

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

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
- Indirectly, multitudes have been and continue to be the recipients of this revelation

Special Revelation

2. How? – modes of revelation

- **Mighty acts of history (eg. Exodus, crucifixion, resurrection)**
- **Divine speech (many forms – audible, visions, dreams)**
- **The incarnation of His Son (“the Word” made flesh)**

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

Today, the Bible is the *only source* of special, authoritative revelation for us

Why do we believe the Scriptures are God's words of revelation?