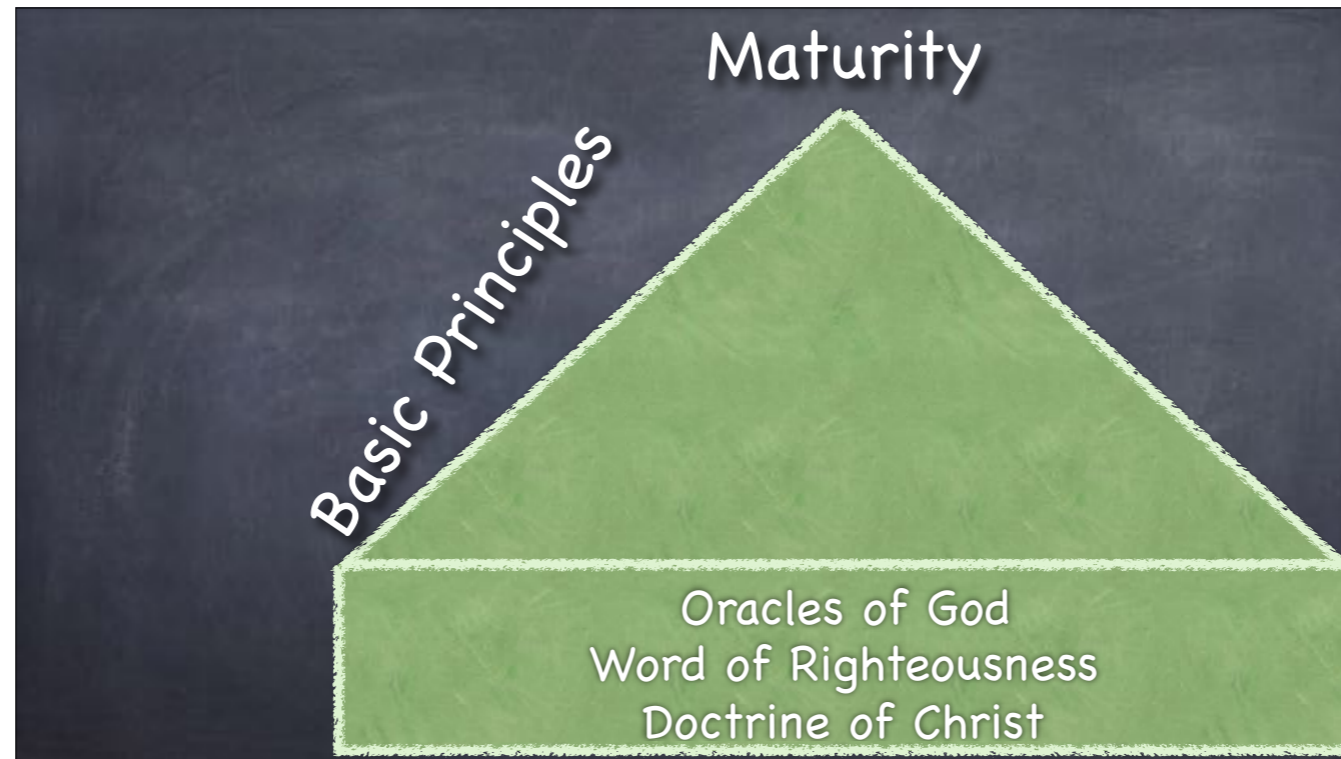


- 1 Thessalonians 2:13 (ESV)
- 13 And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.



- Hebrews 5:11 - 6:2
 - 12 the basic principles of the oracles of God
 - 13 the word of righteousness,
 - 1 Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ
- God exists
- God has communicated with us.

he reasoned with them
from the Scriptures

Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

- Acts 17:1-3 (ESV) 1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ."

he reasoned with them
from the Scriptures

Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

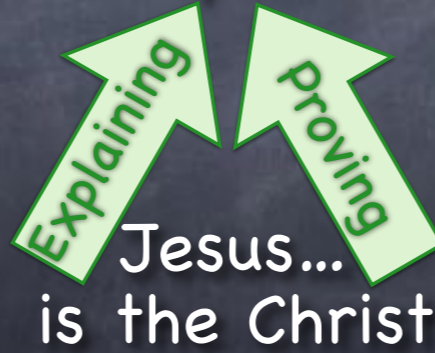
- Basis of teaching is the Scriptures
 - Implies that Paul saw them as originating from God, and therefore: authoritative and true
 - Implies that Paul expected them to have a certain amount of respect for these Scriptures, because they came from God.

he reasoned with them
from the Scriptures

Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

- Paul reasoned...
 - Studying the Bible is an active, thinking effort.
 - Our God who gave us the Scriptures expects us to think about them and use them (carefully and prayerfully).
 - They can be misunderstood and twisted.

