Sabbath School

Topic: WCF 1.4 & 1.5: The Divinity of Scripture: Authority, Evidences, and Effectual

Witness

Date: 3/29/2020

WCF 1.4

The authority of the holy Scripture, for which it ought to be believed and obeyed, dependeth not upon the testimony of any man or church, but wholly upon God (who is truth itself), the Author thereof; and therefore it is to be received, because it is the Word of God.[a]

a: 1 Thessalonians 2:13, 2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:19, 2 Peter 1:21, 1 John 5:9

WCF 1.5

We may be moved and induced by the testimony of the Church to an high and reverent esteem of the holy Scripture;[a] and the heavenliness of the matter, the efficacy of the doctrine, the majesty of the style, the consent of all the parts, the scope of the whole (which is to give all glory to God), the full discovery it makes of the only way of man's salvation, the many other incomparable excellencies, and the entire perfection thereof, are arguments whereby it doth abundantly evidence itself to be the Word of God; yet, notwithstanding, our full persuasion and assurance of the infallible truth, and divine authority thereof, is from the inward work of the Holy Spirit, bearing witness by and with the Word in our hearts.[b]

a: 1 Timothy 3:15 b: Isaiah 59:21, John 16:13-14, 1 Corinthians 2:10-12, 1 John 2:20, 1 John 2:27

Related Texts

Westminster Larger Catechism Q.3. What is the word of God?

A: The holy scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God,[1] the only rule of faith and obedience.

Q.4. How doth it appear that the scriptures are the word of God?

A: The scriptures manifest themselves to be the word of God, by their majesty and purity; by the consent of all the parts, and the scope of the whole, which is to give all glory to God; by their light and power to convince and convert sinners, to comfort and build up believers unto salvation: but the Spirit of God bearing witness by and with the scriptures in the heart of man, is alone able fully to persuade it that they are the very word of God.