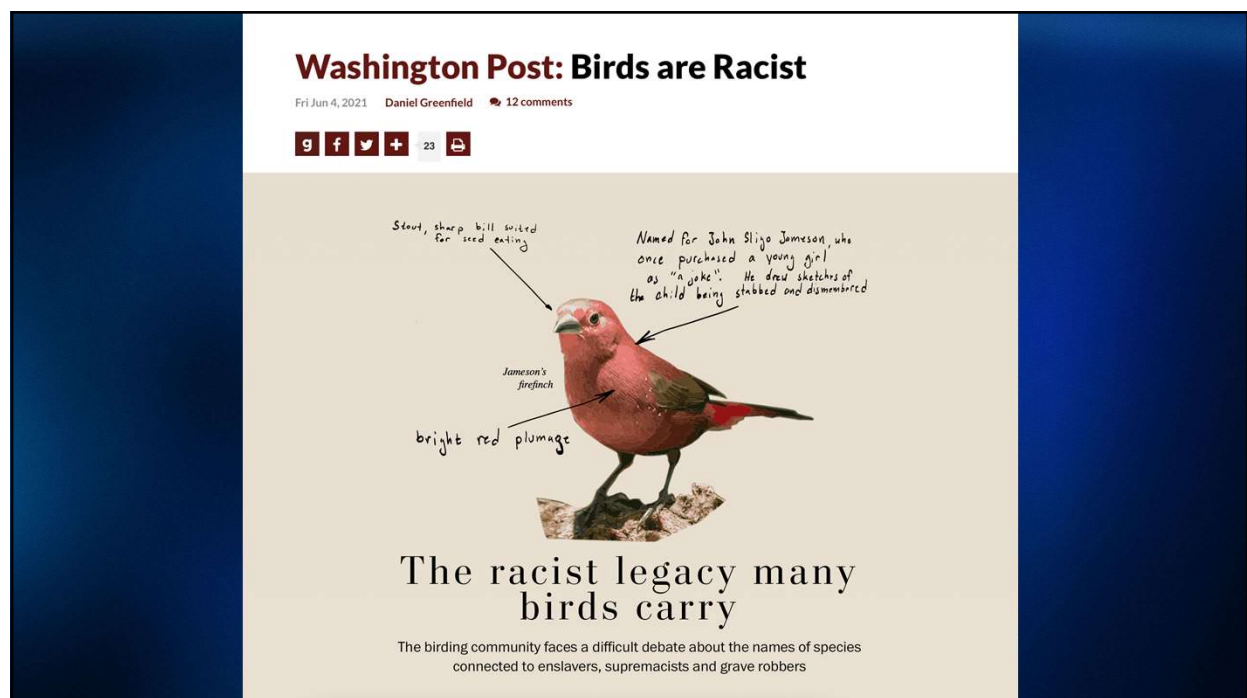


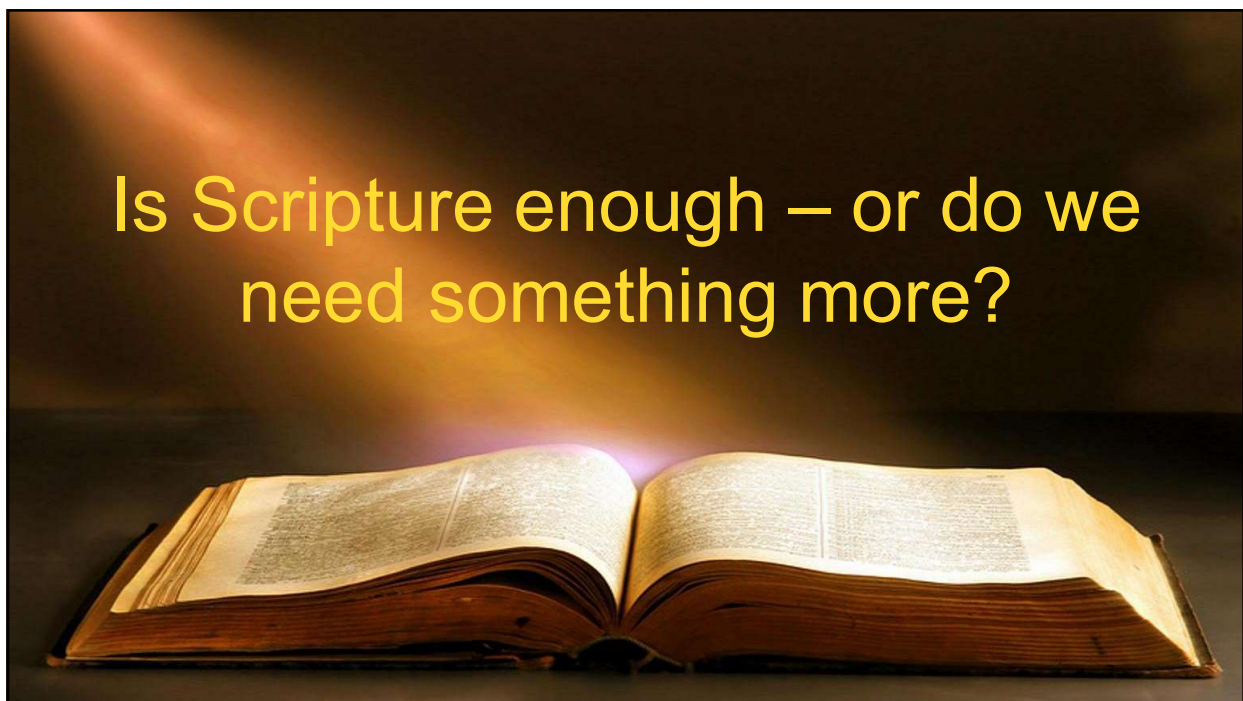
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