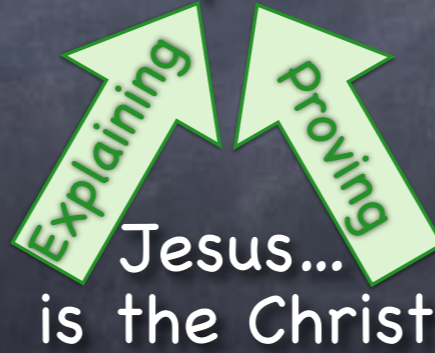
he reasoned with them
from the Scriptures



Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

- Explaining
 - Helping to clarify meaning and relationship between passages
- Proving
 - Providing a reasoned and reasonable demonstration of the truth
- Jesus is the Christ
 - Focused and to the point of the Scriptures:
 - salvation, forgiveness, reconciliation

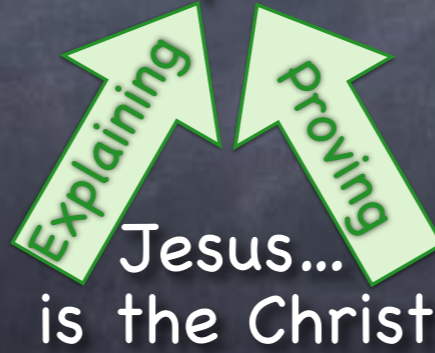
he reasoned with them
from the Scriptures



Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

- Paul didn't come to them and expect them to believe just because he told them something.
 - I am Paul! Listen to me!
 - He did not present himself as the authority, rather he pointed to Scriptures, which pointed to God.

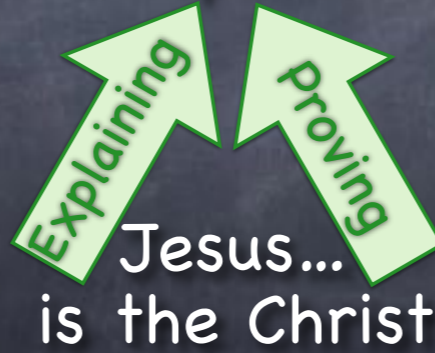
he reasoned with them
from the Scriptures



Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

- Paul opened the **Scriptures**, turned to passages that taught about the Christ, the chosen one, then showed conclusively how Jesus fulfilled those teachings and prophecies.

he reasoned with them } persuaded
from the Scriptures } and joined



Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

- Acts 17:4 (ESV) 4 And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women.
- It wasn't about Paul and Silas...
- It was that the truth was taught and accepted by both Jews, Greeks and Women

when you received the word of God,
which you heard from us, you accepted
it not as the word of men but as what
it really is, the word of God, which is
at work in you believers.

1 Thessalonians 2:13, NT p. 352

- 1 Thessalonians 2:13: And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

Word of Men

Word of God

- 1 Thessalonians 2:13: And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers.

Word of Men

Word of God

How do I know?

- How do I know?
 - People I trust, and like, and respect
 - Truths that appeal to me, make sense
 - Many, many people believe
 - It makes my life easier, more powerful, richer

How do I know?

Word of Men

Word of God

he reasoned
with them
from the
Scriptures

Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

- Acts 17:1-3 (ESV) 1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ."

How do I know?

Word of Men

"The voice of
a god, and
not of a
man!"

Acts 12:22, NT p. 225

Word of God

he reasoned
with them
from the
Scriptures

Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

- Acts 12:20-24 (ESV) 20 Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon, and they came to him with one accord, and having persuaded Blastus, the king's chamberlain, they asked for peace, because their country depended on the king's country for food. 21 On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration to them. 22 And the people were shouting, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!" 23 Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.

How do I know?

Word of Men

"The voice of
a god, and
not of a
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Acts 12:22, NT p. 225

Word of God

he reasoned
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Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

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Acts 17:1-3, NT p. 234-235

Word of God



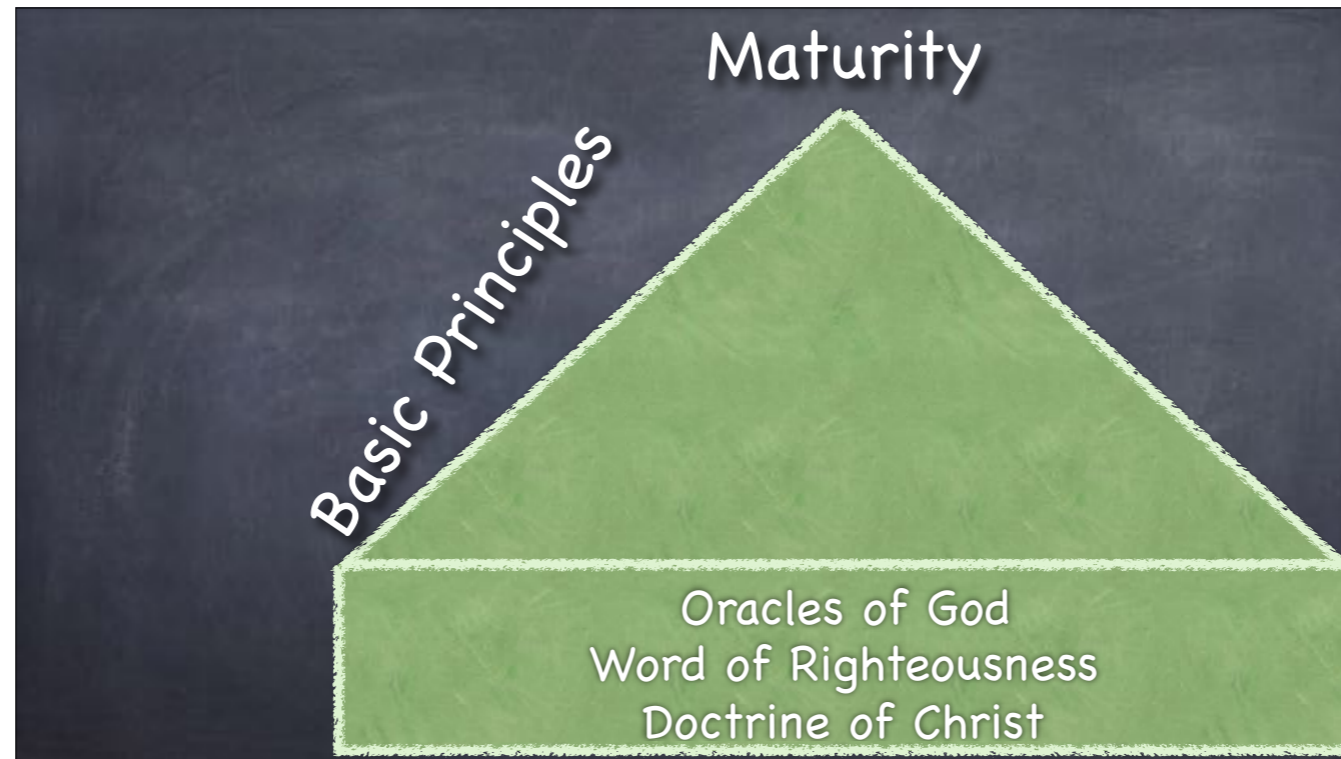
- 24 But the word of God increased and multiplied.

