

BIBLIOLOGY.

DEFINITION.

§ 10. Bibliology is the doctrine of Holy Scripture concerning the origin, the properties, and the purposes of the Bible.

ORIGIN OF THE BIBLE.

§ 11. By its ORIGIN, the Bible, or Holy Scripture, consisting of the canonical books of the Old and the New Testaments,¹ is in all its parts² the Word of God.³

1.

John 5, 39: Search *the Scriptures*; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.

Rom. 3, 2: Much every way: chiefly, because that *unto them* were committed *the oracles of God*.

1 Pet. 1, 25: But the *Word of the Lord* endureth forever. And *this is the Word which by the Gospel is preached unto you*.

1 Cor. 14, 37: If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that *the things that I write* unto you are the commandments of *the Lord*.

2.

Gal. 3, 16: Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. *He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ*.

John 10, 35: If he called them *gods*, unto whom *the Word of God* came, and the *Scripture* cannot be broken. Cf. Ps. 82, 6.

Hebr. 12, 26: Whose voice then shook the earth: but now He hath promised, saying, *Yet once more* I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.

Hebr. 3, 7: Wherefore as the Holy Ghost saith, *To-day*, if ye will hear His voice, . . . Cf. Ps. 95, 7. 8.

Mark 7, 10. 13: For *Moses said*, Honor thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death. (13) Making *the Word of God* of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye.

3.

2 Pet. 1, 21: For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God *spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost*.

Rom. 3, 2: Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed *the oracles of God*.

1 Pet. 1, 11: Searching what, or what manner of time *the Spirit of Christ* which was in them *did signify*, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

1 Pet. 1, 25: But the *WORD* of the *Lord* endureth forever. And this is the *Word* which by the *Gospel* is preached unto you.

Matt. 1, 22 f.: Which was spoken of the *Lord* by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child. Cf. Is. 7, 14.

Gal. 3, 16: Now to Abraham and his *seed* were the promises made. *He saith* not, And to *seeds*, as of many; but as of one, And to thy *seed*, which is Christ.

Matt. 22, 31: But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by *God*?

Hebr. 3, 7: Wherefore, as the *Holy Ghost saith*, *To-day*, if ye will hear His voice. . . .

Hebr. 10, 15, 16: Whereof the *Holy Ghost* also is a witness to us: for after that He had said before, This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the *Lord*, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them. Cf. Jer. 31, 33 f.

Mark 7, 13: Making the *Word of God* of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered; and many such like things do ye. Cf. § 11, 2.

Acts 13, 46: Then Paul and Barnabas waxed bold, and said, It was necessary that the *Word of God* should first have been spoken to you: but seeing ye put it from you, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, lo, we turn to the Gentiles.

Tit. 1, 2: In hope of eternal life, which *God*, that cannot lie, promised before the world began. Cf. § 11, 1.

Acts 11, 1: And the apostles and brethren that were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also received the *Word of God*.

INSPIRATION.

§ 12. The Bible was written by divine inspiration,¹ inasmuch as the inspired penmen² performed their work as the personal organs³ of God,⁴ especially of the Holy Spirit,⁵ who not only prompted and actuated them toward writing what they wrote,⁶ but also suggested to them both the thoughts and the words they uttered as they wrote.⁷

1.

2 Tim. 3, 16: All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, etc.

2.

Rom. 15, 15: Nevertheless, brethren, *I have written* the more boldly unto you in some sort.

1 Cor. 5, 9: *I wrote* unto you in an epistle.

2 Cor. 2, 3. 4. 9: And *I wrote* this same unto you. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart *I wrote* unto you with many

tears; not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which *I have* more abundantly unto you. (9) For to this end also *did I write*, that *I might know* the proof of you, whether ye be obedient in all things.

Gal. 1, 20: Now the things which *I write* unto you, behold, before God, *I lie not*.

Phil. 3, 1: Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.

1 Tim. 3, 14: These things *write I* unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly.

1 John 1, 4: And these things *write we* unto you, that your joy may be full.

1 John 2, 1. 13: My little children, these things *write I* unto you, that ye sin not. (13) *I write* unto you, fathers, because ye have known Him that is from the beginning. *I write* unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. *I write* unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.

