

The Self-Authenticating Model

The Divine Qualities of the New Testament Canon

I. Holiness, Beauty, Excellency

- A. Speaks primarily to the beauty of Christ displayed throughout Scripture
- B. The Scripture is Christo-Centric
- C. Luke 24:13-27; 44-45
- D. John 5:45-46
- E. Seed of the Woman
 - 1. Genesis 3:15
 - 2. Luke 1:26-35
 - 3. Galatians 4:4
- F. Book of Hebrews ("Better")
- G. Book of Matthew = Jesus is the true Israel
- H. Distinctiveness of the Canonical (4) Gospels
 - 1. The 4 Gospels are the earliest ones we have (approximately A.D. 50's-90's)
 - 2. The 4 Gospels have a credible connection to the Apostles
 - 3. The 4 Gospels lack the embellishments of later "gospels"
 - 4. The 4 Gospels were recognized as Authoritative from a very early date

II. The Power and Efficiency of Scripture

- A. Hebrews 4:12-13
- B. Changes People - Transforms lives - Individuals - Communities - Nations
- C. Confronts and Convicts us of our sin - shows our need of a Savior

- D. Shows the only way of Salvation
- E. Gives wisdom - knowledge - understanding
- F. Never becomes antiquated or outdated - Always true - relevant - pertinent
- G. East New Testament Book contains this quality (Corinthians)

III. The Unity and Harmony of Scripture

- A. Consent of all the parts - scope of the whole
- B. Doctrinal Unity and Coherence
- C. Harmony Throughout
 - 1. Same story (one) written over a long period of time (approximately 1,500 years), many different authors (40), several different continents (3)
 - 2. No Contradictions
 - a) Paul and James on Justification
 - b) Romans 4:13-25
 - c) James 2:14-24