Word of Men

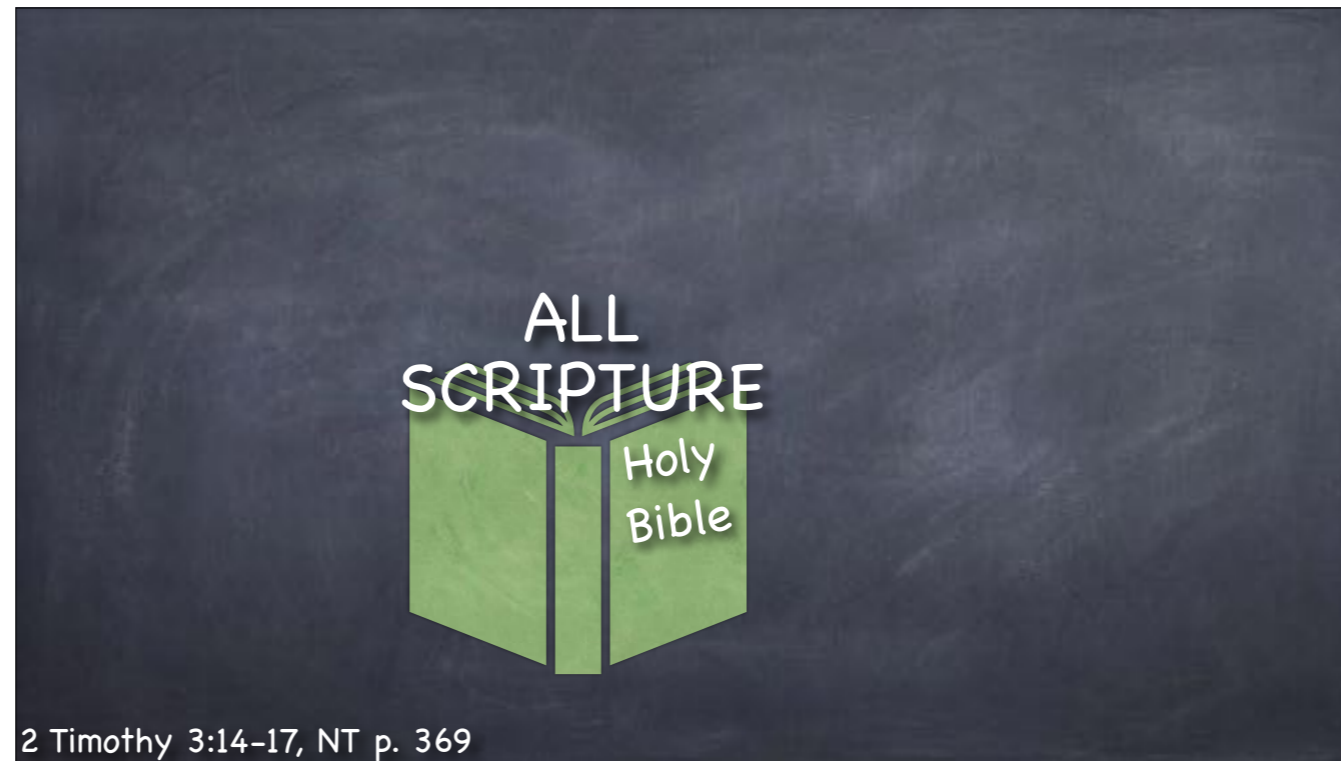
Word of God

How do I know?

- Listen to the God himself!
- How do I know the voice of God?



- Hebrews 5:11 - 6:2
 - 12 the basic principles of the oracles of God
 - 13 the word of righteousness,
 - 1 Therefore let us leave the elementary doctrine of Christ