John 5, 46. 47: For had ye believed *Moses*, ye would have believed me: for *he wrote* of me. But if ye believe not *his writings*, how shall ye believe my words?

Luke 3, 4: As it is written in the book of *the words of Esaias*, the prophet.

Matt. 13, 14: And in them is fulfilled *the prophecy of Esaias* which saith, . . .

Matt. 15, 7: Ye hypocrites, well *did Esaias prophesy* of you, saying, . . .

Luke 20, 42: And *David himself saith* in the book of Psalms, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit Thou on my right hand.

3.

Matt. 2, 5. 17: And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is *written by the prophet*. (17) Then was fulfilled that which was *spoken by Jeremy*, the prophet, saying, . . .

Matt. 8, 17: That it might be fulfilled which was *spoken by Esaias* the prophet, saying, . . .

Matt. 12, 17: That it might be fulfilled which was *spoken by Esaias* the prophet, saying, . . .

Matt. 13, 35: That it might be fulfilled which was *spoken by the prophet*, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.

Matt. 24, 15: When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, *spoken of by Daniel the prophet*, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand).

Matt. 27, 9. 35: Then was fulfilled that which was *spoken by Jeremy the prophet*, saying, . . . (35) That it might be fulfilled which was *spoken by the prophet*, . . .

Acts 2, 16: But this is that which was *spoken by the prophet Joel*.

4.

Matt. 1, 22: Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of *the Lord by the prophet*, saying, . . .

Acts 4, 24, 25: And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to *God* with one accord, and said, *Lord*, Thou art *God*, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: WHO BY *the mouth of Thy servant David* hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things? Cf. Ps. 2, 1, 2.

Hebr. 4, 7: Again, *He* limiteth a certain day, saying IN *David*, To-day, after so long a time; as it is said, To-day, if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts.

Rom. 9, 25: As *HE* saith also IN *Osee*, I will call them my people which were not my people; and her beloved which was not beloved.

Rom. 1, 2: Which *HE* had promised afore BY *His prophets in the Holy Scriptures*.

5.

Acts 1, 16: Men and brethren, *this scripture* must needs have been fulfilled, which the *Holy Ghost by the mouth of David* spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

Acts 28, 25: Well spake the *Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet* unto our fathers.

2 Sam. 23, 1, 2: Now these be the last words of *David*. *David*, the son of *Jesse*, said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of *Jacob*, and the sweet psalmist of *Israel*, said, *The Spirit of the Lord* spake by me, and *His word* was in my tongue.

2 Pet. 1, 19—21: 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 spake as they were moved by the *Holy Ghost*.

1 Pet. 1, 11, 12: Searching what, or what manner of time the *Spirit of Christ* which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of *Christ*, and the glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the *Gospel* unto you with the *Holy Ghost* sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

Matt. 10, 19: But when they deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak.

Mark 13, 11: But when they shall lead you, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the *Holy Ghost*.

Luke 12, 12: For the *Holy Ghost* shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

6.

2 Pet. 1, 21: For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God *spake* as they were *moved by the Holy Ghost*.

2 Tim. 3, 16: All Scripture is given by *inspiration of God*, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

Rom. 15, 18, 19: For *I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me*, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed, through mighty signs and wonders, by the *power of the Spirit of God*.

Gal. 1, 11: But I certify you, brethren, that the Gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

Jer. 30, 2: Thus speaketh the Lord God of Israel, saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book.

7.

Jer. 30, 2: Thus speaketh the Lord God of Israel, *saying, Write thee all the words that I have spoken unto thee in a book*.

Rom. 15, 18: For *I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me*, to make the Gentiles obedient by word and deed.

1 Thess. 2, 13: For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the Word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it *not as the word of men*, but as *it is in truth, the Word of God*, which effectually worketh also in you that believe.

Acts 2, 4: And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, *as the Spirit gave them utterance*.

2 Pet. 1, 19—21: 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 *spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost*.

John 10, 34, 35: Jesus answered them, Is it not *written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?* If He called them *gods*, unto whom the Word of God came, and the *Scripture cannot be broken*.

Matt. 22, 43, 44: He saith unto them, How, then, doth *David in spirit call him Lord*, saying, The Lord said unto *my Lord*, Sit Thou on my right hand, till I make Thine enemies Thy footstool?