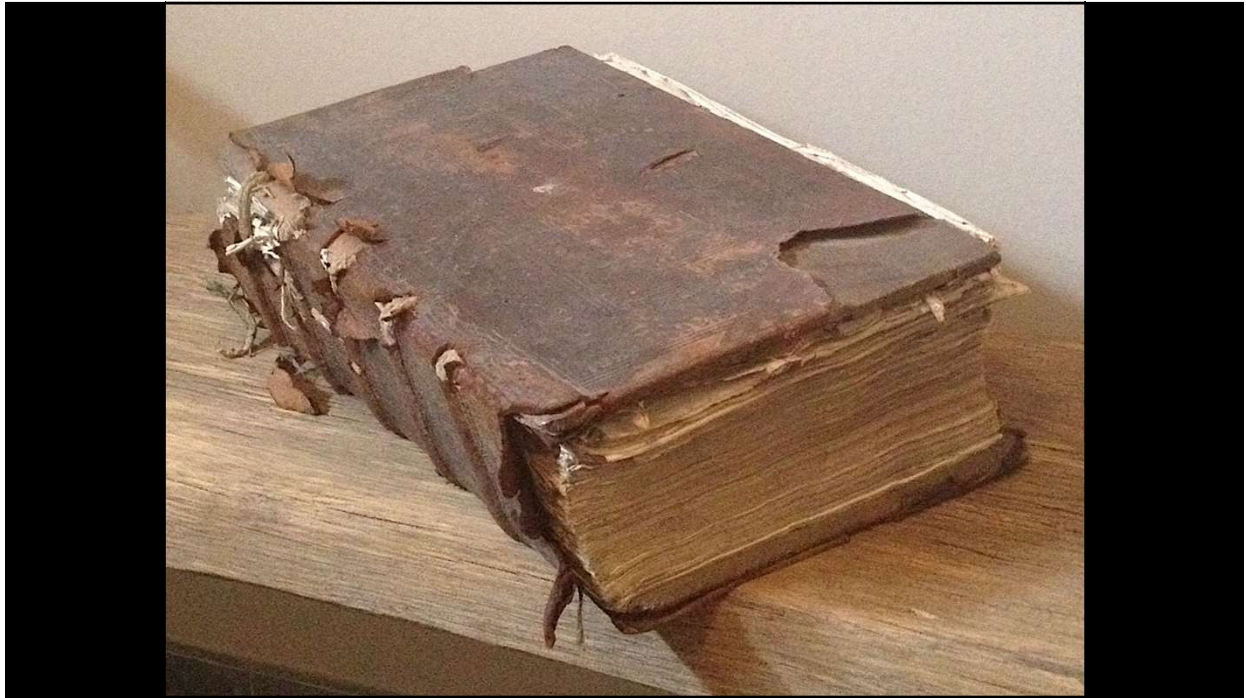
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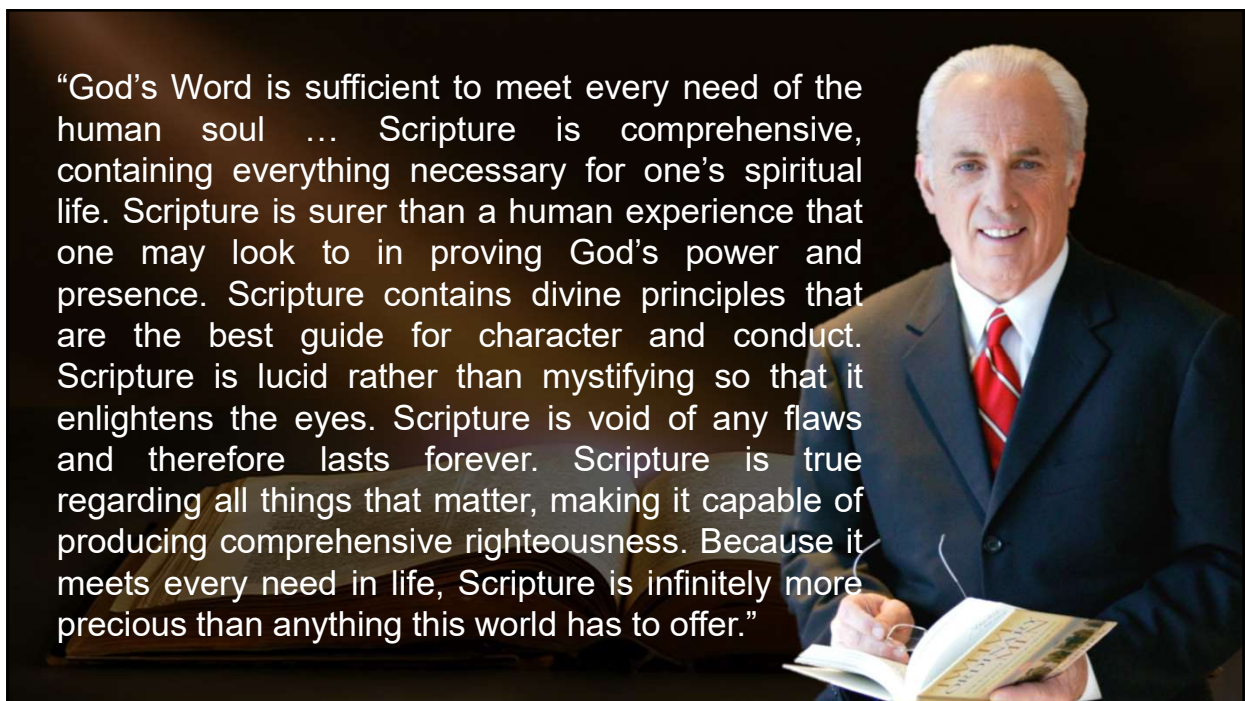
