**INTRODUCTION**

A. Bibliology: The Study of the Divine Nature of the Bible

B. Review:
   a. General Revelation – God reveals vague realities of Himself (His existence, divine nature and power) through nature, providence and human conscience.
   b. Special Revelation – God reveals specific truths of Himself (sufficient knowledge to know Him and to become like Him) through His Word.
   c. Authority and Inspiration – Since the Word claims to be inspired by God Himself it is therefore authoritative by nature of God who has all authority.

C. MAIN THOUGHT: The Word of God is perfect and completely sufficient to transform us into men and women useful for God’s mission.
   a. God has given us a powerful resource to align/sanctify us for His purpose (John 17:17)
   b. The Word of God is like a treasured possession that a child finds in a box in the attic.

**I. THE INERRACY AND INFALLIBILITY OF SCRIPTURE**

A. Definition of Inerrancy and Infallibility
   1. Inerrancy: The Word of God is without error
      - “By this word we mean that the Scriptures possess the quality of freedom from error. They are exempt from the liability to mistake, incapable of error. In all their teachings they are in perfect accord with the truth” (E. J. Young quoted by Enns in The Moody Handbook of Theology, 167).
      - “Inerrancy means that when all the facts are known, the Scriptures in their original autographs and properly interpreted will be shown to be wholly true in everything they teach, whether that teaching has to do with doctrine, history, science, geography, geology, or other disciplines of knowledge” (Enns, 167).
   2. Infallibility: The Word of God will not mislead

B. The Necessity of Inerrancy and Infallibility
   1. If inspiration is true, then it demands inerrancy and infallibility
   2. In light of the character of God who breathed out the Bible (Num. 23:19; 1 Sam. 15:29; Titus 1:2; Heb. 6:18), inerrancy and infallibility is the only logical conclusion
      a) God is true (Rom. 3:4)
      b) The Scriptures were “breathed out” by God (2 Tim. 3:16)
      c) Therefore, Scripture is true since it came from the breath of God who is true

C. The Bible’s Testimony to Inerrancy and Infallibility
   1. “The words of the LORD are pure words” (Ps. 12:6)
   2. “The law of the LORD is perfect” (Ps. 19:7)
   3. “The judgments of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether” (Ps. 19:9)
   4. “Thy word is very pure” (Ps. 119:140)
   5. “Thy law is truth” (Ps. 119:142)
   6. “Thy testimonies are righteous forever” (Ps. 119:144)
   7. “All Thy commandments are truth” (Ps. 119:151)
   8. “The sum of Thy word is truth” (Ps. 119:160)
   9. “Every word of God proves true” (Prov. 30:5)
   10. “Sanctify them by Your truth; Thy word is truth” (John 17:17)
D. Historical and Scientific accuracy  
1. Historical: All attempts to discredit the historical accuracy of the Bible have failed miserably. Archaeology has constantly confirmed the Bible’s historicity. Any apparent discrepancies, given the time, have and will show the Bible’s accuracy.  
2. Scientific: The Bible does not and will not contradict any fact of science.  

E. Inspiration and therefore inerrancy is limited to the Original Manuscripts (autographa)  
1. The Bible is inerrant as long as it represents the original manuscripts  
2. In light of the numerous manuscripts that we possess, we believe that this Bible accurately represents the original manuscripts (mss.).  
   a) Textual Criticism is the art and science of examining the authenticity of mss.  
   b) Comparing the manuscripts shows accuracy in copying that is unequaled for any other writing of that age.  
   c) Over 5,000 mss. that either contain the complete N.T or portions of it.  
   d) “The Christian can take the whole Bible in his hand and say without fear or hesitation that he holds in it the true word of God, handed down without essential loss from generation to generation throughout the centuries” (Norman Geisler, A General Introduction to the Bible, 355).  

II. THE CANON OF SCRIpTURE  
A. The Collection of Scripture  
1. God allowed for His people to recognize, collect, and preserve His Word (Dan 9:2ff; Neh 9:14; Mt 5:17; John 10). The apocryphal books are not accepted as part of the canon of Scripture because they do not pass these principles of canonicity.  
2. Principles of Canonicity (Geiser & Nix, From God To Us, 67-71)  
   a) Authoritative: Does it claim to be of God?  
   b) Prophetic: Was it written by a servant of God?  
   c) Authentic: Does it tell the truth about God or man?  
   d) Dynamic: Does it possess the life-transforming power of God?  
   e) Received: Is it recognized as being from God?  

