DOCTRINE over differences, discord, denonimations and dysfunctions Pt. 6

Ivy Baptist Church Bible Study
Instructor: Pastor Kevin Swann
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Goals of this series:

- To study the key tenets of our faith
- To use these tenets to connect with other believers so that we are representing God/Christ/the church properly
- Remember: Tenets are GREATER than personal beliefs and interpretation

Review: How do we as believers find our way and represent Christ in such a divisive and polarizing time?

- Answer: We must connect with the TENETS of our faith
- Tenets: A principle or belief, especially one of the main principles of a religion
- We have to get back to the TRUE doctrine of Christianity. Doctrine and tenets go together

Review:

- **Tenet #1 of Christianity:** Jesus Christ is the only way to Eternal Salvation with God the Father
- **Tenet #2 of Christianity:** We are saved by GRACE THROUGH FAITH ALONE. We are NOT saved by works
- **Tenet #3 of Christianity:** Jesus Christ is the Son of God
- **Tenet #4 of Christianity:** The Incarnation of Jesus
- **Tenet #5 of Christianity:** The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Today's Lesson:

- **Tenet #6 of Christianity: The Bible is the Inspired and Infallible Word of God**
- What does it mean for the Bible to be inspired?
- Webster's Definition: Inspired: of another substance that is "breathed" in.
- **Key:** If the Bible is "inspired" then someone had to "breathe" into the books.
- **Remember:** The Bible is not one book, but a collection of 66 books
- But all the of the books share a common "theme" from a common "source"

Facts on the Bible:

- There are at least 35 humans who helped to write the books of the Bible
- These books are arranged into 2 testaments (Old and New)
- The Bible was written over a period of 1,500 years

Key Question:

- **How does 66 little books make up one big book that has ONE similar theme throughout it even though at least 35 people wrote it over a 1,500 year period????**

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- The Bible was inspired by God through the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit inspired the authors to write the verses/books

Scriptures that support the Bible is inspired by God through the Holy Spirit:

- **2 Timothy 3:16-17:** All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. (NIV)
- **2 Peter 1:20-21:** Above all, you must realize that no prophecy in scripture ever came from the prophet's own understanding, or from human initiative. No, these prophets were moved by the Holy Spirit, and they spoke from God. (NLT)

The Bible is the Infallible Word of God:

- What does it mean for the Bible to be infallible?
- Webster's Definition: Infallible: incapable of making mistakes or being wrong

Key:

- This position is that the Bible is free from errors
- There are MANY people who dispute this
- There ARE several verses that are difficult to interpret or appear to contradict one another

Addressing apparent "errors" in the Bible:

- Authors focus on different things
- Our interpretations of the text
- Cultural differences (then vs. now)
- What was passed down was not God's original message

Verses:

- 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and 2 Peter 1:20-21 are verses that prove BOTH the inspiration AND infallibility of God's Word.
- Psalm 19:7a: The Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul…
- Proverbs 30:5a: Every Word of God is flawless…

Conclusion:

- The Bible is LITERALLY the Word of God as it was inspired by the Holy Spirit and therefore cannot be wrong (infallible)

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