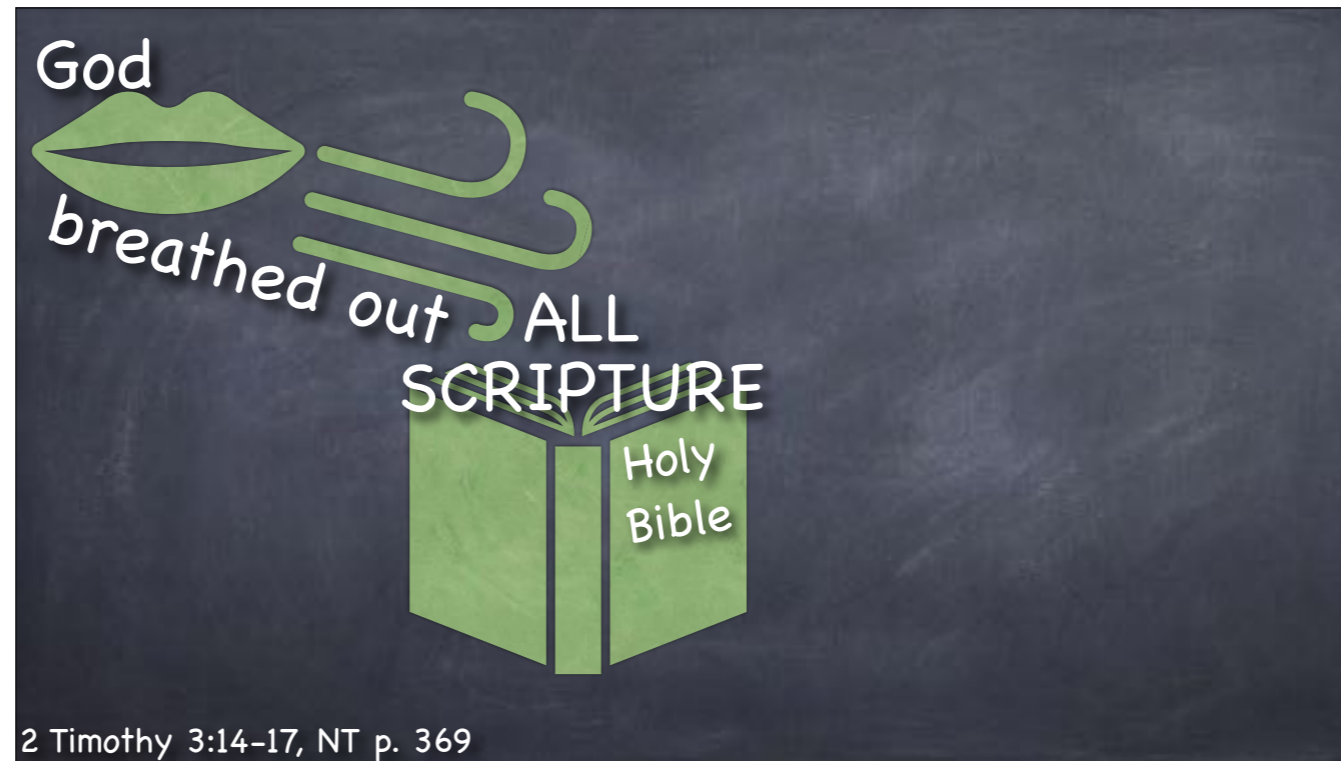


- 2 Timothy 3:14-17 (ESV) 14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