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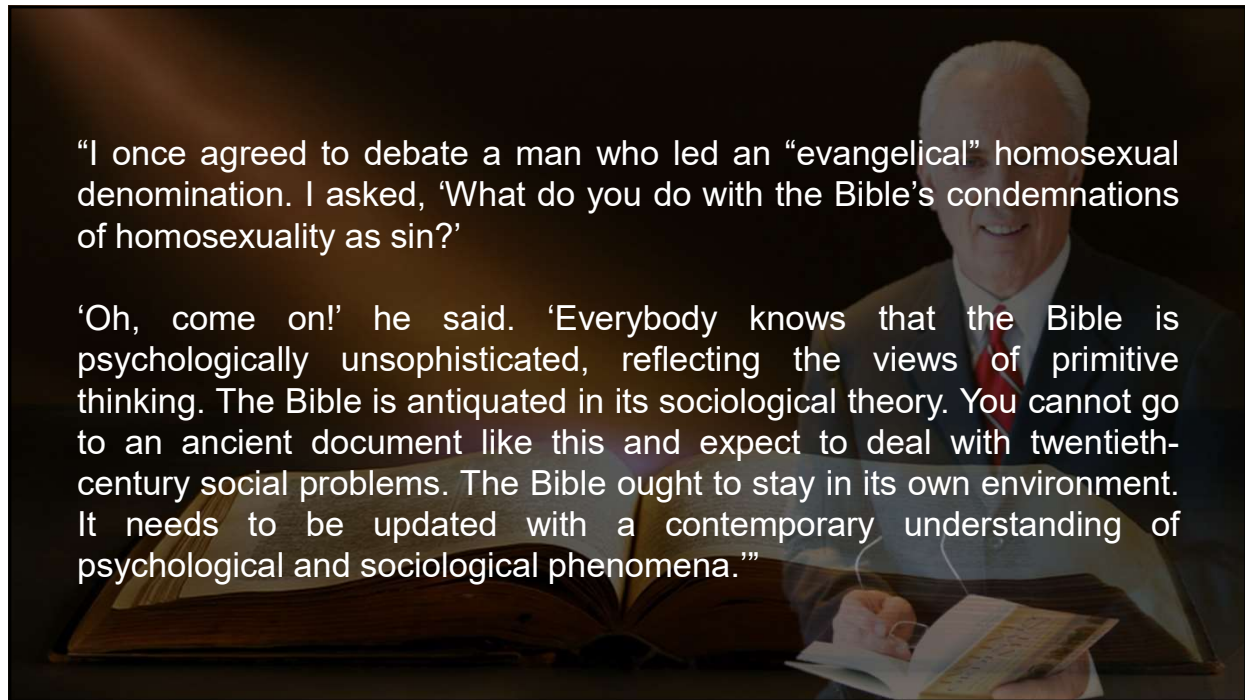