Rom. 15, 9—12: And that the *Gentiles* might glorify God for His mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to Thee among the *Gentiles*, and sing unto Thy name. And again He saith, Rejoice, ye *Gentiles*, with His people! And again, Praise the Lord, all ye *Gentiles*; and laud Him, all ye people! And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and He that shall rise to reign over the *Gentiles*; in Him shall the *Gentiles* trust.

Gal. 3, 16: He saith not, And to *seeds*, as of many; but as of one, And to thy *seed*, which is Christ.

Rom. 10, 16: But they have not all obeyed *the Gospel*. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath *believed* our report?

1 Pet. 3, 6: Even as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him *lord*.

Hebr. 12, 27: And *this word*, *Yet once more*, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made. that those things which cannot be shaken may remain.

Hebr. 8, 8. 13: For finding fault with them, He saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a *new covenant* with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. (13) In that He saith, A *new covenant*, He hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

Hebr. 4, 7: Again, *He* limiteth a certain day, *saying* in David, *To-day*, after so long a time; as it is said, *To-day*, if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts.

Hebr. 7, 20. 21: And inasmuch as not without an *oath* He was made priest: (for those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by Him that said unto Him, *The Lord sware* and will not repent, Thou art a priest forever after the order of Melchisedec:). Ps. 110, 4.

Rom. 4, 6. 7. 9: Even as David also *describeth the blessedness* of the man unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, saying, *Blessed* are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. (9) Cometh *this blessedness*, then, upon the circumcision only, or upon the uncircumcision also?

Eph. 4, 8. 9: Wherefore he saith, When *He ascended up* on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. Now *that He ascended*, what is it but that He also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? Cf. Ps. 68, 18.

John 7, 42: Hath not *the Scripture said*, That Christ cometh of the seed of *David*, and out of the town of *Bethlehem*, where David was?

Luke 16, 17: And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass than *one tittle of the Law* to fail.

PROPERTIES OF THE BIBLE.

§ 13. The PROPERTIES of the Bible are its divine authority, its perspicuity, its efficacy, and its sufficiency.

AUTHORITY.

§ 14. The *authority* of the Bible is that prerogative by which the Bible justly claims unrestricted acceptance of all its statements,¹ full assent to all its teachings,² unwavering confidence in all its promises,³ and willing observance of all

its demands⁴ by those whom they concern, the prerogative by which it is the only infallible source and norm of doctrine⁵ and rule of life.⁶

1.

Matt. 4, 3: And when the tempter came to Him, he said, *If Thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.*

Luke 4, 3: And the devil said unto Him, *If Thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.*

Gen. 3, 1: Now the serpent was more subtile than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, *Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?*

John 10, 35: If He called them *gods*, unto whom the Word of God came, and the *Scripture* cannot be broken.

Luke 24, 25: Then He said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe *all* that the prophets have spoken!

Ps. 119, 160: Thy *word* is true from the beginning; and every one of Thy righteous judgments endureth forever.

Ps. 119, 140: Thy word is *very pure*; therefore Thy servant loveth it.

Ps. 119, 167: My soul hath kept *Thy testimonies*; and I love them exceedingly.

2.

2 Tim. 3, 16: *All Scripture* is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

2 Thess. 2, 15: Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold *the traditions which ye have been taught*, whether by word or our epistle.

Luke 24, 25—27: Then He said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe *all* that the prophets have spoken: ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory? And beginning at *Moses* and *all the prophets*, He expounded unto them in *all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself*.

Luke 16, 29—31: Abraham saith unto him, They have *Moses and the prophets*; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not *Moses and the prophets*, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

3.

2 Thess. 2, 13: But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth.

2 Cor. 1, 20: For all the promises of God in Him are *yea*, and in Him *Amen*, unto the glory of God by us.

Tit. 1, 2, 3: In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, *promised before the world began*; but hath in due times *manifested His Word through preaching*, which is committed *unto me* according to the commandment of God, our Savior.

2 Thess. 2, 15: Therefore, brethren, *stand fast, and hold* the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word or our epistle.

2 Pet. 1, 19: We have also a *more sure* word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye *take heed*.

4.

Deut. 12, 32: *What thing soever I command you, observe to do it*: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.

Deut. 5, 9, 10: Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: *for I the Lord, thy God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments*.

Cf. Exod. 20, 5, 6.

