

The Components of The Self-Authenticating Model

- I. Providential Exposure
 - A. The Church cannot authenticate Books that it does not have
 - B. He Providentially assures that the Books are not lost or forgotten
- II. Divine Qualities
 - A. Westminster Confession of Faith 1:5
 - B. Three Major Qualities (next week)
- III. Role of the Holy Spirit
 - A. The Internal Testimony of the Holy Spirit - He needed to reveal the Divine qualities
 - B. He enables us to see what is already there (i.e. Conversion)
 - C. The Spirit overcomes the effects of Sin
 - D. Book is Canonical because of the objective divine qualities it contains
- IV. Corporate Reception - (Church)
 - A. Divine qualities are apprehended by the Community of Believers
 - B. The Covenant Community collectively received the Books
 - C. The Books received, used, copied, distributed in the early church
- V. Apostolic Origin
 - A. God delivered His message in a distinct block of time - through a distinct office (Apostolic)
 - B. Not Random or Arbitrary
 - C. Apostolic office has ceased
 - D. Ephesians 2:20 - Foundational

E. Chosen by Christ

1. 12 + Paul
2. Had to be part of Jesus' ministry
3. Had to have seen the Risen Christ

F. Carry Jesus' Authority

G. Writings are authoritative

H. Written directly by Apostles or recorded by close associates (Mark - Luke; Peter - Paul)

I. The early Church collected the writings and used them

J. Early Church Fathers tried to claim their writings were Scripture

James (Jesus' brother) seems to have taken the place - James, John's brother who was martyred around 44 A.D.