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## The Equipping Power of the Profitable, God-breathed Scriptures

### Introduction: the Word of God is...

- divinely inspired – the doctrine of “Inspiration”
- without error - the doctrine of “Inerrancy”
- incapable of failing - the doctrine of “Infallibility”
- understood & obeyed thru the work of the Holy Spirit – the doctrine of “Illumination”

### 1. All Scripture is God-breathed: Know, trust & believe God’s word

- “Scripture” – God’s written Word
- “All” Scripture – the whole Bible
- All Scripture is “God-breathed” – God spoke (breathed-out) His word thru human authors

### 2. How was Scripture written?

- God inspired (spoke thru) what humans wrote (see above)
- God supernaturally revealed Himself & verbally spoke to humans
- God used multiple authors:
  - who from personal experience (& some were eye-witnesses)
  - who wrote the truth with accurate historical detail
  - who believed, obeyed & suffered for what they wrote
  - who wrote a Christ-centered, unifying message over 1500 years

- God confirmed what Scripture is by His Spirit, His Word & thru His people

### 3. All Scripture is profitable (useful): be transformed by & obey the word

- in these last days – as people love sin & turn away from the truth
- for teaching, reproof, correction & training in righteousness
- that we may be equipped for every good work

### Excursus: Understanding Scripture as God’s Word

#### Some Theological Terms related to Scripture

- *Inspiration*: Scripture is *inspired* by God – spoken, breathed out, by God through human authors. God spoke through the writings of human authors, (who wrote in light of their own personalities, life experiences, & so forth (2Ti 3:16; Is 55:11; 2Pe 1:19ff; Ac 1:16; See examples of what humans wrote referred to as Scripture: Mt 19:4f; Mk 7:9-13; Lk 10:7; 1Ti 5:18; 2Pe 3:16).
- *Inerrancy*: Scripture is *inerrant*, without error – in the original manuscripts (Ps 119:43, 160; Jn 17:17; Eph 1:13; Col 1:5; 2Ti 2:15; Jm 1:18)
- *Infallibility*: Scripture is *infallible*, incapable of failing in its divine & predetermined purpose (Is 55:10f; Ro 1:16; 1Pe 1:22ff; cf. Mk 4; Ro 10:14ff)
- *Illumination*: Scripture is *illuminated* for us by the Holy Spirit who empowers us to understand, interpret & obey the word (Ps 119:18, 169; Mt 13:10ff; Jn 14:26, 15:26, 16:8ff, 1Co 2:14; 2Co 4:3ff; Eph 1:15ff; 1Th 1:5; 1Jn 2:27; cf. Ps 1; Is 6:8ff; Dan 5:15; Lk 24:25ff; Rom 11:7ff; Heb 4:12).

#### Some Examples of different English Translations of 2 Timothy 3:16a

ESV - All Scripture is *breathed out* by God

NIV - All Scripture is *God-breathed*

AMB - All Scripture is *God-breathed* [given by divine inspiration]

CSB - All Scripture is *inspired* by God<sup>[a]</sup> [<sup>a</sup> Lit *breathed out by God*]

NASB - All Scripture is <sup>[i]</sup>*inspired* by God [<sup>i</sup> Lit *God-breathed*]

NLT - All Scripture is *inspired* by God