

Sermon Title: The Witness of the Sufficiency of Scripture

Sermon Text: Psalm 19:7-11

Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to a sufficient dependency on the Word of God.

Sermon Proposition: There are 7 attributes that characterized the sufficiency of God's Word.

Introduction: Scripture will ultimately suffice for a saving knowledge of God only when its certainty is founded upon the inward persuasion of the Holy Spirit. Indeed, these human testimonies which exist to confirm it will not be vain if, as secondary aids to our feebleness, they follow that chief and highest testimony. But those who wish to prove to unbelievers that Scripture is the Word of God are acting foolishly, for only by faith can this be known. – John Calvin [[The New Encyclopedia of Christian Quotations, Baker Books, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49516; p.922](#)]

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are the only sufficient, certain and authoritative rule of all saving knowledge, faith and obedience. [[James Boyce, Abstract Principles, 1858](#)]

1. What the Scriptures are. (Root)
 - a. how
 - b. testimony
 - c. status
 - d. commandments
 - e. fear
 - f. judgment

2. What the Scriptures characterize. (Branches)
 - a. perfect
 - b. sure
 - c. right
 - d. pure
 - e. clean
 - f. true

3. What the Scriptures effectively accomplish. (Fruit)
 - a. converts
 - b. makes wise
 - c. rejoices the heart
 - d. enlightens
 - e. endures
 - f. righteousness

I. The Scriptures are a witness of divine instruction. V.7

- A. The divine instructions are sufficient because they are perfect. V.7a
The Word of God is flawless.

Psalm 12:6 The words of the LORD *are* pure words, *Like* silver tried in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times.

Psalm 18:30 *As for* God, His way *is* perfect; The word of the LORD is proven; He *is* a shield to all who trust in Him.

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God *is* pure; He *is* a shield to those who put their trust in Him.

- B. The divine instructions are sufficient because they transform. V.7b

II. The Scriptures are a witness of divine testimony. V.7c

- A. The divine testimony is sufficient because they are sure.
This speaks to the reliability of the Word of God. The word testimony at its root means “to bear witness.” The Word bears testimony to the divine authority of its creator. V.7d
2 Peter 1:19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;
- B. The divine testimony is sufficient because they make simple people wise. V.7e
The root meaning is “an open door” for simple. (Psalm 1:1-5)
Psalm 119:98-100 You, through Your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; For they *are* ever with me. **99** I have more understanding than all my teachers, For Your testimonies *are* my meditation. **100** I understand more than the ancients, Because I keep Your precepts.

The Scripture makes us close the “open door of their mind,” to all that is false. Therefore, we become “wise” skilled in practical daily living.

In Hebrew literature wisdom referred to discernment in daily living, God is the source of wisdom, all will as the Scripture, because He is their source. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
John 17:17 "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.
1 Peter 2:2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby,
Psalm 119:34-37 Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law; Indeed, I shall observe it with *my* whole heart. **35** Make me walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it. **36** Incline my heart to Your testimonies, And not to covetousness. **37** Turn away my eyes from looking at worthless things, *And* revive me in Your way.

III. The Scriptures are a witness of divine doctrine. V.8

The teachings of Scripture are not suggestions for life, stories for entertainment, or material for bumper stickers and T-shirts. They are absolute principles for life, because doctrine means truth, God’s truth.

- A. The divine doctrine is sufficient because they are right. V.8a
The right path for life is laid out in the Scriptures.
Psalm 119:105 Your word *is* a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.
How we navigate life in this world is by the light that illuminates along the path of Scriptural doctrine.
- B. The divine doctrine is sufficient because they rejoice the heart. V.8b
The doctrine of God provides joy to the inner man, because you are walking the right path, laid out by God.
1 John 2:6 He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.
- Joy comes from right application of divine truth as given by God. (Emmaus Road; Ethiopian Unicef)
- 1 John 1:4** And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.
Luke 11:28 But He said, "More than that, blessed *are* those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

IV. The Scriptures are a witness of divine mandates. V.8c

- A. The divine mandates are sufficient because they are pure. V.8d
This refers to the clarity, transparency, and clear direction for life the Scriptures provide. The Scriptural mandates are clear to those who are redeemed and unredeemed.
1 Corinthians 2:13-16 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. **14** But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned. **15** But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is *rightly* judged by no one. **16** For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ.
- B. The divine mandates are sufficient because they enlighten the eyes. V.8e
The commandments open, illuminate one's eyes, they brighten his life and guide him. The "mind of Christ" means to see life as Christ saw it, to see people, places, and things as Christ saw them. It allows us to see things as they really are.

V. The Scriptures are a witness of divine Worship. V.9a

Quote by John MacArthur "Your Bible is a manual for worship, worship is declaring back to God what He has revealed. We do not know or understand how to worship God apart from His Word."

- A. The divine worship is sufficient because it is clean. V.9b
This refers to worship being free of error, corruption, defilement, imperfection, impurity. This worship is to be done in recognition of the awe and awesomeness of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
Proverbs 9:10 "The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One *is* understanding.
Psalms 12:6 The words of the LORD *are* pure words, *Like* silver tried in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times.
- B. The divine worship is sufficient because they endure forever. V.9c
The evidence is clear since the worship of God is tied to His Word, that is clean, then the worship of God should be clean. The Scriptures are eternal, because their origin is God.

VI. The Scriptures are a witness of divine judicial verdicts. V.9d

- A. The divine judicial verdicts are sufficient because they precede from the Holy Tribunal of Heaven. V.9e
- B. The divine judicial verdicts are sufficient because they are true. V.9e
- C. The divine judicial verdicts are sufficient because they are righteous. V.9f
The Scriptures produce comprehensive righteousness. (**Revelation 22:18-19**)

VII. The Scriptures are a witness of divine satisfaction. V.10-11

- A. The value of the Scriptures. V.10a
- B. The sweetness of the Scriptures. V.10b
- C. The protection of the Scriptures. V.11a
- D. The benefits of the Scriptures. V.11b

Close: Joshua 1:8-10 "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. **9** "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God *is* with you wherever you go." **10** Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,