

THE WORD OF GOD

2 Tim. 3:14-17

INTRODUCTION

- A. The Bible stands as the greatest document known to man.
 - 1. It has changed more lives than any other book.
 - 2. It bears testimony to the God of the universe.
- B. Immanuel Kant said, "The existence of the Bible is the greatest blessing which humanity has ever experienced."
- C. Paul points out some lessons we need to learn about Scripture.

SCRIPTURE IS KNOWABLE, vv. 14-15

- A. Paul had just recounted his persecutions (vv. 10-12) and the deeds of evil men (v. 13).
- B. Paul encourages Timothy to remain steadfast in what he has learned, v. 14.
- C. Timothy had known the Scripture [the Old Testament] from his childhood.
 - 1. This testifies to the need for parents to teach their children.
 - a. Timothy's grandmother and mother had taught him (2 Tim. 1:5).
 - b. We need parents to teach Scripture today.
 - 1) The Jews saw this as one of their primary responsibilities (Deut. 6:6-7).
 - 2) Scripture still testifies of this need (Eph. 6:4). A father can do no greater thing.
 - 2. This shows that indeed the Scriptures are knowable.
 - a. Some want to say that we can't know the Scriptures, that there is no such thing as truth.
 - b. They say everyone has his own interpretation.
 - c. Scripture only recognizes one valid interpretation (2 Pet. 1:20-21).

PROVIDES SALVATION, v. 15

- A. Scripture can make us wise for salvation through faith in Christ.
 - 1. We recognize this is talking about the Old Testament.
 - a. Jn. 5:39.
 - b. The Old Testament paved the way for Jesus.
 - 2. The Scriptures--the Old and New Testaments--produce faith in Christ.
 - a. Rom. 10:17.
 - b. Jn. 20:30-31.
 - c. Many people are atheists because they don't know the Scriptures.
- B. Salvation comes faith in Jesus.
 - 1. Jn. 8:24.
 - 2. Heb. 11:6.

IS GOD'S MESSAGE, v. 16

- A. "Inspired by God" means "God breathed." God breathed what he wanted us to know.
- B. The inspiration of Scripture applies even to the words of the original text.
 - 1. 1 Cor. 2:13.
 - 2. Gal. 3:16.

IS PROFITABLE, v. 16

- A. Scripture is useful.
- B. It is useful for:
 - 1. Teaching—It can {and must be} used to teach the truth.
 - 2. Reproof—It can be used to convict a sinner.
 - 3. Correction—It can be used to show people they're not living properly.
 - 4. Training in righteousness—It can be used as a guide to help us be better people.

MAKES THE MAN OF GOD COMPLETE, v. 17

- A. Using Scripture the man of God has what he needs to fight all the battles he faces, e.g. false doctrine, moral errors, etc.
- B. If the Bible, makes the man of God "complete, equipped for every good work," why do we need anything else?