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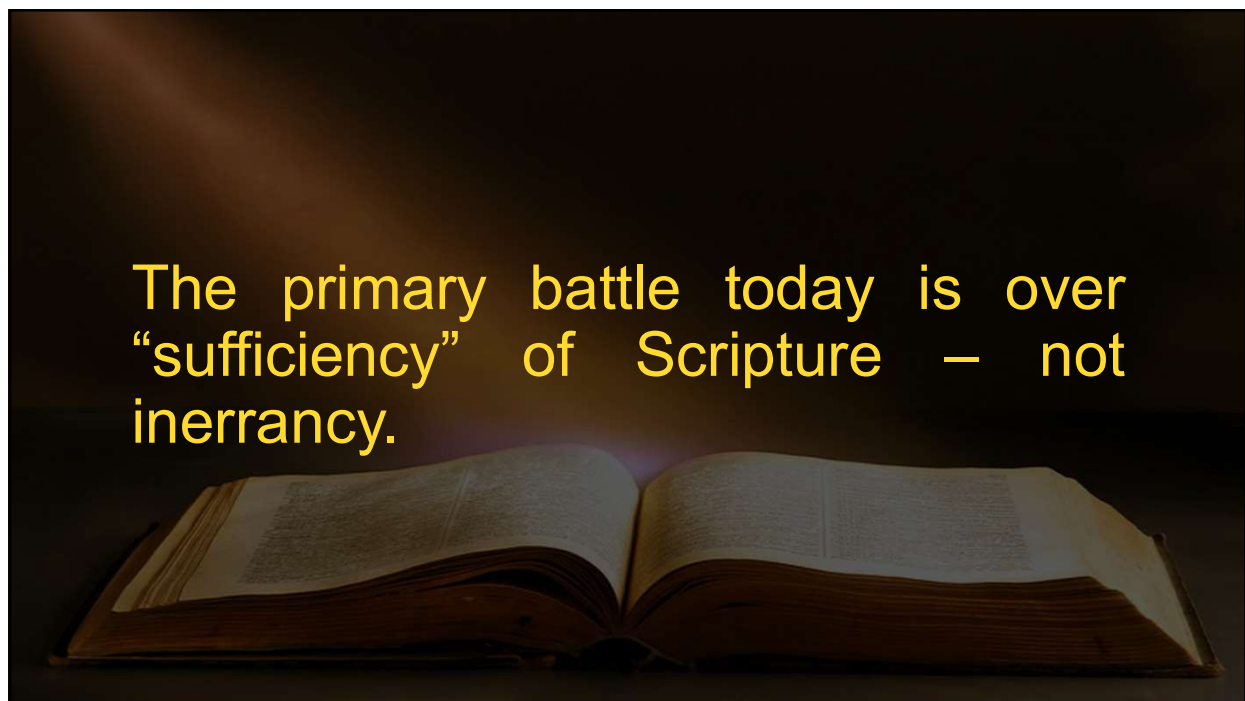
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