

Theology
FOR
DUMMIES
Bible Study with David McKinley & Bret Legg

Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2011
6:20 p.m. | Simmons Hall

DOCTRINE OF THE BIBLE

David H. McKinley

Nothing is more foundational or fundamental than our commitment to the truth and integrity of the Bible.

If the Bible is not true, then it is not reliable; if it is not reliable, it is not believable.

The Bible simply presents itself as "The Word of God."

Hebrews 4:12

1 Peter 1:23

"The Bible does not need to be defended any more than a caged lion needs to be defended. All we need to do is let it out of its cage and it will defend itself."
—C.H. Spurgeon

"The Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is God's revelation of Himself to man. It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction. It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter. Therefore, all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy. It reveals the principles by which God judges us, and therefore is, and will remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and religious opinions should be tried. All Scripture is a testimony to Christ, who is Himself the focus of divine revelation."
—Baptist Faith and Message 2000

• Revelation is God's disclosure of Himself to man, OR the Bible was revealed to man by God.

• Inspiration

God is the source and the superintendent of the biblical record you hold in your hand today.

What does this mean ?

> Inspiration has to do with Source
All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

—2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV

> Inspiration has to do with Process
... knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. —2 Peter 1:20-21

• Illumination

This is the active and ongoing work of the Holy Spirit related to the Bible. The Holy Spirit must enable people to understand and embrace the truth of Scripture.

1 Corinthians 2:12

• Interpretation

Interpretation has to do with how we are to handle and apply the Word of God to life.

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

—2 Timothy 2:15 ESV

"It's not the things I don't understand about the Bible that bothers me; it is the things I do understand."

—Mark Twain