

Jesus on Scripture

By Elder David Pyles

One of the most debated issues in Christianity today is the inspiration and inerrancy of scripture. It is a strange thing that professing Christians should be unsettled on this point while claiming to be resolute in their conviction that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. If the latter be true, and if Jesus taught a definite position on scripture, then every true Christian should immediately know what his own position should be. A Christian cannot be consistent in claiming that Jesus is the Son of God while disclaiming anything Jesus taught. Now the position Jesus took on this subject could not have been clearer: He taught that the scriptures are the inspired and inerrant word of God.

Jesus clearly implied this in Jn 10:35 where He said “...*the scripture cannot be broken.*” Again, He said in Matt 5:18, “*For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.*” By the “law” He of course meant the Old Testament scriptures. Then in Mt 22:43 Jesus spoke of David writing the Psalms “*in spirit,*” by which Jesus clearly meant that David wrote being inspired of the Holy Spirit. Perhaps one of His most convincing statements occurred in Matt 26:53 where He admonished Peter for using a sword against His abductors: “*Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?*” Hence, one could reasonably allege that Jesus staked His very life on the inspiration and inerrancy of scripture.

Add to this the numerous places where Jesus settled various issues by appealing to scripture: In Mt 12:3 He settled a dispute over the Sabbath by quoting scripture. In Mt 19:4 He did the same with a dispute over marriage. He had a disagreement with the scribes in Mt 21:16 over worship by children. Again, He answered the matter with scripture. Later in the same chapter (vs 10), He did the same in answering objections to His teachings about Himself. In the fourth chapter of Luke, three times the devil attempted to corrupt Him, but Jesus countered the devil on each attempt by quoting a scripture. His famous dispute with the Sadducees over the resurrection ended when He answered them with scripture (Mk 12:26).

Jesus also settled for us the question of *what* is scripture. The books we have in the Bible were placed there because the evidence says that Jesus and His Apostles recognized them as scripture. Other books were omitted because such proof was lacking.

This evidence should be convincing to any reasonable mind. It is a pretentious claim to be a follower of Jesus Christ while also questioning the accuracy or authority of the Bible. *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.”* – 2Tim 3:16-4:1.