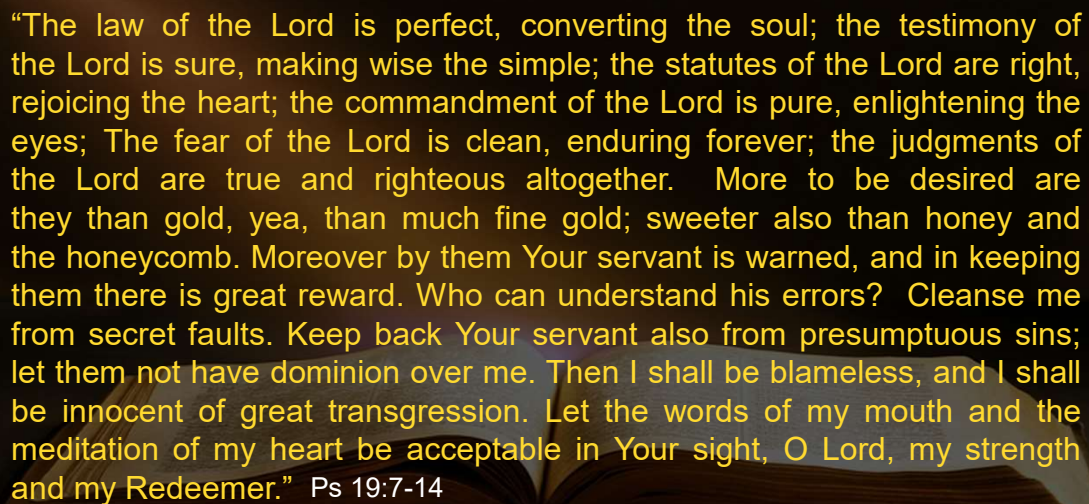
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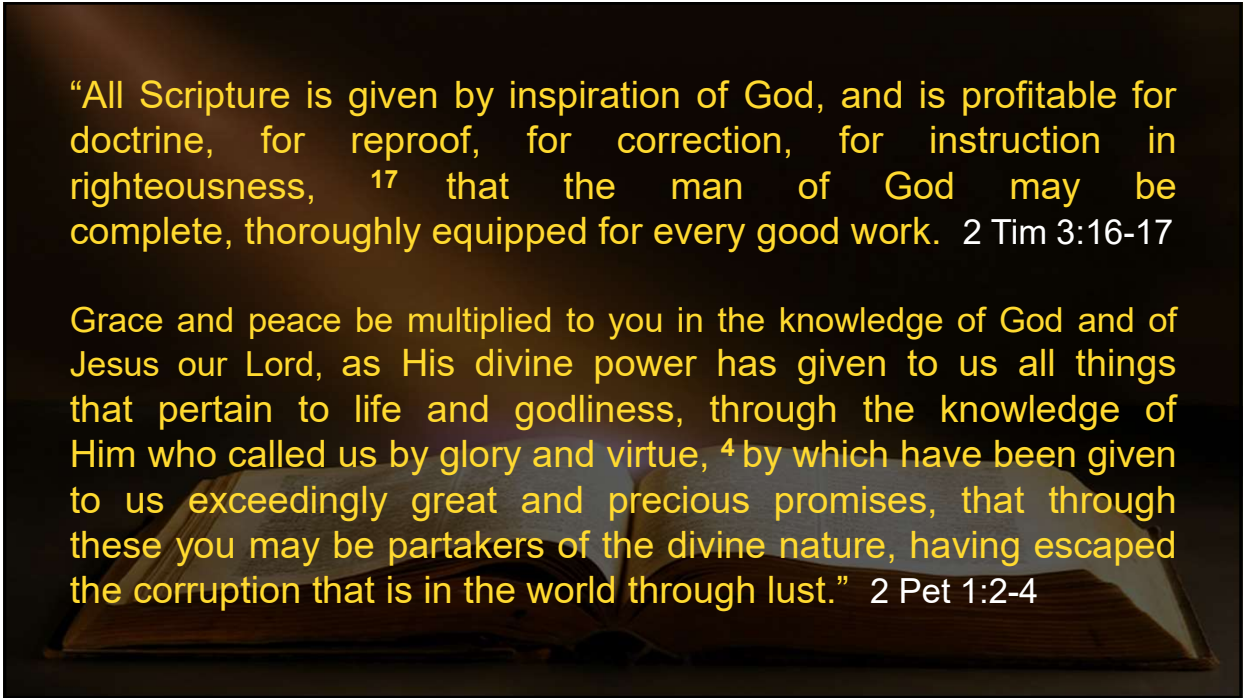


