

Carried Along

Text: But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God. (2 Peter 1:20-21)

Belgic Confession Article 3: The Written Word of God

We confess that this Word of God was not sent nor delivered by the will of men, but that holy men of God spoke, being moved by the Holy Spirit, as Peter says. Afterwards our God—because of the special care He has for us and our salvation—commanded His servants, the prophets and apostles, to commit this revealed Word to writing. He Himself wrote with His Own finger the two tables of the law. Therefore we call such writings holy and divine Scriptures.

Introduction: a speaking God, but where?

Old Testament; New Testament? now?

I. Peter's Reasoning

Proposition 1:

Proof:

Proposition 2:

Proof:

Proposition 3:

Proof:

II. The Voice of God

III. “of one’s own interpretation”

1.

2.

The Baltimore Catechism

Q34 *What is meant by Tradition?*

A. Tradition is the non-written word of God, which has been transmitted by word of mouth by Jesus Christ and by the apostles, and which has come down to us through the centuries by the means of the Church, without being altered.

Q35 *Where are the teachings of Tradition kept?*

A. The teachings of Tradition are kept chiefly in the Councils' decrees, the writings of the Holy Fathers, the Acts of the Holy See and the words and practices of the sacred Liturgy.

Q36 *What importance must we attach to Tradition?*

A. We must attach to Tradition the same importance as the revealed word of God which Holy Scripture contains.

IV. Objection

Application 1: Why the Bible?

...and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. (1 Corinthians 15:17)

Application 2: Back Up

Application 3: Worldview

The wisest men of Greece and Rome sanctioned slavery, polygamy, concubinage, oppression, revenge, infanticide...

Henceforth we find woman no longer a slave of man and tool of lust, but the pride and joy of her husband, the fond mother training her children to virtue and godliness, the ornament and treasure of the family, the faithful sister, the zealous servant of the congregation in every work of Christian charity, the sister of mercy, the martyr with superhuman courage, the guardian angel of peace, the example of purity, humility, gentleness, patience, love, and fidelity unto death. Such women were unknown before. The heathen Libanius, the enthusiastic eulogist of old Grecian culture, pronounced an involuntary eulogy on Christianity when he exclaimed, as he looked at the mother of Chrysostom: “*What women the Christians have!*”