NEW LIFE CLASS

BRIDGING THE GAP

BETWEEN BIBLICAL LEARNING AND RADICAL LIVING



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Scripture Alone: Clarity
Part 1

Lesson Eight

Why Is Scripture Alone Uniquely Necessary?

AUTHORITY: *The Bible Is God Speaking Uniquely and **ABSOLUTELY** with Divine Authority.*

INERRANCY: *The Bible Is God Speaking Uniquely and **TRUTHFULLY** Without Error.*

CLARITY: The Bible Is God Speaking CLEARLY to Be Understood and Obeyed.

Definitions

"The Bible can be comprehended and understood by all who are aided by the Holy Spirit and by ordinary means.
– Matthew Barrett, God's Word Alone

"The Bible is written in such a way that its teachings are able to be understood by all who will read it seeking God's help and being willing to follow it." – Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology

"The Bible is a unified story that is clearly understandable to all who devote themselves to study it in dependence on the Holy Spirit." – David Platt, Secret Church 17

Confessions

The London Baptist Confession on the Holy Scriptures Under Articles 6-9

***Article 7** -Some things in Scripture are clearer than others, and some people understand the teachings more clearly than others. However, the things that must be known, believed, and obeyed for salvation are so clearly set forth and explained in one part of Scripture or another that both the educated and uneducated may achieve a sufficient understanding of them by properly using ordinary measures.*

Challenges to the Clarity of Scripture

1. The Challenge of MYSTICAL Spiritism

"The Spirit is better than the clarity of Scripture!"

2. The Challenge of MYSTERIOUS Agnosticism

"Mystery is less clear but actually better than the clarity of Scripture!"

3. The Challenge of RELIGIOUS Authoritarianism

"We know better because Scripture is not very clear to you!"

Religious Authoritarianism Says…

- The Scriptures are **UNCLEAR** in what they say, so "trust us" to tell you what it says and means.
- The saints are **UNABLE** to understand the Scriptures, so "we must" tell you what it says and means.

4. The Challenge of MODERN Rationalism

"Human reasoning knows better than the clarity of Scripture!"

5. The Challenge of POSTMODERN Relativism

"Everyone's opinions are better than the clarity of Scripture!"

These Challenges to the Clarity of the Scriptures Come Down to Two Questions

- Are the Scriptures **CLEAR ENOUGH** to be understood by diligent study with the help of the Holy Spirit?
- Are all believers **CAPABLE ENOUGH** to study and understand the Scriptures for themselves?