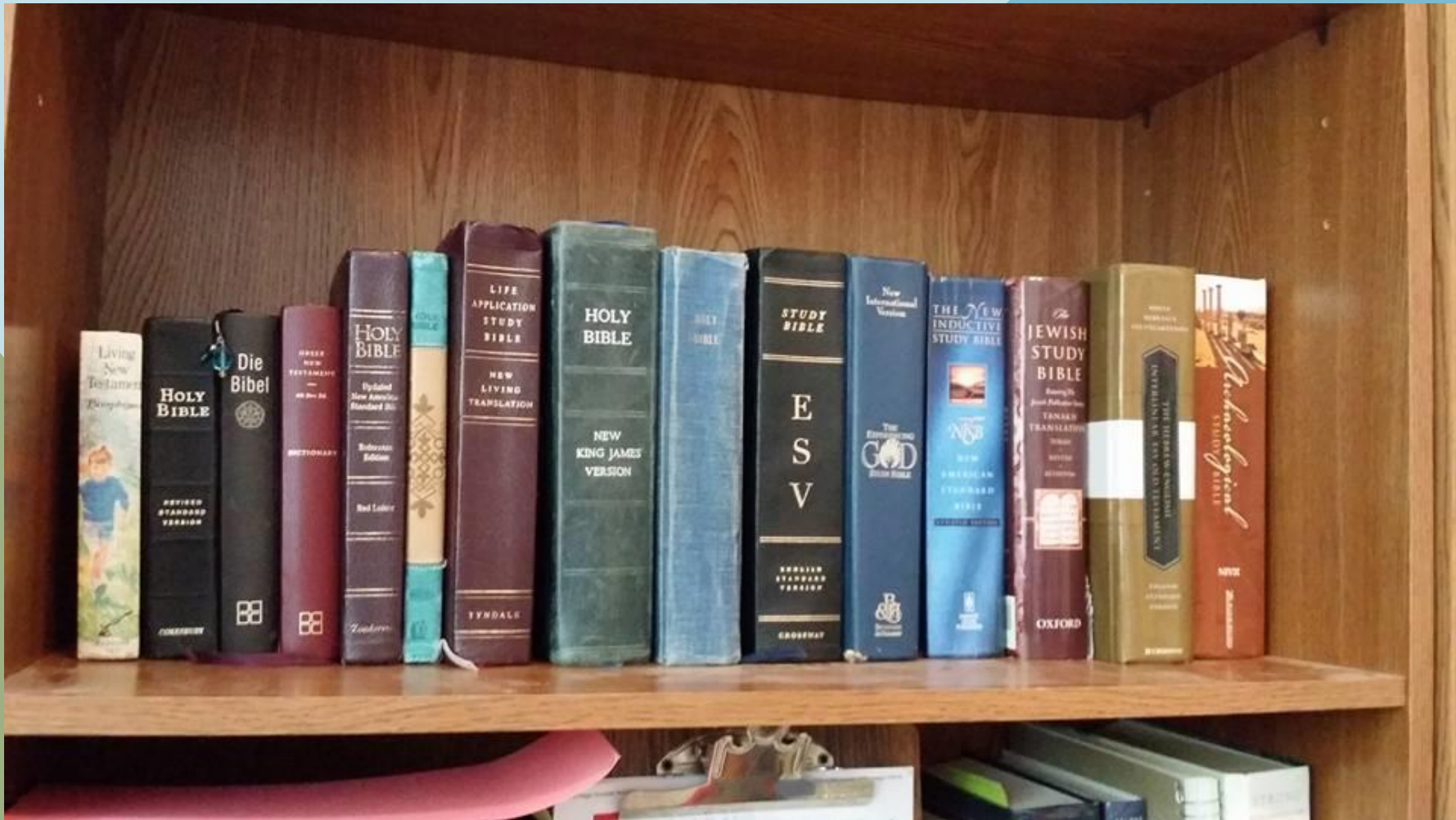


SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE





SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

The sufficiency of scripture is a doctrinal perspective.

1. Scripture alone contains God's Words to us.
 2. Scripture alone contains all the words of God that we need for salvation and for living the Christian life.
- 2 Timothy 3:16 ¹⁶ All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

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*The sufficiency of Scripture means that Scripture contains all the words of God He intended His people to have at each stage of redemptive history, and that it now contains all the words of God we need for salvation, for trusting Him perfectly, and for obeying Him perfectly.
(Systematic Theology, Wayne Grudem)*

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

The sufficiency of Scripture is a promise to us.

1. We have the guarantee that we will be able to discover what God has said.
2. We will be able to discover what God says about topics that are directly related to our lives.
3. The sufficiency of Scripture is a promise to us that we can find answers to our questions in the Bible.

2 Peter 1:3-4 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness. Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

The sufficiency of Scripture is a promise to us.

1. We have the guarantee that we will be able to discover what God has said, and...
2. We will be able to discover what God says about topics that are directly related to our lives.
3. The sufficiency of Scripture is a promise to us that we can find answers to our questions in the Bible.

