

October 28, 2018

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Sola Scriptura: The Authority of the Bible

Titus 2:15

The Bible is the **TRUSTWORTHY** Authority from the **TRUTHFUL** God, Titus 2:15; 1:1-3, 9 (cf. Matthew 28:18-20; John 7:16-18; 10:35; 12:49-50; 14:26; 16:13-15; 17:17; Galatians 1:6-9; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-16; Hebrews 1:1; 6:13-18).

The Bible is the **FINAL** Authority from the **SUPREME** God, Titus 2:15; 1:9-15; 2:1, 3:1 (cf. Acts 5:29; 17:11; 2 John 1:9-11; John 10:35; Rom. 13:1; Gal. 1:6-9; Jude 1:3-4; 1 Corinthians 14:36-38; 15:3-4).

The Bible is the **BINDING** Authority from the **LIVING** God, Titus 2:1-15; 1:16 (cf. 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Psalm 119:59-60; Matt. 28:20; 1 Cor. 14:36-38; Rom. 15:4; 1 Thess. 4:1-2; 2 Peter 2:1-10, 20-21; 2 John 1:4-11).



As a family, read Exodus 20:12, Ephesians 6:1-3, Colossians 3:20-21. What is the commandment or instruction from the Bible? Who is the Author of/Authority over the commandment? What must a father and mother do to obey the commandment? What must a child do to obey the commandment? Who has the authority to ignore the commandment? Under what circumstances could a child *not* obey his/her parent and still please the LORD? What is the result of not following the commandment? How is obedience to the commandment make life better for the one obeying? What does this tell us about the trustworthiness and authority of the Bible?

For Further Study, Thought, and Discussion

Read Titus, chs. 1-3 noting how many times the word “good” or phrase “good work” is used. What are the characteristics of people who do that “good work?” How are those characteristics related to the teaching/doctrine/truth they receive? What does this tell us about the correlation between obeying the authority of the Word of God and our lives producing “good work?”

In Titus 3:1, Paul acknowledges that there are other authorities to which we are to submit. Make a list of the various authorities over you. Now consider this fact: when you speak with biblical accuracy, you speak with the greater “final” authority of the God of the universe. How is this an encouragement as you share the Gospel and God's perspective on various topics? How is it a motivator to work hard to rightly understand the Bible (cf. 2 Tim. 2:15)? What does this mean for how you listen to a sermon or Bible teacher (cf. Acts 17:11)? How could this authority be abused?

How does the authority of the Bible relate to the upcoming election and the issues on the ballot? While some issues may not be directly addressed in Scripture, what biblical authority and principles would you call on to justify the way you vote(d) on each issue or candidate? (Note: It would be good to have your Bible open alongside your ballot. Voter guides are also available in the Church Office)