly"
- C. The doctrine of Christ is sound - Tit. 1:9 "Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers."
  - 1. Sound doctrine = healthy, wholesome, be safe - 2 Tim. 4:3
  - 2. Sound instruction about
    - a. The Godhead - God, Christ, Holy Spirit - Matt. 3:16-17
    - b. Church membership - Jas. 2:24
    - c. The church - name, organization, work - Phil. 1:1 Rom. 16:16
    - d. Christian living Gal. 5:22-23
    - e. Morality - right and wrong - ethics
  - 3. We must not change the doctrine of Christ
    - a. II John 9a NKJV "Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God."
    - b. Must stay with the Doctrine of Christ found in the Scriptures
- D. The Scriptures are profitable for doctrine and we must use them for doctrine not something else!

## **II. PROFITABLE FOR REPROOF**

- A. Reproof = conviction, for convicting one of his sinfulness (Thayer p. 202)
  
- B. II Tim. 4:2 - reprove, rebuke, exhort
  
- C. The Scriptures can reprove
  - 1. It can show our sinfulness
    - a. Acts 2 - Peter preached and they were convicted by the scriptures
    - b. Acts 24 - Felix was touched by the message of God - v. 25
    - c. Eph. 6:17 - sword of the Spirit which is the word of God
    - d. Heb. 4:12, 13 - Bible is sharp
  - 2. The Bible warns Christians of being in sin
    - a. Rom. 6:23 - wages of sin is death
    - b. Epistles written to Christians
  
- D. The scriptures are profitable for reproof to convict one of his sinfulness
  - 1. God's word does not ignore or excuse or cover up sin
  - 2. Men of God will profit from the reproof of the scriptures but a man of the world will not !
  - 3. Prov. 9:8 "Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love you."

### **III. PROFITABLE FOR CORRECTION**

- A. Correction = restoration to an upright or a right state, correction, improvement of life and character (Thayer p. 228)
- B. To Correct Church problems
  1. Corinth - son living with his father's wife
    - a. Church was ignoring this sin
    - b. Paul wrote - 1 Cor. 5:5 "To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus."
    - c. They withdrew and he repented
    - d. They were to forgive, comfort and receive him - II Cor. 2:7-8 "So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive him, and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow. 8 Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm your love toward him."
  2. Every church problem today must be corrected by the word of God
- C. To correct Doctrinal errors
  1. The world says many baptisms
    - a. Water - Holy spirit
    - b. Bible says there is one baptism - Eph. 4:5 (water)
  2. The world says infants need baptism, but the Bible says only believers - Mk.16:16
  3. The world says creeds are needed in addition to the Bible. God's word says not to add nor take away from it - Rev. 22:18-19 And 2 Tim. 3:16-17

## D. To correct Family problems

1. Eph. 5:22-29 - husbands and wives
2. Children and parents - Eph. 6:1-4

## E. To correct the faults of a nation

1. Jer. 7:28 "So you shall say to them, 'This is a nation that does not obey the voice of the LORD their God nor receive correction. Truth has perished and has been cut off from their mouth.'"
2. Prov. 14:34 NKJV "Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people."

## F. The scriptures can correct any problem that would cause your soul to be lost !

**IV. PROFITABLE FOR INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS**

## A. Definition

1. Instruction = whatever cultivates the soul, instruction which aims at the increase of virtue (Thayer p. 473)
2. Righteousness = the state of him who is such as he ought to be, the condition acceptable to God. Correctness in thinking, feeling and acting (Thayer p. 149)

## B. We should desire to live a righteous life

1. Only by righteous living can we die a righteous death
2. Number 23:10b NKJV "Let me die the death of the righteous, And let my end be like his!" Balam

## C. The scriptures tell us how to be righteous

## 1. Christ is our model

- a. Luke 23:47 "...certainly this was a righteous man."
- b. 1 John 2:1 - "Jesus Christ the righteous"
- c. 1 Pet. 2:22-23 "Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: 23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously."

## 2. We are molded by God through the scriptures

- a. III. Steel plant - raw ore - make steel - then take and produce new cars !  
Transformed from raw ore to a useful vehicle.
- b. God took Saul the persecutor and transformed him into Paul the Apostle
- c. God can take any sinner and transform him by His word into a Christian
- d. 1 John 5:4 ESV "For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world - our faith."
- e. This faith comes by the word of God - Rom. 10:17

## 3. We must seek this before we can find it.

- a. Matt. 5:6 "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled"
- b. Happy are they who have the right appetite

## 4. 1 John 2:29 NKJV "If you know that He is righteous, you know that everyone who practices righteousness is born of Him."

## D. The scriptures are profitable for Instruction in righteousness.

## **CONCLUSION**

1. II Tim. 3:16-17 "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 perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."
2. The profitable scriptures should be read and committed to our life
3. They are profitable for:
  - a. Doctrine
  - b. Reproof
  - c. Correction
  - d. Instruction in Righteousness
4. Then we will be a complete man.
5. Then we will be ready to every good work which will please God. Equipped for every good work. Esv

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### **Sources consulted**

1. Sermons by C. Myron Keith
2. Thayers for definitions
3. Commentaries

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Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Sunday Morning March 7, 2010  
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