

REVELATION

The Bible is not a Book but a collection of books.

INTRODUCTION: If you ask a Catholic why he accepts the Bible as the Word of God, he has a perfectly intelligible answer. He accepts it because the Church tells him to. The Church has determined what books belong in the Bible and he accepts the decision of the Church.

If you ask a Baptist why he believes that just these books bound together in his Bible are the true Word of God, neither fewer nor more, 99 out of 100 could give you no answer that would satisfy a reasonable man.

Baptist scorn Catholics because they rely on the authority of the Church, but they can't tell you on what authority they rely. What can we say but that the church to which we belong accepts them?

SOME QUESTIONS WE WILL SEEK TO ANSWER:

1. How can we be certain that this Bible, in its present form, is the true Word of God? How did it get in that form?
2. Is Bible infallible? Proof?
3. Is it Inspired? How? Proof? (If purpose fulfilled.)
4. Why didn't God send Christ at the first? Why not follow up the fall with immediate manifestation of grace?
5. Morality of Old Testament: actions which God seems to sanction, yet New Testament condemns -- slavery, polygamy, slaughter of Canaanites, Baal priests.
6. How are we to know what in the O.T. to accept and reject? (Christ)

Must begin at the beginning -- with God. Christianity is a revealed religion. It is a revelation of, from God.

INTERLUSSION: If you ask a Catholic why he accepts the Bible as the Word of God, he has a perfectly definite answer. He accepts it because the Church tells him so. The Church has determined what books belong in the Bible and he accepts the decision of the Church.

It you ask a Socialist why he believes that just class books should
together in his Bible and the rest of the world, whether lower or more,
of one of 100 could give you no answer that would satisfy a reasonable man.

we say that the Church to which we all belong them? Of course, but they can't tell you on what authority they rely. What can Catholics learn Catholics because they rely on the authority of the Church, but they can't tell you on what authority they rely. What can

SOME "HILL STINGS" WE WERE SENT TO A STERN:

1. How can we be certain that this Bible, in its present form, is the true word of God? How did it come to be?

Progressive Revelation

1- Def - The growing apprehension of man, of the redemptive purpose of Θ which culminated in X's person & work. It is progressive apprehension.

2. Bible ref - matt 5-17 - "fulfil, Gal 4.4 - "fulfill 5th time"

3. ϕ in $O.T.$ didn't reveal all but what he did reveal was true.

④ Revelation must be progressively because it must accommodate itself to the ambition of those to whom it is made. —

5- responsible that in childhood y race, full knowledge of O could be received as in maturity

— we can't make ourselves understood by those who are utterly dislike us, nor can ϕ . Only in degrees can its character be known,

useful for X to die until men knew what holiness & righteousness

~~By~~ By slow degrees morality in O.T. had to be heightened. ^{was}

O.T. is a faithful record of a race being trained to know Θ , shows steps in progress, child can't understand father's character
I always — as able to receive it

What accept & Reject? — Person & Teaching of X

I. DEFINITION OF REVELATION: "God communicating to man religious truth which man could not otherwise know."

II. CHARACTERISTICS OF REVELATION:

1. It is an act of God. Not propositions, theo. statements.

Bible not theological textbook; God's object not to make men theological experts, but to make Himself known

2. It is historical. It was through his dealings with men that His people came to know him.

3. It is personal -- Individual knows God.

4. It comes to us in human terms -- terms we understand --

Ill -- Father - Son, adoption, new birth,

5. It is redemptive in purpose. Bible speaks of matters of ultimate concern. All that God does has for its ultimate end redemption. ...Creation, etc.

← *to it is Progressive*
III. INGREDIENTS OF REVELATION: Three things make up Revelation

1. Manifestation: The historical act of God.
2. Inspiration: that ability God gave to man to interpret the Divine manifestation.
3. Illumination: that gift of God's Spirit which enables man to grasp the record of God's inspired manifestation -- the Bible.

Christ is the final, full, and ultimate revelation of God.

Matt. 11:27
Mormans, etc.

THE RECORD OF REVELATION

The Bible is the record of the revelation of God. The only sufficient and accurate source leading to a saving knowledge of God. It is the product of manifestation and inspiration.

I. INSPIRATION:

1. Definition: Gk. "God breathed." "Inspired of God." 2 Tim. 3:16

"That influence of the Spirit of God upon the minds of the Scripture-writers which made their writings the record of the Divine revelation, sufficient when taken together and interpreted by the same Spirit who inspired them to lead every honest inquirer to Christ and salvation."

2. Characteristics of Inspiration:

why we don't accept Book of Mormon

- (1) Historically conditioned -- ended with last Apostles who were witnesses of the fulness of Christ.
- (2) Basically the work of God using human instruments.
- (3) Inspiration assumes that God can and did impress the individual writers to interpret accurately His manifestation in their day -- the PLUS.

3. Some Theories:

- (1) Intuition -- natural insight heightened, leaves out supernatural element.

- (2) Mechanical dictation -- God used man as a scribe and dictated every word -- some say man was unconscious.

Man was a typewriter. -- *Luke 1:1-4 - not a mere mouthpiece of*

- (3) Autograph -- God gave exact word He wanted in original manuscripts. What good is such a theory if we don't have original manuscripts? *Psalm - repentant work*
Others Thoughts - they are not
of this were required for saving our Bible
It would have been to it, it hasn't been secured, so not required

- (4) Dynamic --
 - a. Product of God and man
 - b. Writers retain their personalities and literary style.
 - c. Various literary media used -- poetry
 - d. Implies the thought, not specific word, inspired.

(5) Summary of theory:

- a. Bible itself has no theory.
- b. Must do justice to human divine elements -- Amos, Isa.
- c. Must have broad enough view to include preservation and a guidance of formation of canon -- selection of books.
- d. Must acknowledge illumination of Scripture by Spirit.
- e. Validated by Christian experience.
- f. Judge inspiration not by method but result.

(6) How Do We Know?

- a. By its own claims.
- b. Our experiences -- Holy Spirit uses it to convict of Sin."
- c. Fulfills purpose -- bring to salvation in Christ.
- d. By faith.