

# 2 Timothy 3:16

## *Holy Scriptures*

### 1. A Foundational Study

- a. The Bible is foundational to our faith – Rom 10:17; destroy the Bible, destroy faith.
- b. 2 Timothy 3:14-17 is of paramount importance, and verse 16 is the peak.
- c. We find this peak in Paul's last book, final chapters. Either his last words were...
  - i. A wrecking ball of doctrinal novelty about Scripture, *or*
  - ii. A fortress built around what had already been laid.
- d. This passage about the Bible gives excitement, assurance, confidence, comfort, truth

### 2. 3:14-15 – Understanding Context

- a. How to continue in perilous times, persecution, affliction, evil men, seducers, deceptions
- b. 3:14 – Continue in what you have learned and been assured... knowing of whom...
  - i. Paul was a man, knowing sin, had to be taught – Gal 1:8-10, 1Ti 1:12-15
- c. 3:15 – What he knew = holy scriptures; assured of = salvation through faith
  - i. Of whom thou hast learned them = 2 Tim 3:16 – of God (in holy scriptures)
- d. Paul is departing, he is not the source of direction/support/strength (not WWPD)
  - i. He appeals to scripture (as the Lord did) – Matt 5:17-18, 21:42, 22:29
  - ii. They remembered the scripture - John 2:22, 5:39, 7:38, 10:35, 20:9
  - iii. What continues are the holy scriptures - Ps 119:89, 1 Pet 1:25, 2 Pet 3:16

### 3. Bible Doctrines in Sight

- a. Holy ~*def.* sacred, sanctified, set apart from others by perfection, purity, place
  - i. God is holy. Everything he does and says is holy. Scriptures are holy b/c of God.
- b. Authority - ~*def.* Legal power or right to command; have power over; rule; judge.
  - i. Authority is derived from the author: the author of truth can only be God
  - ii. God's power - Not any man, priest, scholar, scientist (inc. Paul) – 2 Cor 3:5, 4:5
- c. God speaking - Revelation – His secrets/truths made known – Deu 29:29, Gal 1:12
  - i. God is true, holy, good, without error. What he says is likewise.
- d. God's record - Inspiration – His words in writing - Acts 1:16, 2 Pet 1:20-21, Jer 36:2
  - i. Target for denying the Bible (circular reasoning, scripture proving scripture, etc)
- e. God's wisdom understood - Illumination/ Perspicuity (clarity) – 2Tim 2:7,3:15; 1 Cor 2:14
- f. God's purpose/intent – Profitability/Utilization (usefulness) – Rom 10:17, 15:4
- g. God's book – Canonization – complete /full /perfect – Col 1:25, Deu 4:32, Rev 22:19
- h. God's Sufficiency – Sola scriptura – A major contention w/Catholic Tradition to this day
  - i. Speaks to any extra Biblical necessity – academic, nature, Holy Ghost, progress
- i. *How do we know these doctrines are true?* A: We must open the book and read it.