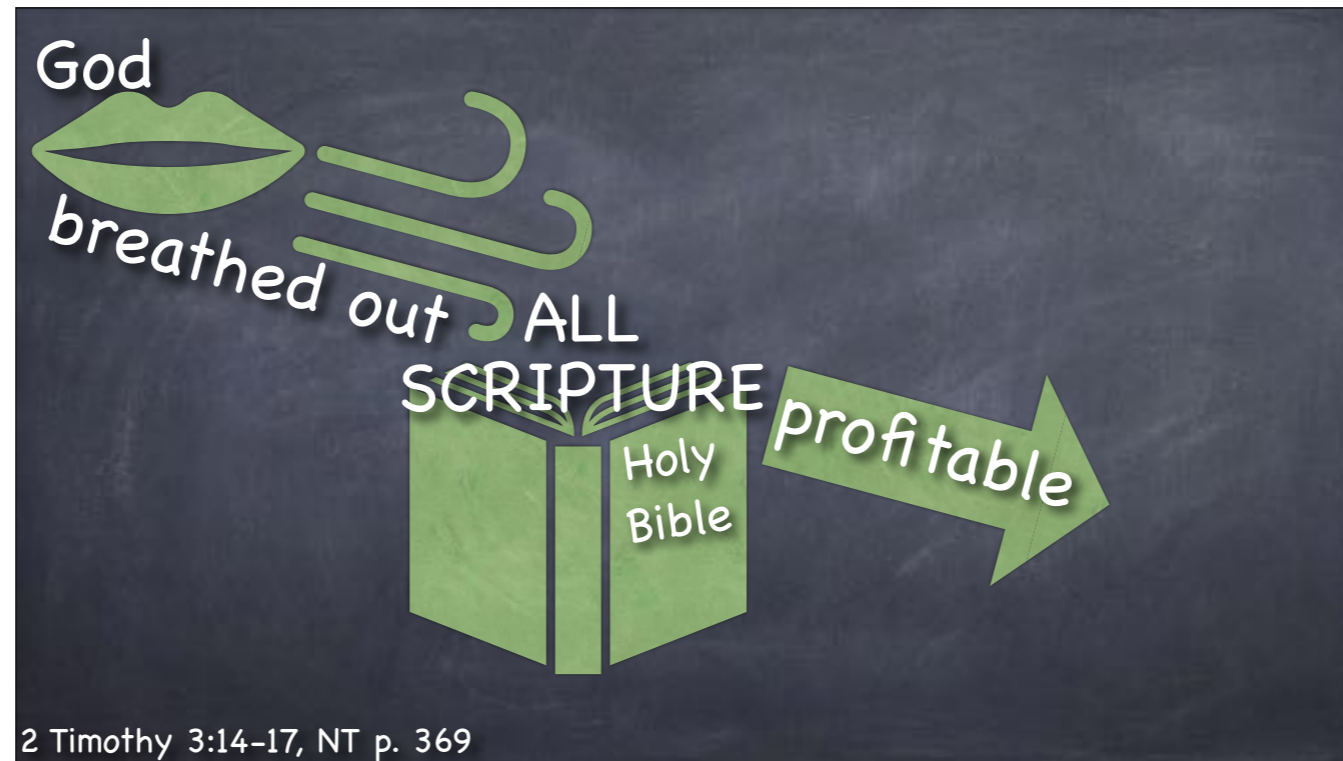


2 Timothy 3:14-17, NT p. 369

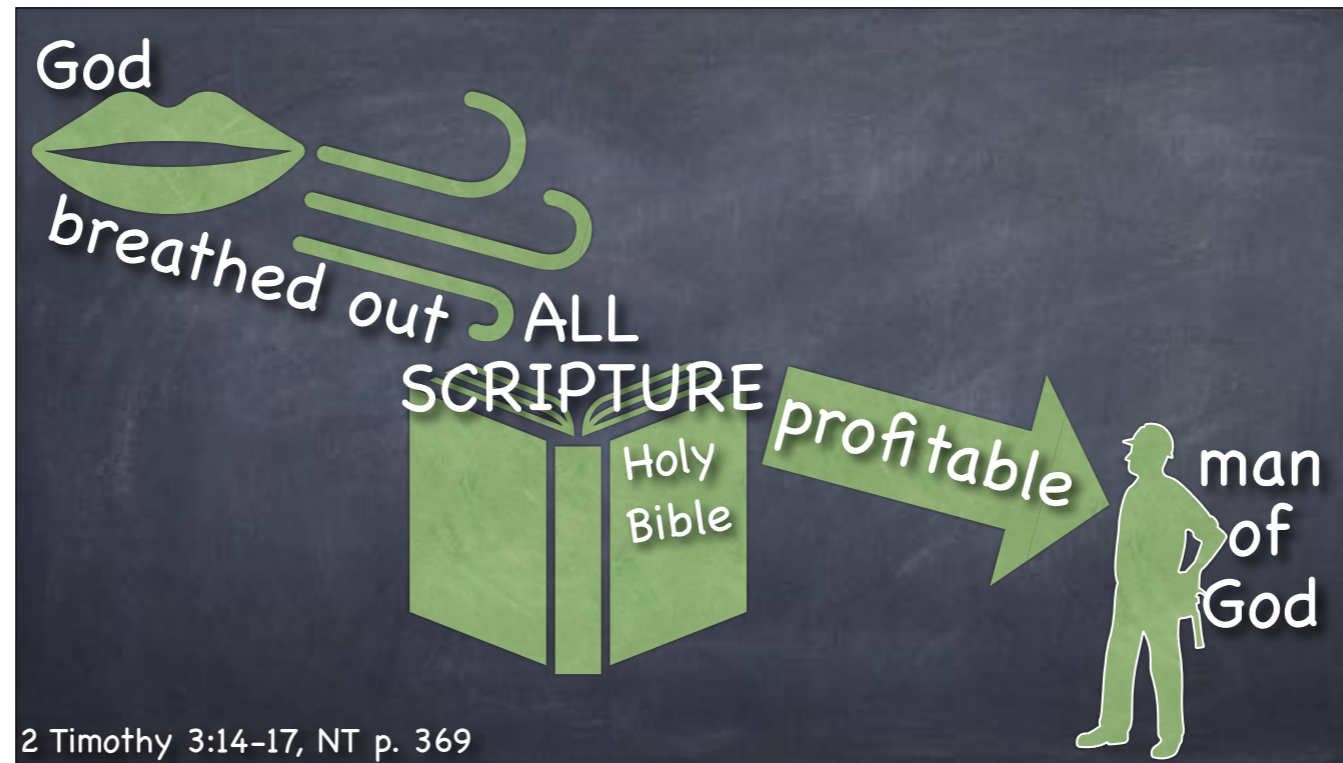
- 16 All Scripture



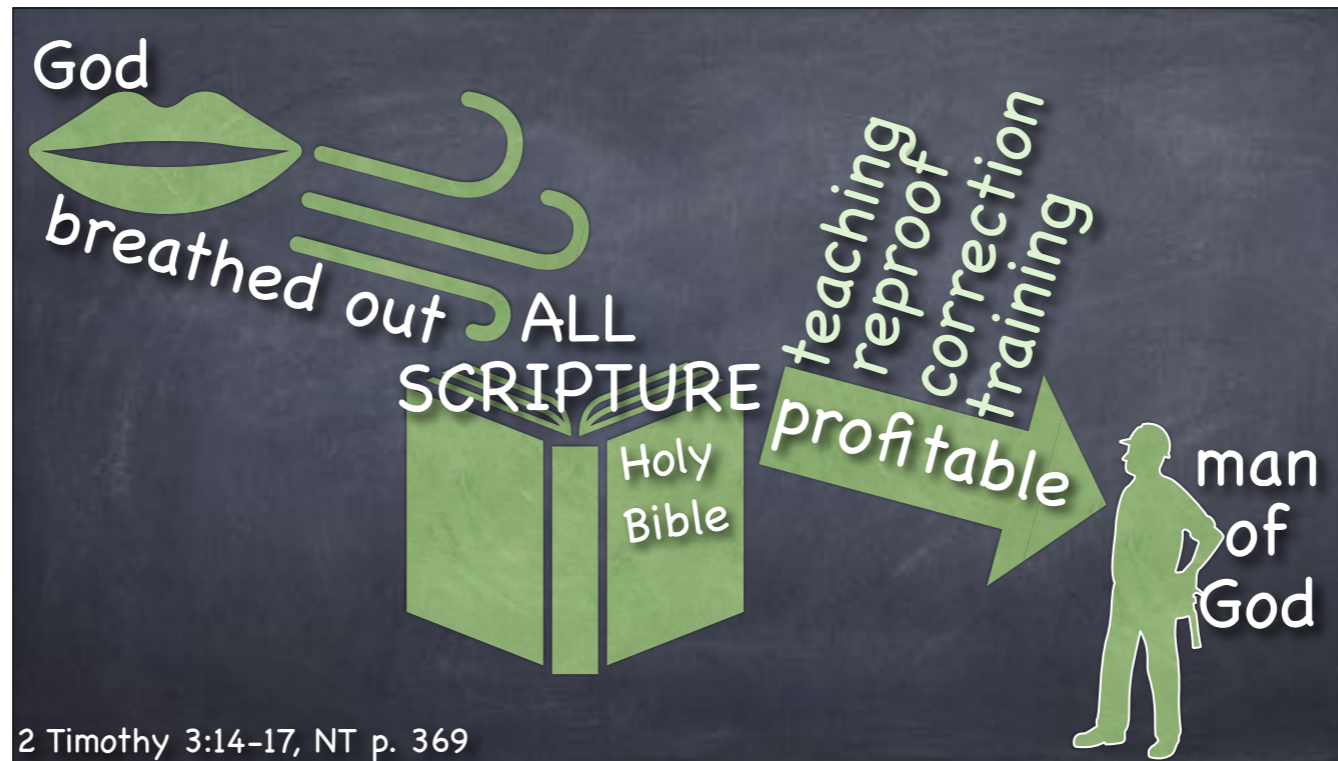
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