Deuteronomy 29:29 ²⁹ "The secret things belong to the LORD our God.

Isaiah 55:9 ⁹ "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

The sufficiency of Scripture means that *the Bible is enough for us* to live our lives the way God wants us to.

So, HOW do we keep our focus on the sufficiency of Scripture?

Keep the PERSPECTIVE that: Scripture alone contains all the words of God that we need for salvation and for living the Christian life.

Realize the PROMISE of the sufficiency of Scripture. We have the guarantee that we will be able to discover what God has said, and discover what God says about topics that are directly related to our lives.

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

The sufficiency of Scripture means that *the Bible is enough for us* to live our lives the way God wants us to.

So, HOW do we keep our focus on the sufficiency of Scripture?

Ignore the *distractions*.

- *Dangerous* distractions are in *direct opposition* to the sufficiency of Scripture.

The sufficiency of Scripture reminds us that we are to add nothing to Scripture and that we are to consider no other writings of equal value to Scripture. (Systematic Theology, Wayne Grudem)

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Galatians 1:8 ⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned!

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

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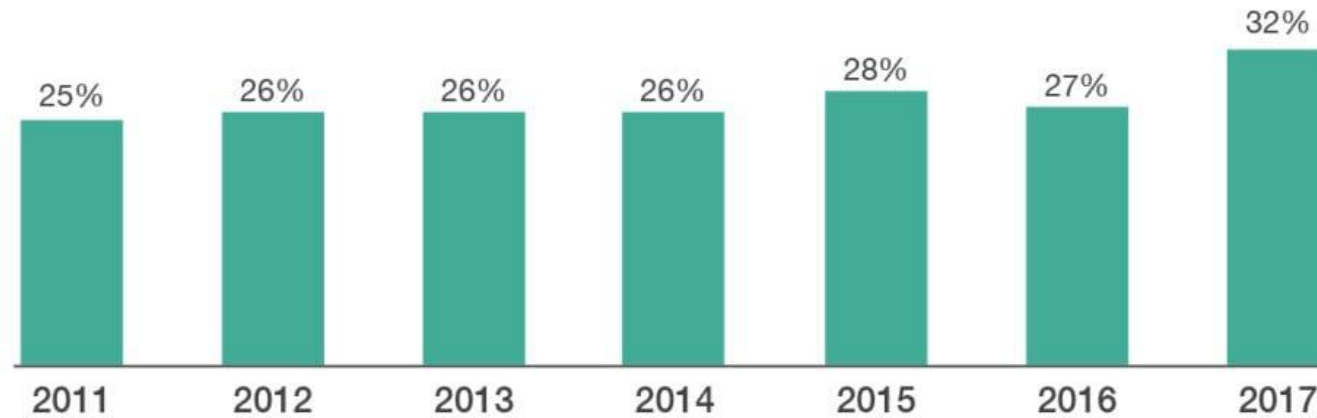
- *Dangerous* distractions are in *direct opposition* to the sufficiency of Scripture.

Sometimes the sufficiency of Scripture is diluted because there is more emphasis on *experiences* and an author's *personal reflections*.

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

1. Is your study about a particular issue or is your study focusing on what God says about that issue?
2. Do you read more of the author's words than God's words?
3. Are the questions all about you or are they about what Scripture says about you?

One-Third Never Read, Listen to or Pray With the Bible



n=2,030 (telephone + online) | January-February 2017

Bible Engagement Definitions

Segment	Definition	Percent
Bible Engaged	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> View the Bible as a) the <i>actual</i> or b) the <i>inspired</i> word of God with no errors, or as c) the <i>inspired</i> word of God with some errors Read, use or listen to the bible four times a week or more 	20%
Bible Friendly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> View the Bible as a) the <i>actual</i> or b) the <i>inspired</i> word of God with no errors Read, use or listen to the Bible fewer than four times per week 	38%
Bible Neutral	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> View the Bible as the inspired word of God but has some factual or historical errors OR not inspired but tells how the writers understood the ways and principles of God Read, use or listen to the Bible one time a month or less 	23%
Bible Skeptic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> View the Bible as “just another book of teachings written by men...” 	19%
Bible Hostile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a subset of Bible skeptics) View the Bible as a book of teachings written by men and <i>intended to manipulate and control other people</i> 	13%

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

The principle of perspicuity - the Bible is clear.

Psalm 119:130 ¹³⁰ The unfolding of Thy words gives
light; It gives understanding to the simple.

1. Scripture is clear enough for the simplest person to live by.
2. Scripture is deep enough for readers of the highest intellectual ability.
3. Scripture is clear in essential matters.