8

An open book is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat. The pages are a light cream color, and the dark binding is visible in the center. Overlaid on the image is a block of text in a yellow, serif font. The text is a quote from Psalm 19:7-14, praising the perfection and wisdom of the Lord's law and statutes, and expressing a desire for righteousness and freedom from sin.

“The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward. Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.” Ps 19:7-14

9

An open book is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat. The pages are a light cream color, and the dark binding is visible in the center. Overlaid on the image is a block of text in a yellow, serif font. The text is a quote from 2 Timothy 3:16-17, stating that all Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness.

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

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, ⁴ by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” 2 Pet 1:2-4

10

1. When reading Scripture we are instructed to use our minds

Matt 22:37 Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’

1 Cor 14:20 Brothers, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults.

Rom 11:25, 1 Cor 12:1, 1 Thess 4:13 I do not want you to be ignorant

11

2. Intellect alone will not enable us to understand Scripture:

Jn 16:13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

1 Cor 2:10,12,14 but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God ...¹²We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. ...¹⁴The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

12

3. One of the biggest obstacles to understanding truth today is pragmatism.

Pragmatism: defining truth as that which works

Left unchecked by the eternal perspective, this kind of thinking judges things in terms of short-range goals.

13

This approach to truth produces “sensuous Christians.”



“The sensuous Christian cannot be moved to service, prayer, or study unless he “feels like it” ... The sensuous Christian doesn’t need to study the Word of God because he already knows the will of God by his feelings.”

R.C. Sproul

14

4. Scripture is objective, not subjective truth

Objectivity: evaluating your life by Scripture

Subjectivity: evaluating Scripture by your life

15

5. Scripture means what it says

Even though Scripture contains metaphors, symbols, and parables, it should generally be interpreted literally

16

6. Scripture should be used to interpret Scripture

2 Pet 1:20-21 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹ for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