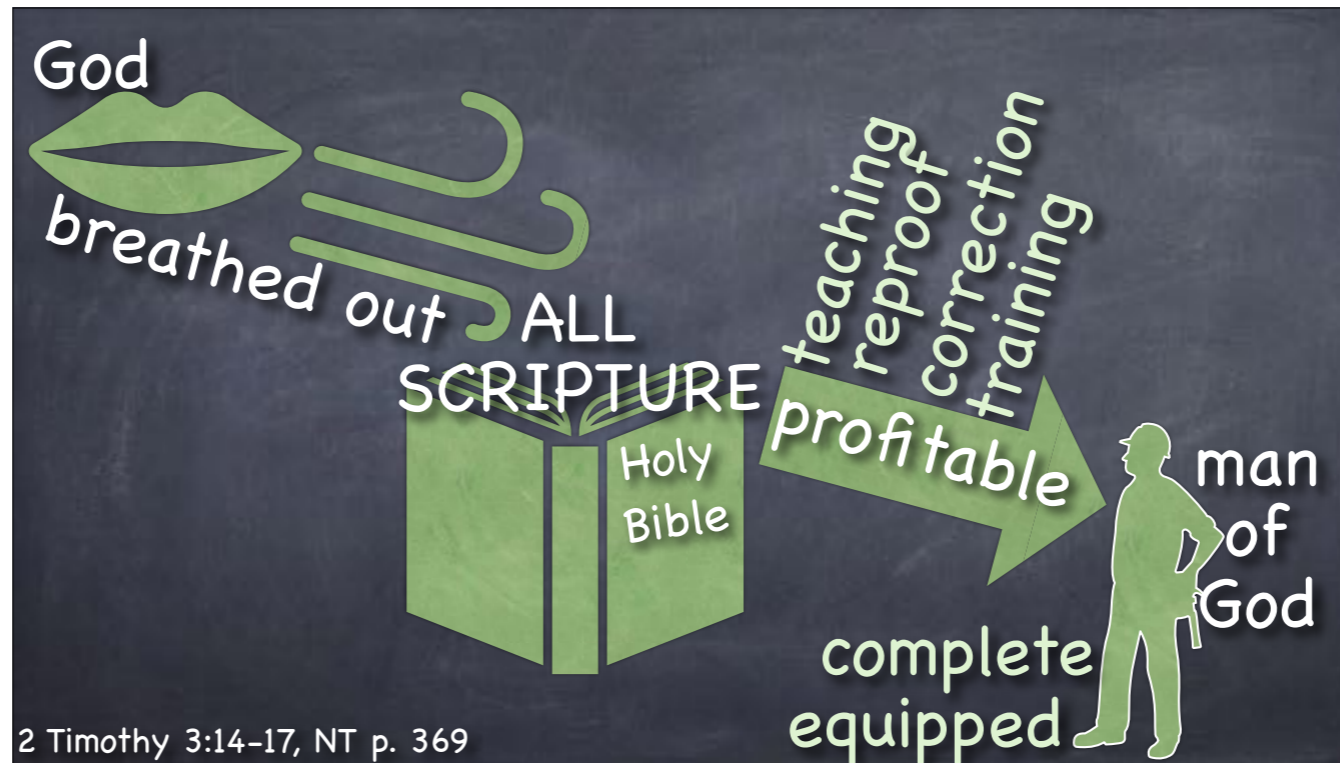
- 16 profitable



- 17 that the man of God



- 16 for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness



- 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.



