

God Has Spoken

Course outline for a study of the biblical concept of revelation.

I. Revelation.

- A. Introduction.
- B. Definition.
- C. An important implication: revelation is rooted in the Trinity.

II. Two Types of Revelation.

- A. General or Natural revelation (Psa. 19:1-6; Rom. 1:20).
 - 1. General revelation speaks in two ways.
 - a. First: the Maker is seen in what He has made.
 - b. Second: by way of analogy.
 - 2. The content of general revelation.
 - 3. The limitations of general revelation.
- B. Special or supernatural revelation.
 - 1. Special revelation is a product of grace.
 - 2. The content of special revelation.
 - 3. Modes of special revelation.
 - a. Theophany and incarnation.
 - b. Dreams.
 - c. Visions.
 - d. Angels and the Angel of the Lord.
 - e. Prophecy.
 - f. Inscripturation (see III. Inspiration of Scripture).
 - g. Notice what is common to all modes: language.
 - 4. Progressive revelation.
 - a. Definition.
 - b. Not all truth was communicated at once, why?
 - c. Three examples of progressive revelation.
 - d. The climax of revelation: incarnation and redemption.

III. Inscripturated Revelation: The Inspiration of Scripture.

- A. Intro.: four things that writing does.
- B. What are Scripture's claims for itself? 2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:20f.; 1 Tim. 5:18 and 2 Pet. 3:16 and Jesus' view of Scripture.
- C. Four inadequate views of Scripture.
 - 1. The Dictation View; 2. The Dynastic View; 3. Partial Inspiration: Thoughts; 4. Partial Inspiration: Text.
- D. Verbal or Plenary (= "full") Inspiration: this is the Reformed and orthodox view.
- E. The extent of written revelation: the canon is closed.
 - 1. Canon: a group of inspired and therefore authoritative books.
 - 2. Why the canon is closed.

IV. What Should Our Response Be To Scripture?