**“Genuine Truth” (1 Thess 2:13-16)**

Sermon Handout 11.15.2020

**1. The apostles’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was not the word of men, but the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

References (1 Cor 15:3-9; Mk 3:14; Gal 1:17a; Eph 4:11-12; 2:19b-20; Joel 2:28-29; John 14:25; 16:12; Acts 2:42; 1 Cor 11:2; 2 Thess 3:6; Jude 3b, 17; 2 Pet 1:16-21; 3:1-2; 2 Tim 2:2; 1 Thess 5:27; Col 4:16)

Definition of Apostle: an apostle is a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the church, through whom the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the word of God

The early church \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship (Acts 2:42)

The apostle Paul demanded his letters be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Thess 5:27) and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Col 4:16) in all the churches.

The generation following the apostles was to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to faithful men what they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the apostles (2 Tim 2:2)

 **2. The apostles \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ they spoke (and wrote) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

References: (1 Cor 14:37-38, 32; Luke 1:1-3; 2 Tim 3:16)

The spirit of the prophets are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the prophets (1 Cor 14:32)

Ecstatic Prophecy- Prophets became possessed by the Spirit of God as passive agents

Dictation Theory- God told the apostles what to write word for word

Biblical Inspiration- God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ through men to write (2 Tim 3:16)

God sovereignly chooses both the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to write

**3. True believers \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

References: (John 10:26; 2 Cor 4:3; 1 Cor 2:11; Acts 18:2)

No one comprehends the thoughts of God except \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor 2:11)

No universal (ecumenical) church council declared an official list of scriptures until the \_\_\_\_\_ century AD.

The church councils did not make the Word of God, they \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it

Rejection of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by the world or religious experts does not invalidate its truthfulness.

**Apostolic Fathers’ References (Late 1st century, early-mid 2nd century)**

Ignatius*, To the Trallians* 3:3 Because I love you I am sparing you, though I could write more sharply on his behalf. But I did not think myself qualified for this, that I, a convict, should give you orders as though I were an apostle.

Ignatius, *To the Romans,* 4:3 I do not give you orders like Peter and Paul: they were apostles, I am a convict; they were free

Polycarp*, To the Philippians* 3.1-2 I am writing you these comments about righteousness, brothers, not on my own initiative but because you invited me to do so. For neither I nor anyone like me can keep pace with the wisdom of the blessed and glorious Paul.

*Barnabas* 1:7 For the Master has made known to us through the prophets things past and things present, and has given us a foretaste of things to come. Consequently, when we se these things come to pass, one thing after the other just as he predicted, we ought to make a richer and loftier offering out of reverence for him. For my part, not as a teacher but as one of you.

*1 Clement* 42:1. The Apostles received the Gospel for us from the Lord Jesus Christ; Jesus the Christ was sent forth from God. 2 So then Christ is from God, and the Apostles are from Christ. Both therefore came of the will of God in good order.

**Late 2nd Century**

Irenaeus, *Against Heresies* 3.1.1. We have learned from none others the plan of our salvation, than from those through whom the Gospel has come down to us, which they did at one time proclaim in public, and, at a later period, by the will of God, handed down to us in the Scriptures, to be the ground and pillar of our faith.

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