

Sufficiency of Scripture

Because we believe that the Old and New Testament Scriptures are the supreme and final authority in faith and life, we also believe that Scripture is sufficient, otherwise it would fail to be a relevant authority. Scripture provides everything mankind needs to know for life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3; 2 Corinthians 3:5; 9:8), and thus provides answers to all the spiritual problems of life such as sin, suffering, guidance, and the need for salvation. "Sufficiency of Scripture" does not imply that no knowledge can be gained outside of Scripture or that Scripture is an exhaustive source of information. It does, however, mean that other knowledge is secondary and subservient to what God has revealed in Scripture. We believe that through His Word, God has revealed everything mankind needs to know about His own nature, character, and activity; as well as His purpose for all of His creation, including mankind (Psalm 19:7-9; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17).

We reject as contrary to this doctrine any attempt to add to God's sufficient Word via mystic, continuationist, or charismatic theology or practice. Sign or revelatory gifts were periodically and temporarily given by God at specific points throughout history, including during the formation of the church, to validate God's authority and message at those critical times (Acts 14:3; Hebrews 2:3-4). With the completion of an authoritative and sufficient canon of Scripture those gifts have ceased, as evidenced by church history (1 Corinthians 13:8-10). Moreover, these revelatory gifts are largely connected with the foundational ministry of the apostles which has also ceased (Ephesians 2:20; Acts 1:24-26 c.f. 12:1; 1 Corinthians 15:8-9; 2 Corinthians 12:12;) with the death of the first-century eyewitnesses of the resurrection (Acts 1:21-22). Those who pursue divine revelation outside of the revealed Word of God can easily end up elevating personal experience over biblical truth and are in danger of adding to God's Word (Revelation 22:18).

We believe that as a Christian camp and conference center we have a special privilege of pointing people to the sufficient truth of God's Word as the only source where they can know God and find the answers to their spiritual problems. Rather than having to point hurting people solely to secular philosophy or individual spiritual experience to find these answers, we can point them to the all-sufficient God and His Word to which all believers have access. Only in God's Word can believers find the all important answers to how man is supposed to change and grow through his deepening relationship with God; how God intends for man to think, feel, and act; and how God has the solution to all of man's spiritual problems, both presently and ultimately (1 Corinthians 2:12-13; 1 Peter 2:2; 1 John 1:4).