

SESSION 09

The Canon, and The Text of the Bible

16 כִּי כָל־הַכְּתוּב נִכְתָּב בְּרוּחַ אֱלֹהִים גַּם־מוֹעִיל לְהוֹרֹת
17 וְלְהוֹכִיחַ וְלְיִשָּׁר וְלְיַסֵּר בַּצְּדָקָה: לְמַעַן אֲשֶׁר־יִהְיֶה אִישׁ
הָאֱלֹהִים תָּמִים וּמְהִיר לְכָל־מַעֲשֵׂה טוֹב:
ד לָכֵן אֲנִי מַעֲיִד בְּךָ נְגַד הָאֱלֹהִים וְנְגַד אֲדֹנָיִי יֵשׁוּעַ
הַמְּשִׁיחַ הַבָּא לְשַׁפֵּט אֶת־הַחַיִּים וְאֶת־הַמֵּתִים בְּהוֹפְעָתוֹ
2 וּבְמַלְכוּתוֹ: הִכַּרְתָּ אֶת־הַדְּבָר וְהִתְמַד בֵּין בְּעַתּוֹ בֵּין
שָׁלָא בְּעַתּוֹ הוֹכַח וְנִצֵּר וְהוֹדָה בְּכָל־אַרְבָּרוּת וְהוֹדָאָה:
3 כִּי־בּוֹא תָבֹא הָעֵת אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יָכִילוּ אֶת־הַלֶּקַח הַכָּרִיא
4 כִּי אִם־יָבֹאוּת נַפְשָׁם יִקְבְּצוּ קָהָם מוֹרִים לְשַׁעֲשְׂעֵי אֲזַנָּיִם:
5 וַיִּטּוּ אֲזַנָּיָהֶם מִן־הָאֱמֶת וַיִּפְּנוּ אֶל־הַהֲגָדוֹת: אֲכַל אַתָּה
הָיָה עַר בְּכָל סֶבֶל הַרְעוֹת וַעֲשֵׂה מִלֵּאכֶת הַמִּבְשָׁר

Instructor



Dr. Gene Haas grew up in Canada in a religious home but did not know the grace of salvation in Christ, after university, travelling in Europe for 8 months, Gene was converted to Christ at the age of twenty-two in the mountains of Switzerland. After returning to Canada, God led him to attend Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, where he earned the M.Div. and Th. M. degrees.

Returning to Canada, he was involved in a church plant, and taught at a Bible college for 4 years. During this time, he was ordained as a minister in the Presbyterian Church in America. He moved to Toronto where he completed a doctorate in theology at the Toronto School of Theology, University of Toronto. After that, he was a Church Planting pastor for 5 years. He then accepted a position as Professor of Religion and Theology at Redeemer University, Ontario, Canada, where he taught for 28 years. He has been married for 39 years, and has two sons, and grandchildren.

Since his retirement from teaching at Redeemer University, he has been busy with research and writing, as well as frequent preaching at a variety of churches. He is also Chairman of the committee of the Eastern Canada Presbytery which guides and examines all candidates for the pastoral ministry. He has a deep passion for instructing candidates in the Bible and in theology, and for relating the Christian faith to contemporary issues of North American culture, especially in the area of ethics.

Goals

In this course we aim to make theology accessible to you. You will discover what relevance has theology to you in your personal walk with Jesus and in your ministry regardless of whether it is public or private.

You will understand why some writings became Holy Scripture, and who decided that some would make it to the Bible and other writings would not.

Sessions Overview

1. Introduction: What is theology?
2. Introductory topics – part 1
3. Introductory topics – part 2
4. Worldviews: the revelation, and our knowledge about God
5. The doctrine of Holy Scripture – part 1
6. The doctrine of Holy Scripture – part 2
7. Inspiration of Scripture

8. The scope, authority, and clarity of the Bible

9. The canon and the text of the Bible

10. Principals of biblical interpretation

Session Summary

Can we trust the source of Scripture? Where does it come from? What makes the Canon books stand out from other writings of biblical writers? What are the Apocrypha? What is the difference between OT and NT books of the canon? These and other questions are dealt with in this elementary teaching.

Fill in the Blanks

1. The 49 books of the Old Testament were included in the Bible by the _____, and the 39 books of the New Testament were included in the Bible by the _____.
2. The OT (Old Testament) book were written by the _____
3. The Prophets were _____ by God to deliver God's _____ to the people.
4. Right or wrong: Prophecies always tell of the future. _____
5. Deuteronomy 13:1ff speaks of how to identify false prophets. Read it and answer the following questions:
 - a. Right or wrong: False prophets can perform wonders _____
 - b. Right or wrong: Prophetic dreams of false prophets can come true _____
 - c. Right or wrong: If a certain congregation or a leader of the Church identifies someone as a false prophet according to the person's teaching but the accused one teaches, nevertheless, to love the LORD and to serve only Him, he should be considered as a false prophet. _____
6. What are the three writing sections of the OT?

7. Right or wrong: The New Testament quotes extensively form the texts of the OT.

8. Where is the NT (New Testament) quotes non-biblical texts? And why is it not a problem?

9. What the prophets were for the OT, the _____ were for the NT.

10. According to the teaching in this video, what makes the position of the NT apostles unique?

11. Name a couple of Scripture references in the NT that refers to them as the word of God _____, _____.

12. Name a few reasons why the Apocrypha are questionably a part of the Canon.
