

Scripture: Ps. 119:1-24

Belgic Conf: art 5-7 (3)

Singing: 220:1, 2, 6 – 428:8-9 – 80:7-9 –66:4-5

When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him. Is. 59:19

THE FOUR CHARACTERISTICS OF THE WORD

1. Authority 2. Clarity 3. Necessity 4. Sufficiency

III. NECESSITY

A. The BIBLE is the only book teaching truth @ salvation!

1. Book of nature or human writings of 'wise' are insufficient: Rom. 10:13-17

B. We need Bible to know God & His will (see Art. 2, 5)

1. At birth we have **some** knowledge of God – Rom. 1:19-20

2. Also we have **some** knowledge of God's will: Rom. 2:14-15

C. We need Bible as necessary to **maintain** our spiritual life Matt. 4:4; 1 Pet 2:2

IV. THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURE

A. They contain *all* God wants us to know, to think or do about living to His glory

B. This aspect of **sufficiency** is far more important than we realize

1. Bible is to be your first Book on any question on God – salvation – life

2. Bible is to remain *only* Book on pulpit (2 Tim. 2:2-3)

3. Bible dictates what a *worship service* needs to be like (1 Cor. 14:40)

a. Jesus' warning about 'customs and traditions' (Matt. 15:8-9)

b. We need to continue to ask: *Is this Biblical? Divine command?*

c. what the Scripture says (or says not) is *FINAL and FULL*

4. Bible is sufficient to deal with every aspect of our human life experience
- a. God speaks as The Chief Counselor and addresses multiple aspects of the 'chaos we caused by our fall'
 - God did not give us all answers in the Bible

 - yet God gives sufficient counsel in the Bible

 - example: *What does God say about depression?* (Compare Ps. 42; Phil. 4; Ps. 31:10; Ps. 32)

Concluding Applications on 'Articles of Word of God'

A. The Bible contains all that God wants to say to regarding life to his glory

B. Knowing & believing all God's Word speaks gives strength: Dan. 11:32

1. The 'content' God's will is not established by the church's official teaching

2. Be careful when people claim truth above Bible's revelation (Is. 8:20)

C. The Bible contains all we need to know *on how to live* our Christian lives

1. What God does not *command* nor *forbid*, we cannot legislate or forbid morally or ethically

2. Adding to God's Word is *harming the believers*
 - a. because it grieves the Holy Spirit

 - b. because it burdens believers with false guilt

 - c. because it adds resentment to the unsaved hearts

 - d. because it nurtures the spirit of legalism

 - e. because it hinders evangelism

Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the LORD
Ps. 119:1