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

To keep your focus on Scripture,
Read through the Bible

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

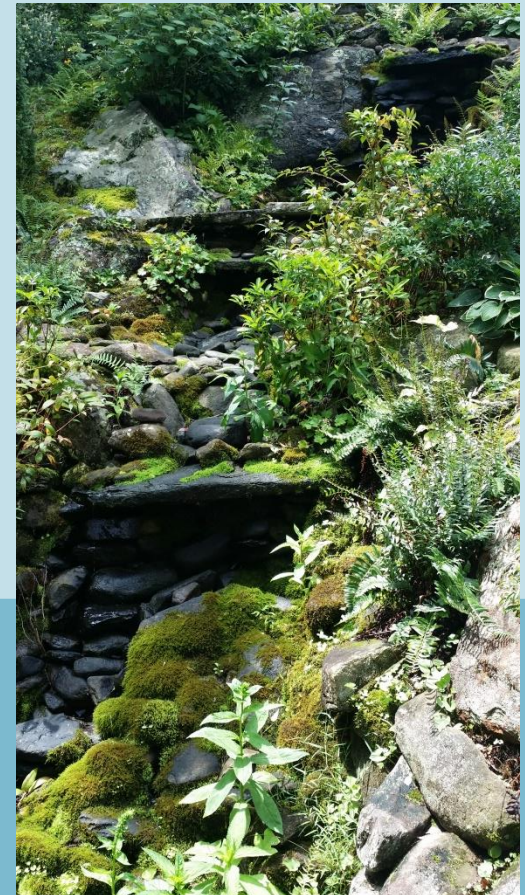
The more we read the Bible, the more clear it will become to us.

Reading the Bible:

- A. Choose a book of the Bible to read.
 - B. Begin in Chapter 1, verse 1 and read all the way to the last word of the last chapter of that book.
 - C. Read one chapter at a time.
- Don't get stuck on things you don't understand.
- D. Use a plan to read through the Bible in year.

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

To keep your focus on the sufficiency of Scripture:
Study the Bible.



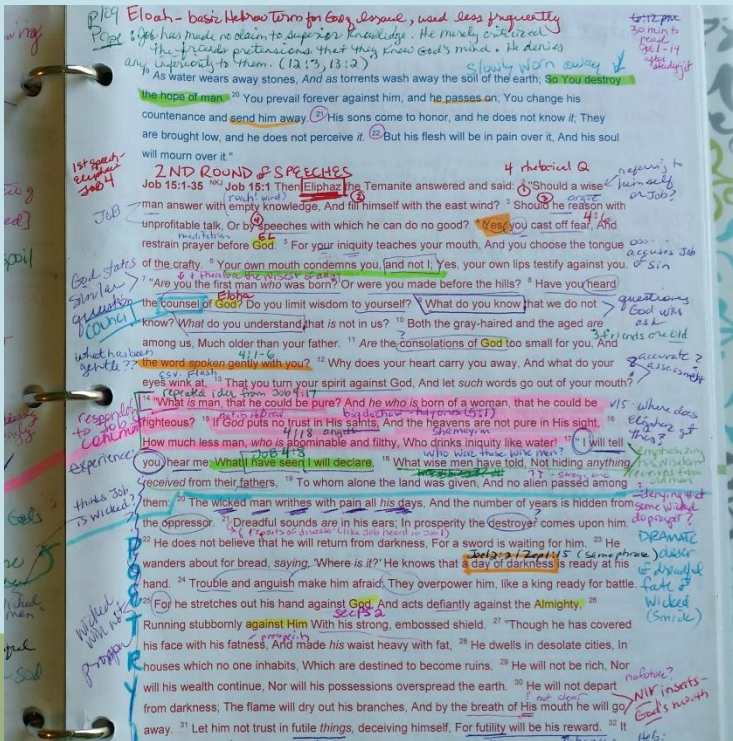
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To keep your focus on the sufficiency of Scripture:
Study the Bible.

Hermeneutics - is the interpretation of Scripture
- the proper path to be taken in order
to arrive at Scriptural truth.

(Dr. Robert Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*)

EXEGESIS *and* HERMENEUTICS



a Women's Ministry event

NOVEMBER 4 | 8:30–11:30AM | PARLOR

Please RSVP for this free event on our website.

ADULT.COLONIAL.ORG/WOMEN

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

OBSERVATION: *What does it say?*

Setting questions *Structural* questions *Context* questions

INTERPRETATION: *What does it mean?*

Rule #1: *Continuity* of message

Rule #2: *Context* of material

Rule #3: *Customary* meaning

GENERALIZATION: *What is the big idea?*

APPLICATION: *What difference does it make?*

Guidelines - 1. *Interpretation* always precedes application

2. Application focuses on biblical answers to *common issues*

3. The Bible must be applied as *God intended*

IMPLEMENTATION: *What is my response?*

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

We must keep our focus on God's Word because it is what transforms us.

John 6:67-69 So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

SOLA SCRIPTURA: HOW TO KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

We must keep our focus on God's Word because it is what transforms us.

What caused the people to be astonished?

Luke 4:32 And they were astonished at His teaching, for His word was with authority.

John 7:14 “My doctrine is not my own, but His who sent Me.”

Jesus spoke as the Son of God and stunned His listeners with His assumption that His word was sufficient.