

The New Testament

Matthew	Galatians	Philemon
Mark	Ephesians	Hebrews
Luke	Philippians	James
John	Colossians	1 & 2 Peter
Acts	1 & 2 Thessalonians	1, 2 & 3 John
Romans	1 & 2 Timothy	Jude
1 & 2 Corinthians	Titus	Revelation

The Holy Spirit of God inspired these writings providing our only rule for faith and life.^G

3. The writings entitled The Apocrypha do not share in the Holy Spirit's inspiration. Thus, they are not included in the canon of Holy Scripture. Having no authority in God's church, they should not be more highly esteemed nor used more frequently than other human writings.^H
4. The Bible, speaking with the authority of its author, merits our belief and obedience. Biblical authority for faith and life does not depend on human testimony nor on the witness of Christian institutions, but exclusively on God whose nature defines truth. We receive Holy Scripture because it is the Word of God.^I
5. We may be motivated and influenced by the witness of the church to hold a high and reverential esteem for Holy Scripture.^J Holy Scripture contains many evidences witnessing to its being God's Word. These evidences include its concern for spiritual realities, the effectiveness of its teaching on human life, the majesty of its literary style, its consistency, the unanimous purpose from beginning to end of giving all glory to God, revealing fully Jesus Christ as our only way of salvation, its many other incomparably excellent characteristics including finally its complete perfection. We can be persuaded and assured of the infallible truth and godly source of the Bible through the Holy Spirit's testimony. Through the effective use of God's Word he convinces our hearts of the godly source of the Bible.^K
6. The entire purpose of God concerning all things necessary for his own glory, human salvation, faith and life style is expressly written in Scripture or may be reasonably concluded through careful and logical deduction from Scripture. Never may we add anything to the teaching of Scripture whether pretending to be by revelation from the Holy Spirit or drawn from human traditions.^L Clearly, we acknowledge the illumi-