B. The Closure of Scripture  
1. The Scriptures were once for all Delivered (Jude 1:3)  
   a) Jude is urging the believers to earnestly contend for faith of the gospel  
   b) This gospel was “once for all” handed down to the saints.  
   c) Since we have everything handed down to the saints there is no need for further revelation from God about the contents of our salvation.  
2. Prophecies are not to be added to the Scripture (Rev. 22:18-19)  
   a) “This book” is referring to the book of Revelation not the Bible  
   b) The consequences of altering these prophecies of Revelation  
      (1) If one adds prophecies; God will add to him the plagues written about  
      (2) If one takes prophecies away; God will take away his part from the tree of life and the holy city  
   c) Prophecies in Revelation span from the time of the apostles to Jesus’ return  
   d) Therefore, God does not allow prophecies of equal authority to the Scriptures. However, this does not exclude the legitimacy of the gift of prophecy referred to in 1 Corinthians 14:1-40.  
3. There is no need to add more books to the Scriptures. The 39 books of the Hebrew Old Testament and the 27 books of the Greek New Testament comprise the whole canon of Scripture. The book of Revelation puts an end to this authoritative prophetic ministry and therefore closes the canon of Scripture (Rev. 22:18-19).
III. THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

A. The Definition and Importance of Sufficiency
1. The Bible contains everything the believer could possibly need to meet every challenge, temptation, trial, and circumstance to live victoriously and with joy.
2. God has revealed to us everything that we need for life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:3)

B. The Scope of Sufficiency (Psalm 19:7-14)
1. Sufficient to convert a soul to salvation (Ps. 19:7a; cf. 2 Tim. 3:15; James 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:23)
2. Sufficient to give wisdom (Ps. 19:7b; cf. 119:104)
3. Sufficient to give joy (Ps. 19:8a)
4. Sufficient to give spiritual insight (Ps. 19:8b; cf. 119:98-100)
5. Sufficient to warn from error and keep from sinning (Ps. 19:11-13; cf. Ps. 119:9-11)
7. Sufficient to meet any temptation (Eph. 6:17; cf., Matt. 4:1-11)
8. Sufficient to give the believer a fear of God (Ps. 119:38)
9. Sufficient to equip for service (2 Tim. 3:16-17)

C. The Power of the Sufficiency of the Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17)
1. Paul claimed that the Word brought salvation initially to Timothy (v. 15)
2. Every portion of Scripture is sufficient (v. 16a)
   a) Every word, phrase and passage of Scripture is sufficient
3. The Goal of Sufficiency (v. 17)
   a) A Man of God who is competent and fully equipped for every good work.
   b) People who are fully capable of accomplishing every task that God has planned for them (Eph. 2:10).
4. The Mechanics of Sufficiency (v. 16b)
   a) Teaching: This term does not refer as much to the activity of instructing but rather to the body of information being conveyed. All of Scripture is useful for establishing sound doctrine (Tit. 2:1) so that individuals will not be “tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine” (Eph. 4:14).
   b) Reproof: All of Scripture is also useful for reproof. A reproof or rebuke is a pointing out of someone’s error. It is impossible to discern error without a standard such as Scripture. When one uses Scripture to rebuke sin they do not put themselves in the place of judgment but simply point out inconsistencies between an individual’s life and the Scripture’s standards.
   c) Correction: Correction is the necessary follow up step after someone has been rebuked. Once sin has been pointed out, one must then suggest how an individual corrects his/her sin.
   d) Training in Righteousness: Scripture is also useful for “training in righteousness”. This carries the idea of developing lifestyle habits that will assist individuals in living consistently with the Scripture.
CONCLUSION

A. MAIN THOUGHT: The Word of God is perfect and completely sufficient to transform us into men and women useful for God’s mission.
   a. God’s Word must inform, drive, dictate and empower our lives
   b. Discipling/Counseling is very difficult if people do not revere God’s Word.

B. God has given us His Word to align us as a people for His gospel mission
   a. The Word is a sword that convicts and pierces to the heart’s intentions (Heb. 4:12)
   b. The Word is a mirror revealing the reality of humanity and sinfulness (James 1:22-25)
   c. The Word is plumb line to align our thoughts and lives up against (Amos 7:8)
   d. The Word informs and enlightens us as we seek to join God on His mission
      i. A Lamp unto our path (Ps. 119:105)
      ii. “For the commandment is a lamp and the teaching a light, and the reproofs of discipline are the way of life,” (Prov. 6:23)

C. The Word of God keeps us aligned with the Story of God
   a. God is seeking to form a people to glorify Himself
   b. God’s Word is the sufficient agent to align us to purpose
   c. We are God’s workmanship formed in Christ Jesus to walk in the good works that He has outlined for us in this generation (Eph. 2:10).