- 2 Timothy 3:14-17 (ESV) 14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which **are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.**



- The focus of this revelation of God's mind and will is not for God's benefit for our benefit... for MY benefit.
- It's not just entertaining or even challenging stories
- It's not just a book to be read
- It's not just laws to be obeyed



- It's an incredible treasure from God, given to help us in our lives.
 - How are you treating this treasure?
 - How do you think of this treasure?
 - Do you use it every day in your life?
 - teaching, rebuking, correcting, training YOU?



- 2 Peter 1:16-21 (ESV) 16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” 18 we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. 19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

- Why do I need to be reminded to pay attention?

-



- 16 myths



- 16 cleverly devised

Myths "cleverly devised" will of man

Holy Bible

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- 21 produced by the will of man

Myths

“cleverly devised”

will of man

eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- 16 we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.
- 17 For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,”
- 18 **we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven,**
- for we were with him on the holy mountain.

Myths

“cleverly devised”

will of man

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- 19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed
- 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation

HINDU MYTHOLOGY

MYTHOLOGY

The HOBBIT by J.R.R. Tolkien

Myths

“cleverly devised”

will of man

“thus says Jehovah”

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- 21 men spoke from God

Myths

"cleverly devised"

will of man

God

"thus says Jehovah"

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- from God

Myths

“cleverly devised”

will of man

God Holy Spirit “thus says Jehovah”

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

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-

God fully confirmed!

Holy Spirit says Jehovah"

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

Myths

"cleverly devised"

will of man

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- 19: fully confirmed!!!

God fully confirmed!

Holy Spirit says Jehovah"

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

Myths

"cleverly devised"

will of man

- The Scriptures are completely different because they did not come from man, but from God himself.
- He made sure that the prophets spoke what He wanted them to say.
- Real, not imaginary or theoretical
- Truth, Righteousness, Wrath, Grace, Love
- You can depend on it!

God fully confirmed!

Holy Spirit says Jehovah

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

Myths

“cleverly devised”

will of man

PAY ATTENTION!

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- Why do I need to be reminded to pay attention?
 - 19 you will do well to pay attention
 - as to a lamp shining in a dark place,
 - until the day dawns and
 - the morning star rises in your hearts
- Thank God for light, praise for sunrise, amazed by morning star
- We accept as ordinary, what is profound!

Myths

“cleverly devised”

will of man

HINDU MYTHOLOGY

THE HOBBIT

God fully confirmed!

Holy Spirit says Jehovah

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

PAY ATTENTION!

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- 16 the **power** and **coming** of our Lord Jesus Christ
- his **majesty**.
- 17 he received **honor** and **glory** from God the Father
- “This is **my beloved Son**, with whom I am **well pleased**,”

God fully confirmed!

Holy Spirit says Jehovah"

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

Myths

"cleverly devised"

will of man

PAY ATTENTION!

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- We need to be awed by the Scriptures
 - no matter how many times I've read the Bible
 - no matter how much I've studied it
 - no matter how well I think I know the story
 - without it we know almost nothing about God.

God fully confirmed!

Holy Spirit says Jehovah"

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

Myths

"cleverly devised"

will of man

PAY ATTENTION!

2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- It is a great light!
- Allow yourself to be astonished by it.
- Psalms 119:105-106 (ESV) 105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. 106 I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to keep your righteous rules.
- Psalms 18:28 (ESV) For it is you who light my lamp; the LORD my God lightens my darkness.

God fully confirmed!

Holy Spirit says Jehovah"

prophetic word eyewitnesses

Holy Bible

Myths

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PAY ATTENTION!

