

THE COMPLETE CANON OF SCRIPTURE (Part 1)

Text: “Beloved, while I was making every effort to write to you about our common salvation, I felt (echo / a.a.ind.1ps) the necessity (anagke / asf) [inside pressure in spirit – compelled] to write to you appealing that you contend for **the faith** (te pistis / dsf) which was **once for all** (hapax) [adverb] **delivered** (paradidomi/ a.p.ptc.dsf) **to the saints.**” (Jude 3)

Today’s lesson will focus on the last part of the text which is underlined above. The definite article with **faith** (te pistis / dsf) plus the adverb **once for all** (hapax) and the aorist passive participle (dsf) of **delivered** (paradidomi) establishes the basis for our lesson, **Complete Canon of Scripture.**

The definite article with faith emphasizes the whole realm of the word of God that is contained in the Bible. The believer’s walk by faith comes from inhaling and exhaling the word of God by applying the Faith Cycle. (2 Tim.3:16-17; Rom.10:17; 2 Cor.5:7)

<p>This lesson will study FIVE aspects of the <u>Complete Canon of Scriptures.</u></p>

1. The word of God existed before the foundation of the world (Eph.1:4-5; Heb.4:3).

In creation, God spoke (The Word of God) creation into existence based on the Plan of God decreed at the Eternal Life Conference in eternity past (Mark 13:32; Acts 1:7) [divine decrees]. “**God said**” is used on very day but 7th (Gen.1:3-31). **On day 6**, it was used 4 times (Gen. 1:24, 26, 28, and 29) [Human race].

When God sent His only begotten Son as a member of the human race to redeem fallen Adamic man, He did it again (John 1:1, 14; Luke 1:31-35; John 3:16; 1 John 4:9-10; 1 Cor.15:22).

(1 Pet.1:20) “For **He** was foreknown before the foundation of the world, **but has appeared in these last times** for the sake of you.” (John 17:5, 24)

2. God speaks His word into existence.

God does so in the life of the **born again believer** by faith in the completed canon of Scriptures as a result of the ministry of the indwelling Holy Spirit. (**Eph.1:4; John 3:3-8; 1 Pet.1:23**) (John 14:26; 16:13-15) (Col.2:6-7; 2 Cor.5:7; Rom.:4:20-21).

The completed Canon of Scriptures is the final revelation of redemptive history in Jesus Christ (1 Cor.15:1-4; Isa.53; Ps.16; 22) (1 Cor.5:7) [Passover Lamb] (John 1:29; 1 Pet.1:19).

In both His First Coming (John 1:1, 14) and in His Second Coming (Rev.19:13; 1:7-8), Jesus Christ is referred to as the **Word of God.**

3. Every generation of believers has looked for the Coming of Christ based on absolute faith in the Scriptures.

(**Gen.3:15**) (Protoevangelism) “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise Him on the heel.” (Curse upon the serpent) (Rev.20:2: 12:17; Rom.16:20; 1 Cor.11:26).

By Gen.3:15, the fall of Satan and the Angelic conflict were part of biblical history, recorded in the Scriptures (Gen.1:1-2; Isa.14:12-15; Ezek.28:11-19; Rev.12; 20:7-10; John 8:44).

The historical Coming of Jesus Christ was the apex of redemptive biblical revelation (John 5:39; 7:42).

Simeon: “Looking for the consolation of Israel.” “And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.” (Luke 2:25-26)

Anna: “At that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.” (Luke 2:38)

Jesus believed in the complete Canon of Scripture (Luke 24:27, 44-49; Mark 10:4-9).

The Apostles of Jesus Christ believed in the complete Canon of Scripture (Rom.8:19-23; 2 Pet.2:4-9; 3:4-9).

4. The complete Canon of Scripture will endure forever because God is its source.

(1 Pet.1:25) “But the word of God abides forever. This is the word which was preached to you.” (Isa.40:8)

(Matt.24:35) “Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall not pass away.”

In this same context, Jesus declared, “For the coming of the Son of man will be just like **the days of Noah.**” (Matt.24:37)

Jesus spoke of the “days of Noah” in historical context of the Antediluvian civilization (Gen.3-11; Matt.24:37-39). It disappeared from human history but not the Scriptures that speak about it.

The Garden of Eden has disappeared from human history but not from the Scriptures. The Apostles of Jesus talked about the fall of Adam and the murder of Cain as part of the complete Canon of Scripture. (Gen.2-4; Luke 11:51; 1 John 3:12; Rom.5:12-21)

5. The Holy Spirit has always been responsible for the inspiration and preservation of the truth of the word of God.

(Matt.22:29) “**You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures, or the power of God.**”

Negative: “But knows this first of all, that **no prophecy of Scripture** is a matter of one’s own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will,”(2 Pet.1:20-21a)

Positive: “But men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.” (2 Pet.1:21b)

(Matt.5:18) “For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, **not the smallest letter or stroke** (Hebrew alphabet) shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.” (Matt.24:3; 1 Pet.1:25; Isa.40:85)

(John 16:13) “But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever he hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.”