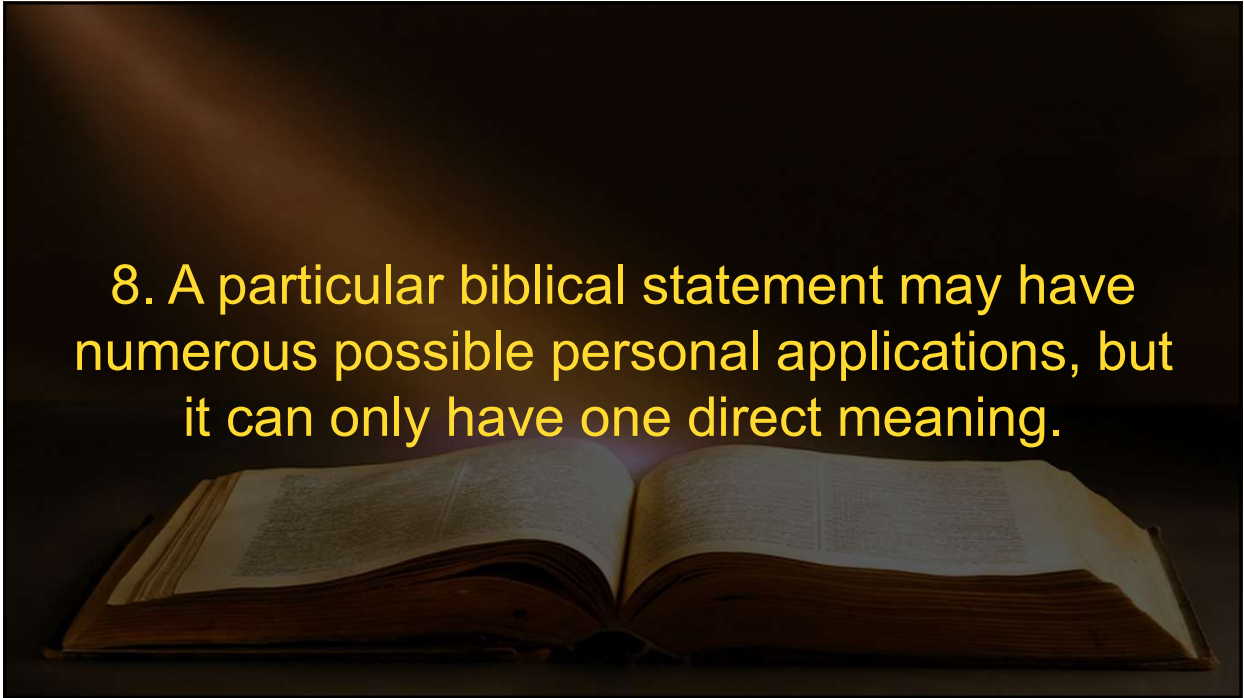
Analogy of Faith

17

7. We must practice exegesis when reading/studying Scripture – not eisegesis.

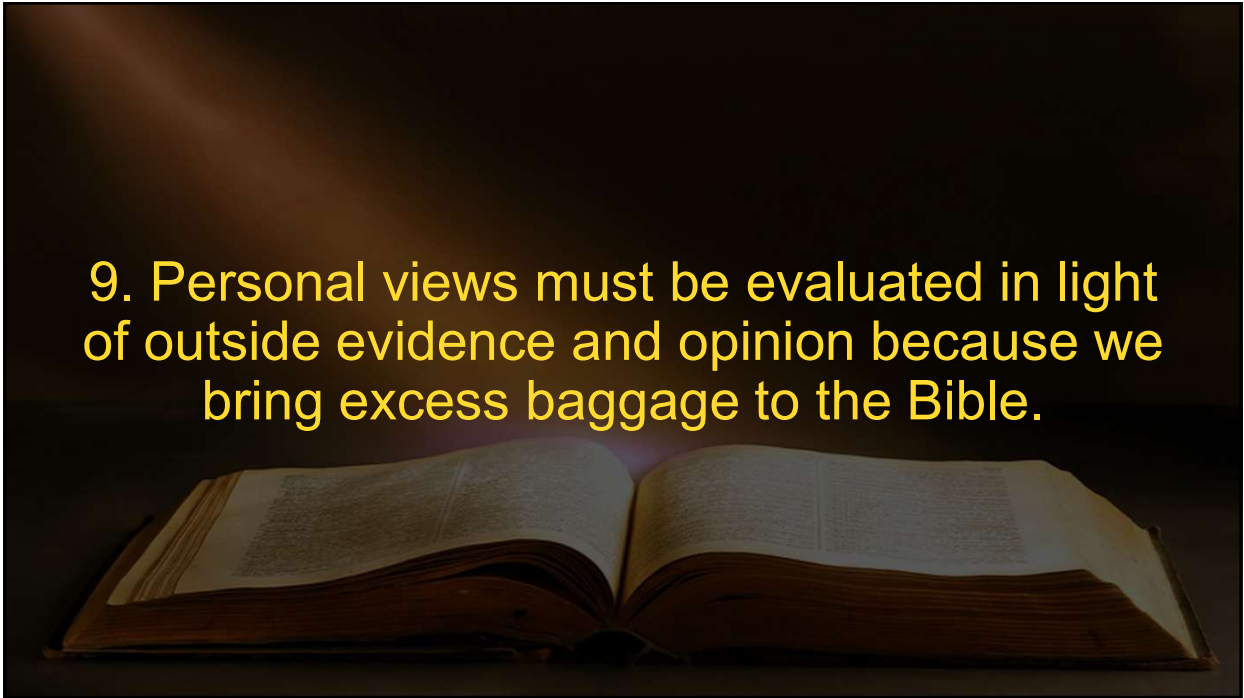
- **Exegesis** – from the Greek meaning “to guide out of” (prefix “ex” means “from” or “out of”)
- To exegete Scripture is to get out of the words the meaning that is there, no more and no less.
- **Eisegesis** – from the Greek meaning “to go into” (prefix “eis” means “into”)
- Eisegesis involves reading into the text something that is not there.