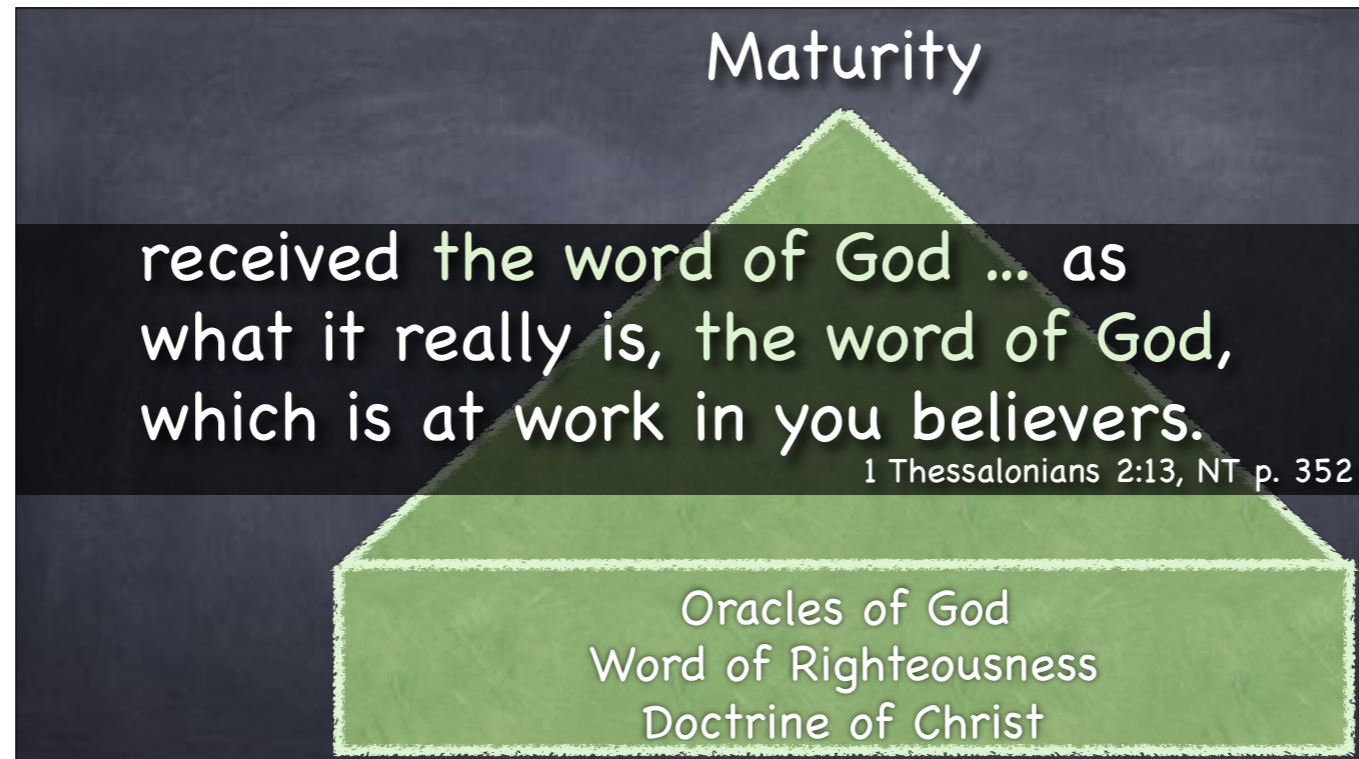
2 Peter 1:16-21, NT p. 409

- Psalm 27: 1: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- Psalms 36:9 (ESV) For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

Acts 17:11, NT p. 235

- Acts 17:11 (ESV) Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.



- Foundational to your faith is that receive the word of God... as the word of God!
- It will work on you to make you what you out to be.
- Will you accept it today?

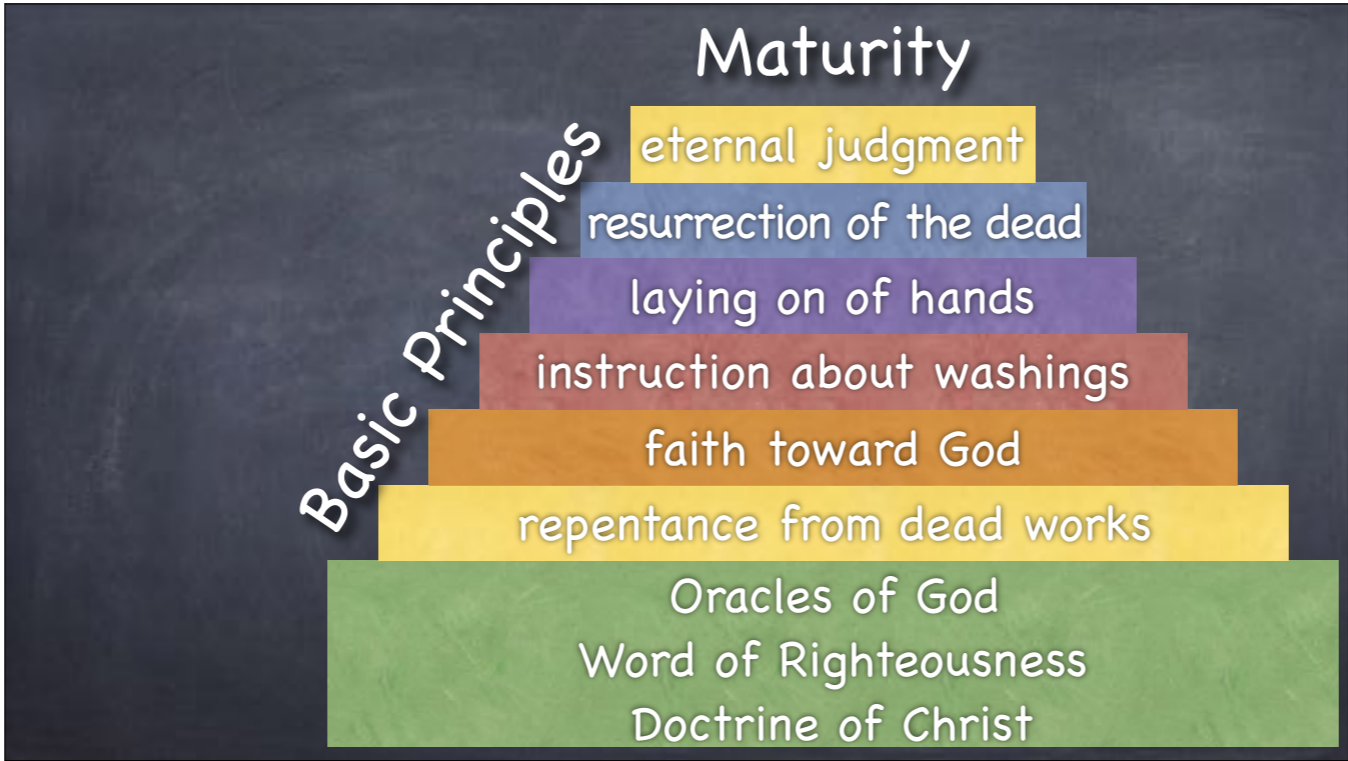
**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

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- text

Oracles, Words, & Doctrine

1 Thessalonians 2:13

Synopsis: Foundational to our faith is the understanding that the Scriptures are the words of God, given to us by God through the Spirit and the prophets so that we can grow in Christ.

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"Let all that you do be done with love."