

Reformed Systematic Theology

Week Four – The Attributes of Holy Scripture, part 2

1. Introduction and Review
2. The Bible's Authority – WCF 1.4
 - A. Authority does not reside in the testimony of any person or church respecting the Bible
 - B. It's authority is based on the simple fact that God Himself is the sole author:
 1. The very words of the living God.
 2. Its authority comes from the heavens and requires no earthly advocate.
 3. Its authority is intrinsic and inherent – it is self-validating.
 - C. Discussion of Classical Apologetics
3. The Bible's Self-authentication – WCF 1.5
 - A. This article asserts:
 1. The Bible's self authentication.
 2. The Bible's self-evidencing.
 3. The Bible's self-attesting.
 4. The Bible's self-validating.
 5. The necessity of the Holy Spirit's saving work.
 - B. Eight self-evidencing subjects:
 1. The heavenliness of the subject matter.
 2. The efficacy of its doctrine.
 3. The majesty of its style.
 4. The consent of all its parts.
 5. The purpose of the whole.
 6. The full disclosure it makes of the only way to salvation.
 7. Its many other incomparable Excellencies.
 8. Its entire perfection.
 - C. Arguments – Why do not all people therefore acknowledge that it is the word of God?
4. The Bible's Sufficiency – WCF 1.6
5. The Bible's Perspicuity – WCF 1.7
 - A. Definition -- The quality of being perspicuous; clear and lucid.

B. God's word was delivered in a clear and comprehensible manner.

6. The Bible's Finality – WCF 1.8-10

7. Conclusion