

THE DOCTRINE OF SCRIPTURE

Part One: A theology of Scripture

*The authorship, character, and
authority of the Bible*

Adult Sunday School

9:30 am

Teacher: Mark Lincoln

Why the need for Scripture?

- To reveal God and His will for man

**Can knowledge about God be found
anywhere else?**

- Yes; God has revealed Himself to all men through creation and man's conscience

Why isn't this revelation sufficient ?

- It cannot bring men into a relationship with God; it lacks redemptive content

Summary

Primary Point:

- General revelation in itself does not produce a saving relationship with God
- It does leave all men everywhere without excuse for their ignorance and idolatry because they willfully refuse to acknowledge God

Summary

Secondary Point:

- Men do not respond to this revelation by honoring God and seeking to know Him, but willfully suppress this knowledge in rebellion against God
 - The meaning of Romans 1:18-32; (see also 1 Cor. 1:21; 2:14; John 3:19-20)
 - The sinfulness of natural man – its effect on the mind and heart
 - Scriptural evidence that disproves the above point

Special Revelation

- **Definition:** God's particular communications and manifestations of Himself to specific persons at specific times
- **Purpose:** to make Himself known to sinners that we might have relationship with Him
 - Relational, not merely informational

Special Revelation

1. Specific

- Not only in content, but to a very limited number of people at specific times
- Applicable in principle to everyone; binding force on all succeeding generations – God does not change

2. How? – modes of revelation

- Acts of history (eg. Exodus, crucifixion)
- Divine speech
- The incarnation of His Son

Special Revelation

3. Nature (Hebrews 1:1-2)

A. Verbal in form

- Real, objective, rational information
- No historical event can reveal God unless God discloses its meaning
- Allows for a written record of revelation

B. Cumulative

- Gradual process that “builds” to Christ
- Completed in Christ
- Necessitates a written record