AUTHENTICITY OF THE WORD OF GOD

"Every Word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him."

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Psalm 30:5

John 1:1-3 declares, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made."

The bible declares that Jesus is the Word of God, and that He was with God at creation, and that all was made by Him and through Him. John 1:14 add, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

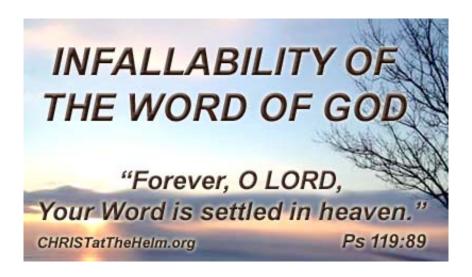
Can we rely on the authenticity of the Word of God?

Rom 7:12: "Therefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy and just and good."

John 1:17: "For the law was given through Moses, *but* grace and truth came through Jesus Christ." The reason Jesus said in John 17:17, "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."

Finally, Jesus in John 14:6 declared, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

1Thess 2:13 add: "For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the Word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the Word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe." Powerful, right?



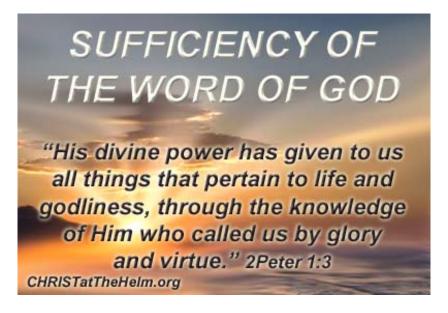
As many deceivers try to stretch, negate, remove or add to the Word of God, the bible is clear as crystal when it comes to the infallibility and security of the Word of God.

Here's the evidence:

Isaiah 40:8: "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God stands forever."

Psalm 12:6: "The words of the LORD *are* pure words, like silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times."

2Peter 1:20-21: "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." Jesus not only confirmed that Scripture is the Word of God, but also added in Mat 5:18: "For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished." And Luke 16:17 explains, "It is easier for heaven and earth to disappear than for the least stroke of a pen to drop out of the Law." As a guarantee, Jesus added in John 14:26: "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." Do we trust the Word of God?



Truth flows from God, and the Word of God is consistent with His character and wisdom to guide us in this life. How?

2Tim 3:16-17: "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

2Cor 3:4-5: "Such confidence we have through Christ before God. Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God."

Psalm 119:160: "The entirety of Your word is truth, and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever."

1Cor 2:12-13: "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual."

And the purpose is:

1John 5:20: "And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life."

Have we made the Word of God our source of truth?

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While the Word of God is our only and true guide for living this life in accordance to God's will, are we given a choice or is God's Word a command?

Deut. 6:4-9: "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates."

God's Word is obviously a command, as Jesus said:

John 15:14: "You are My friends if you do whatever I command you."

Luke 24:44: "These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me."

The reason Jer 26:2 says, "Tell them everything I command you; do not omit a word."

Therefore, we must understand the importance of studying God's Word so we know what God commands us for our path to eternity. How committed are we to study the Word to abide in Christ?



What is the core purpose for the Word of God in a believer's life? 2Tim 3:16-17: "All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

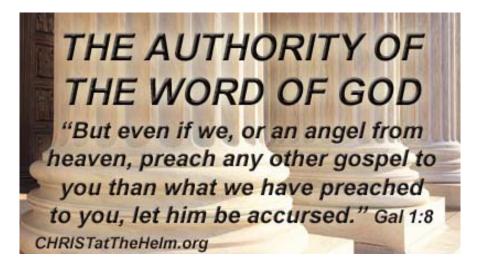
Psalm 139:33-34: "Teach me, LORD, the way of your decrees, that I may follow it to the end. Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart."

Joshua 1:8: "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

Heb 4:12: "For the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

Rom 15:4: "For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

John 8:31-32: "If you abide in My Word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Introspection: Am I His disciple?



Are there warnings against those who twist the Word of God to their profit?

Rom 1:18-19: "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them."

Rev 22:18-19: "For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and *from* the things which are written in this book."

Why?

1John 1:6: "If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth." What must we do?

Col 2:8: "Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ."

2Tim 2:15: "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth." Introspection: Is God's Word stored in my heart to protect me against deceivers and liars?