James 2, 10: For whosoever shall *keep the whole Law*, and yet offend in *one point*, he is *guilty of all*.

Josh. 1, 8: This *book* of the Law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, *that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein*.

5.

Luke 16, 29: Abraham saith unto him, They have *Moses and the prophets*; let them *hear them*.

2 Tim. 3, 15—17: 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*, throughly furnished unto *all good works*.

Jer. 8, 9: The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have *rejected the Word of the Lord*, and *what wisdom is in them?*

Jer. 23, 16: Thus saith the Lord of hosts, *Hearken not* unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you; they make you vain: *they speak a vision of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the Lord*.

Is. 8, 19, 20: And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead? *To the Law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them*.

1 Cor. 14, 37: If any man think himself to be a *prophet*, or spiritual, *let him acknowledge that the things I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord*.

Gal. 1, 8: *But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed!*

Acts 17, 11: These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Acts 15, 14. 15: *Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for His name. And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written.*

6.

Luke 16, 29: Abraham said unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.

2 Tim. 3, 16: *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.*

PERSPICUITY.

§ 15. The *perspicuity* of the Bible is that clearness of Holy Writ which renders all the doctrines and precepts laid down in the inspired Word freely accessible to every reader or hearer of average human intelligence and sufficient knowledge of the languages employed, and of a mind not in a manner preoccupied by error as to preclude the apprehension of the truths themselves, however clearly set forth in words of human speech.

Ps. 119, 105: *Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

Ps. 119, 130: The entrance of Thy words *giveth light*; it *giveth understanding* unto the *simple*.

2 Pet. 1, 19: 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.

Ps. 19, 8: The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, *enlightening the eyes*.

Eph. 3, 3. 4: How that by revelation He made known unto me the mystery; as *I wrote afore in few words*, whereby, *when ye read, ye may understand* my knowledge in the mystery of Christ.

John 8, 31. 32: Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, If ye continue in my Word, then are ye my disciples indeed; and *ye shall know the truth*, and the truth shall make you free.

2 Cor. 4, 3. 4: But if *our Gospel be hid*, it is hid to them that *are lost*: in whom the god of this world hath *blinded the minds of* them which believe not, lest the *light of the glorious Gospel of Christ*, who is the image of God, should *shine* unto them.

John 8, 43—45. 47: *Why do ye not understand my speech?* Even

because *ye cannot hear my Word*. Ye are of your father, the devil, and the lusts of your father *ye will do*. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. And *because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not*. (47) He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, *because ye are not of God*.

2 Pet. 3, 15, 16: Even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; as also *in all his epistles*, speaking in them of these things; *in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction*.

EFFICACY.

§ 16. The *efficacy* of the Bible is that property by which the Bible has indissolubly united¹ with the true and genuine sense² expressed in its words the power of the Holy Spirit,³ who has made it for all times the ordinary means by which He operates⁴ on and in the hearts and minds of those who properly hear and read it.⁵

1.

Rom. 1, 16: For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for *it is the power of God* unto salvation to every one that believeth.

1 Thess. 2, 13: For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received *the Word of God which ye heard of us*, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the *Word of God, which effectually worketh* also in you that believe.

2.

Eph. 3, 3, 4: How that by revelation He made known unto me the mystery; as I wrote afore in few words, whereby, *when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge* in the mystery of Christ.

Acts 8, 30, 31, 34: And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, *Understandest thou what thou readest?* And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. (34) And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, *of whom speaketh the prophet this?* of himself, or of some other man?

3.

Rom. 1, 16: 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.

1 Thess. 1, 5: For *our Gospel* came not unto you in word only, but also *in power*, and in the *Holy Ghost*, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

4.

Ps. 19, 8: The statutes of the Lord are right, *rejoicing* the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, *enlightening* the eyes.

Ps. 119, 105. 130: Thy Word is a *lamp* unto my feet, and a *light* unto my path. (130) The entrance of Thy words *giveth light*; it *giveth understanding* unto the simple.

2 Pet. 1, 19: 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*.

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, that the man of God *may be perfect, thoroughly furnished* unto all good works.

5.

Rev. 1, 3: *Blessed is he that readeth, and that hear* the words of this prophecy, *and keep those things* which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

Eph. 3, 3. 4: How that by revelation He made known unto me the mystery; (as I *wrote* afore in few words, whereby, *when ye read, ye may understand* my knowledge in the mystery of Christ).

