

Introduction: Buildings are great, but foundations make all the difference

1. What is the Bible?

Psalm 19 - Isaiah 55:1-11 - John 5:31-40 - Luke 24:25-27, 44-48 - 2 Peter 1:16-21

2 Tim 3:15-16

A definition:

A longer definition:

i) The word of God the Father... - *Genesis 1:1-2:3; Josh 23:14; John 5:37*

ii) ...about God the Son... - *John 5:39; Luke 24:44-48; 2 Cor 3:5-4:6;*

iii) ...by the power of God the Spirit... - *John 14:26, 16:13-15, 17:20; 2 Tim 3:16; 1 Cor 2:1-16*

iv) ...that we might know God Himself - *2 Peter 1:3-4; John 20:31 (17:3)*

v) God's word is therefore

- *Without fault (Ps 19:7; John 17:17; John 10:35)*

- *Authoritative (Ps 119:4)*

- *Sufficient (Deut 29:29; 2 Tim 3:16)*

2. What difference does that make?

i) Communion with God

- Hearing the Father's voice

- Feeding on the Son (*John 6:61-69*)

- Keeping in step with the Spirit

ii) Communication of God

Disciple-making disciples who

- Speak the truth in love one to another (*Eph 4:15*)

- So that the Word may dwell richly among us (*Col 3:17*)

- And who speak the Word to those who do not yet know Jesus (*Romans 1:16*)

Further reading

Taking God at His Word*, Kevin DeYoung

Unbreakable, Andrew Wilson

Words of Life, Timothy Ward

The Doctrine of the Word of God*, John Frame

"Fundamentalism" and the Word of God, JI Packer

Reformed Dogmatics, Vol. I, p283-494*, Herman Bavinck