

Scripture: 1 Peter 3 Belgic Confession art. 3 -7 (2)

Singing: 27:1-5 – 258:1-4 – 60:1-3 - 69:2, 4, 6

Intro: We need *2nd Autobiography* to learn to know Him & to know the Way

A. Ever noticed that all the natural creation except men knows how to live?

1. With all our superior qualities, we can't find nor walk the right way

B. The Bible is God's gracious self-revelation about Who He is for our benefit

1. Job 22:21 *Acquaint now thyself with Him, and be at peace: thereby good shall come unto thee*

THE WRITTEN WORD OF GOD (2)

I. The source II. The nature III. The unity IV. The Authority V. The Sufficiency

I. The Source of God's Word

A. Scripture declares itself as *the WORD of God*

1. Consider Deut. 18:18-20; 2 Peter 1:21; 2 Tim. 3:17

2. This explains *secret* of the Bible: there is no Book like the Bible in all world!

B. There is abundant evidence to support its claim as *the inspired Word of God*

1. Art 5 refers to *fulfilment of prophecy*

2. Since Guido's day other supporting evidence has come to light

a. archeology

b. moderns sciences

C. God's call to His people with regard to 'the faith': 1 Peter 3:13-15

1. Be informed about the authority of Scripture (art. 5):

2. Be ready to give a defense of why we believe what we believe (3:15)
 - a. compare 1 Peter 3:15; Jue 3; Phil. 1:7, 17; 1 Thess. 5:21

b. our Christian faith is not a blind faith

D. God's requirements for those defending the faith: 1 Peter 3

1. Be courageous: 14b (Luke 9:26)

2. Be submissive: 15a

3. Be ready to answer: 15b

4. Be humble: *be ready ... with meekness and fear* (15c)

5. Be conscientious: *have a good conscience* (vs. 16a)

6. Be godly: *may be ashamed by your good conversation (life) in Christ* (16b)

Close: *Know the King and go forth to shine for the King!*