

Scripture Alone!

Westminster Confession 1:10: “The supreme Judge by which all controversies of religion are to be determined, and all decrees of councils, opinions of ancient writers, doctrines of men, and private spirits, are to be examined, and in whose sentence we are to rest, can be no other but the Holy Spirit speaking in the scripture.”

Belgic Confession 7: The Sufficiency of the Holy Scriptures to Be the Only Rule of Faith: “We believe that those Holy Scriptures fully contain the will of God, and that whatsoever man ought to believe unto salvation is sufficiently taught therein.¹ For, since the whole manner of worship which God requires of us is written in them at large, it is unlawful for any one, though an apostle, to teach otherwise² than we are now taught in the Holy Scriptures; *nay, though it were an angel from heaven*, as the apostle Paul saith.³ For, since it is forbidden *to add unto or take away any thing from the Word of God*,⁴ it doth thereby evidently appear that the doctrine thereof is most perfect and complete in all respects. Neither do we consider of equal value any writing of men, however holy these men may have been, with those divine Scriptures,⁵ nor ought we to consider custom, or the great multitude, or antiquity, or succession of times and persons, or councils, decrees, or statutes, as of equal value with the truth of God,⁶ for the truth is above all; for all men are of themselves liars⁷ and more vain than vanity itself. Therefore we reject with all our hearts whatsoever doth not agree with this infallible rule,⁸ which the apostles have taught us, saying, Try the spirits whether they are of God.⁹ Likewise, if there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house.”¹⁰

¹ **Rom. 15:4**—For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. **John 4:25**—The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things. **II Tim. 3:15–17**—And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. **I Peter 1:1**—Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia. **Prov. 30:5**—Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. **Rev. 22:18**—For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book. **John 15:15**—Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. **Acts 2:27**—Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

² **I Peter 4:11**—If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. **I Cor. 15:2–3**—By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures. **II Tim. 3:14**—But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them. **I Tim. 1:3**—As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine. **II John 10**—If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed.

³ **Gal. 1:8–9**—But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed. **I Cor. 15:2**—By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. **Acts 26:22**—Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come. **Rom. 15:4**—For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. **I Peter 4:11**—If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. **II Tim. 3:14**—But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them.

⁴ **Deut. 12:32**—What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it. **Prov. 30:6**—Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar. **Rev. 22:18**—For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book. **John 4:25**—The woman saith unto him, I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.

⁵ **Matt. 15:3**—But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? **Matt. 17:5**—While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. **Mark 7:7**—Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. **I Cor. 2:4**—And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.

⁶ **Isa. 1:12**—When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts? **Rom. 3:4**—God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged. **II Tim. 4:3–4**—For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

⁷ **Ps. 62:10**—Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, set not your heart upon them.

⁸ **Gal. 6:16**—And as many as walk according to this rule, peace be on them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God. **I Cor. 3:11**—For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. **II Thess. 2:2**—That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

⁹ **I John 4:1**—Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.

¹⁰ **II John 10**—If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed.