

BIG QUESTIONS

WHAT WE BELIEVE
AND WHY IT MATTERS

Can We Trust the Bible? [Doctrine of Scripture] 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Big Idea: *The Bible is God's inspired, authoritative Word—our foundation for truth and life.*

I. The Bible is God-Breathed [2 Timothy 3:16a] (Divine Inspiration)

Application: We can trust the Bible because its source is God Himself.

II. The Bible is Profitable [2 Timothy 3:16b] (Practical Authority)

- A. Teaching - Reveals What is True
[Romans 15:4]
- B. Reproof - Confronts What is False
[Proverbs 3:11-12]
- C. Correction - Shows Us How to Get Right
[Psalm 19:7-8]
- D. Training in Righteousness
Equips Us to Stay Right [Proverbs 22:6]

Application: The Bible is not just to be read but to be lived.

III. The Bible is Powerful [2 Timothy 3:17] (Living Word)

Application: Trusting God's Word means obeying it daily and letting it shape our lives.

[2 Timothy 3:16a] All Scripture is breathed out by God . . .

[2 Peter 1:21] For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

[2 Timothy 3:16b] . . . and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, . . .

[Romans 15:4] For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

[Proverbs 3:11-12] My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of his reproof, ¹² for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights.

[Psalm 19:7-8] The law of the Lord is perfect reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

⁸ the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; [restorative] the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; [restorative]

[Proverbs 22:6] Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

God's Word:

- [1] Revives the soul,
- [2] Makes wise the simple,
- [3] Rejoices the heart,
- [4] Enlightens the eyes.

[2 Timothy 3:17] . . . that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

[Hebrews 4:12] For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

We can trust the Bible because it is:

- [1] God-breathed (its origin is divine)
- [2] Profitable (its teaching is practical and life-giving)
- [3] Powerful (its effect is transformational)

Study Questions and Prayer

- [1] Read 2 Timothy 3:16a and 2 Peter 1:21. What does it mean for the Bible to be "God-breathed," and how does this truth impact your trust in Scripture?
- [2] Read 2 Timothy 3:16b, Proverbs 3:11-12, Psalm 19:7-8, and Proverbs 22:6. How can the Bible's teachings on reproof, correction, and training in righteousness be applied to your daily life?
- [3] Read Hebrews 4:12 and 2 Timothy 3:17. In what ways has the Bible been powerful and transformational in your life, and how can you let it shape your actions and decisions daily?
- [4] Pray, asking God to help you trust in His Word, live by its truth, and let it transform your heart and life every day.