John 7, 17: *If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.*

SUFFICIENCY.

§ 17. The *sufficiency* of the Bible is that perfection according to which the Bible contains all that is necessary for the achievement of the end and aim of the Holy Scriptures.

Is. 8, 20: To the Law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.

Luke 16, 29—31: Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham: but if one went unto them from the dead, they will repent. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead.

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, that the man of God *may be perfect, thoroughly furnished* unto all good works.

PURPOSES OF SCRIPTURE.

§ 18. The *purposes* of the Bible are, to convey to the understanding¹ of men the truths and precepts of Holy Writ, to convert² the unregenerate, and to preserve and strengthen the faith of the regenerate,³ to rear them in holiness of life,⁴

to afford them consolation in their afflictions,⁵ to furnish weapons of offense and defense, wherewith to combat error and falsehood conflicting with God's truth,⁶ and all this for the glory of God and man's eternal salvation.⁷

1.

Eph. 3, 3, 4: How that by revelation He made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, whereby, when ye read, *ye may understand* my knowledge in the mystery of Christ).

Rom. 3, 20: Therefore by the deeds of the Law there shall no flesh be justified in His sight: for by the Law is the *knowledge* of sin.

Luke 24, 25—27: Then He said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: *ought* not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory? And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He *expounded* unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

2 Tim. 3, 16: All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for *doctrine*.

Rom. 15, 4: For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our *learning*, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

2 Tim. 3, 15: 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*.

Ps. 119, 104, 113: Through Thy *precepts* I get *understanding*; therefore I hate every false way. (113) *I hate vain thoughts*: but *Thy Law do I love*.

Ps. 19, 8: The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, *enlightening the eyes*.

2.

Ps. 19, 7: The Law of the Lord is perfect, *converting* the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

Luke 16, 29—31: Abraham saith unto him, They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them. And he said, Nay, father Abraham; but if one went unto them from the dead, they *will repent*. And he said unto him, If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they *be persuaded*, though one rose from the dead.

2 Chron. 34, 27: Because thine heart was tender, and thou didst *humble thyself before God*, when thou *heardest His words* against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, and humbledst thyself before me, and didst rend thy clothes, and weep before me, I have even heard thee also, saith the Lord.

3.

Luke 24, 25—27: Then He said unto them, O fools, and *slow* of heart to *believe all that the prophets have spoken*: ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into His glory? And be-

ginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

John 20, 31: But these are written, that *ye might believe* that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that, believing, *ye might have life through His name.*

4.

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*, that the man of God may be *perfect*, thoroughly furnished unto all *good works.*

John 17, 17: *Sanctify them through Thy truth: Thy Word is truth.*

Ps. 119, 9: Wherewithal shall a young man *cleanse his way?* By taking heed thereto according to *Thy Word.*

Ps. 119, 43, 44: And take not the *word of truth* utterly out of my mouth; for I have *hoped in Thy judgments.* *So shall I keep Thy Law* continually for ever and ever.

5.

Rom. 15, 4: For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience *and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.*

Ps. 130, 5: My soul doth *wait*, and in *His Word* do I *hope.*

6.

Acts 18, 24, 28: And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and *mighty in the Scriptures*, came to Ephesus. (28) For he *mightily convinced the Jews*, and that publicly, showing *by the Scriptures* that Jesus was Christ.

2 Tim. 3, 16: *All Scripture* is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, *for reproof*, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.

7.

John 20, 31: But these are written, that *ye might believe* that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that, believing, *ye might have life through His name.*

John 5, 39: Search the Scriptures; for in them *ye think ye have eternal life:* and they are they *which testify of me.*

2 Tim. 3, 15: 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.*

Ps. 138, 1, 2: I will *praise Thee* with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto Thee. I will *worship* toward Thy holy temple, and *praise Thy name* for Thy loving-kindness and for Thy truth: *for Thou hast magnified Thy Word above all Thy name.*

Ps. 138, 4: All the kings of the earth shall *praise Thee*, O Lord, when they *hear the words of Thy mouth.*

Ps. 119, 171: My lips shall utter *praise*, when Thou hast taught me *Thy statutes.*