GROVE BIBLE

INERRANCY OF SCRIPTURE

BIBLIOLOGY PAPER





Inerrancy of Scripture

The Doctrine of Inerrancy teaches that The Bible is without error in the original autographs.

Inerrancy

"Inerrancy is the Latin "inerrantia", meaning freedom from error of anything, factual, moral, or spiritual" (J.I. Packer). The Bible came to us, "by the ministry of men from God's very mouth," (J. Calvin) and is supernaturally and perfectly precise. As stated in the Chicago Statement of Inerrancy, "Being wholly and verbally God-given, Scripture is without error or fault in all its teaching, no less in what it states about God's acts in creation, about the events of world history, and about its own literary origins under God, than in its witness to God's saving grace in individual lives." As King David articulated beautifully in Psalm 12:6, "The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times." God's word is flawless and like highly refined precious metals it contains no impurity. The Bible was breathed out by God, through fallible men (2 Tim 3:16, 2 Peter 1:21) in such a way that the product is the untainted, inerrant truth containing zero imperfections. Every word (Matt. 4:4), every tense (Galatians 3:16), and every letter or mark of punctuation (Matt. 5:18) was precisely pure and accurate in the original writings. "Put simply, the doctrine of inerrancy is the belief that the Bible is true" (Michael Kruger).



Inerrancy of Scripture

Original Autographs

Even though we do not possess the original autographs we have no lack of confidence regarding the truthfulness of the documents that God has preserved for us in the contemporary text. Jesus Himself did not hold in His hand the original writing of Psalm 110 but He still appealed to a single word (Lord) to prove His divinity (Matt. 22:44,45). The modern translations that we possess are grounded in thousands of copies of the original text so that they can be overlayed and compared to mitigate any textual variance. Modern manuscripts are as inerrantly accurate, as they adhere to the original writings. As such, we have the highest level of assurance in the Bible as the very Word of God, its textual purity and wealth of copies of the original manuscripts ensures a textual purity that far surpasses any other historical document that has ever existed. Any variance that exists (1%) has no doctrinal bearing on the precise truthfulness of the text that we have in our modern copies of the Bible. As stated by Jesus when praying to The Father, "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth" (John 17:17). The Bible is perfectly true and has no false affirmations, "Every word of God proves true" (Proverbs 30:5). "The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;" (Psalm 19:7).