THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Reading: 2Timothy 3:14-17

Introduction:
1. There is much confusion concerning salvation, church structure, and practice today.
2. There are characteristics of the Bible that sets it apart as our only guide in religious matters today.
3. Why do we follow the word of God today?
4. In this lesson we will examine three characteristics of God’s word that gives us faith to follow...

I. IT IS AUTHORITATIVE
   A. JESUS HAS ALL AUTHORITY TODAY
      1. All authority has been given to Him -Mt 28:18
      2. He is the head of the church -Ep 1:22, 23

   B. COMMANDMENTS vs. TRADITIONS -Mark 7:1-13
      1. The Pharisees find fault with the disciples not washing their hands before eating -vs. 1-8
         a. Jesus quotes Isaiah and applies it to them
         b. They laid the commandments of God aside for the traditions of men
      2. They did not honor their father and mother as the Law directed -vs. 9-13

II. IT IS INSPIRED
   A. IT IS COMPLETE
      1. It is able to make us wise to salvation -2Ti 3:15
      2. It makes us complete for every good work -2Ti 3:16, 17
      3. We have all things needed for life and godliness -2Pe 1:3

   B. IT IS THE GUIDE INTO ALL TRUTH
      1. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would come -Jn 16:13
         a. He would guide them into all truth
         b. He would not speak on His own authority
         c. The authority comes from Christ; He has all authority -Mt 28:18
      2. Paul’s word’s were the commandments of the Lord -1Co 14:37
      3. Paul taught these commandments in all the churches -1Co 4:17

III. IT IS REVEALING
   A. REVEALED THE NEW DISPENSATION
      1. The Old Law has been nailed to the cross -Co 2:14
      2. The New Law is superior to the Old Law -He 8:7

   B. THE GREATNESS OF THE NEW DISPENSATION
      1. Sacrifices
         a. They had to be continually made
         b. The sacrifice of Jesus is once and for all -He 10:10
      2. Dwelling place
         a. They were given Canaan's land
         b. We look forward to heaven itself -Jn 14:1-4; 2Pe 3:10-13

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Conclusion:
1. The word of God provides us with everything needed to know the path of salvation and how to live the Christian life in a manner pleasing to God.
2. Our goal is to read through it continually to ensure we are serving God as we ought - Ac 17:11