18

An open book is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat. The pages are filled with dense, small text, likely a Bible. The lighting is soft, coming from the upper left, creating a gentle glow on the pages and a slight shadow on the right side. The background is dark and out of focus.

8. A particular biblical statement may have numerous possible personal applications, but it can only have one direct meaning.

19

An open book is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat. The pages are filled with dense, small text, likely a Bible. The lighting is soft, coming from the upper left, creating a gentle glow on the pages and a slight shadow on the right side. The background is dark and out of focus.

9. Personal views must be evaluated in light of outside evidence and opinion because we bring excess baggage to the Bible.

20

10. Utilize the ministry of God-gifted teachers

Rom 12:6-7 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. ⁷If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach;

Eph 4:11-12 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹²to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

Js 3:1 Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.

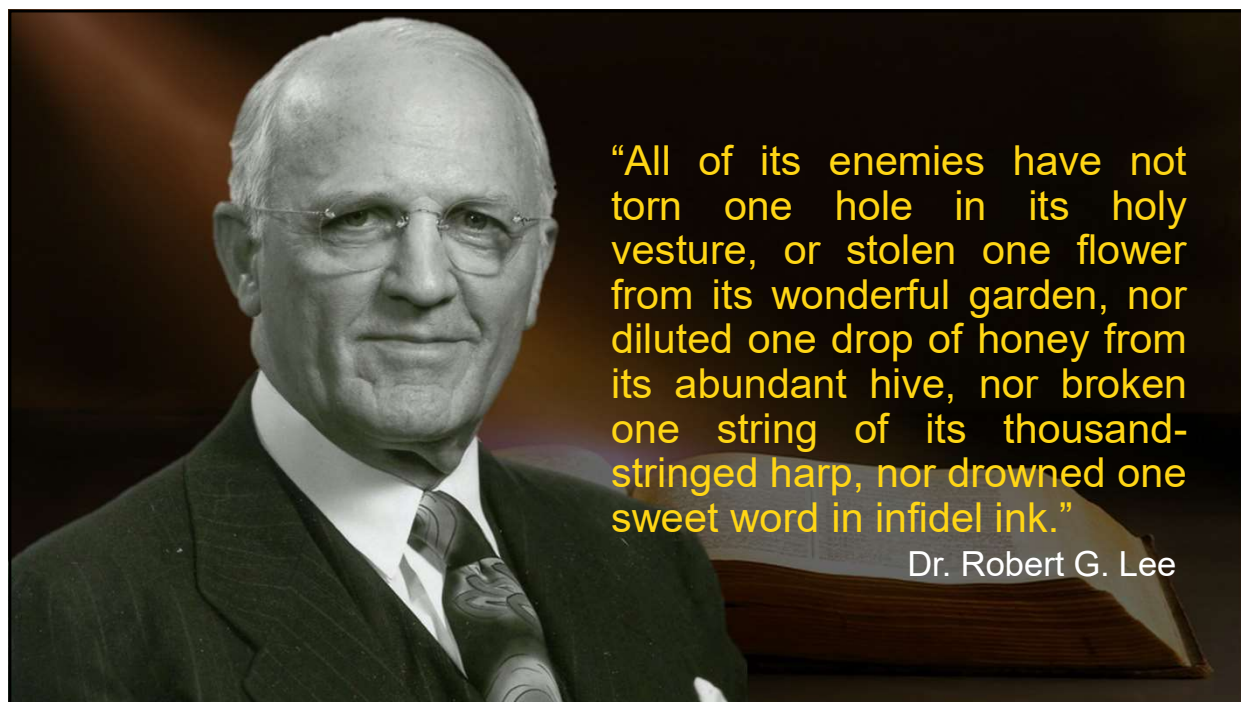
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"A thousand times over, the death knell of the Bible has been sounded, the funeral procession formed, the inscription cut on the tombstone, and committal read. But somehow the corpse never stays put."



Bernard Ramm
Theologian & apologist

22



23