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A Quarterly Journal for Church Leadership
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The world is conquered by the Word, and by the Word the Church is served and rebuilt.

MARTIN LUTHER

There is a fulness in all Scripture far beyond our conception.

J. C. RYLE

The Bible is a rock of diamonds, a chain of pearls, the sword of the Spirit; a chart by which the Christian sails to eternity; the map by which he daily walks; the sundial by which he sets his life; the balance in which he weighs his actions.

THOMAS WATSON

Ignorance of the Scripture is ignorance of Christ.

JEROME

There is not a word in the Bible which is *extra crucem*, which can be understood without reference to the cross.

MARTIN LUTHER

ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

John Armstrong

Abraham, William. *Canon and Criterion in Christian Theology*. Oxford, England: Clarendon Press, 1998. A major scholarly work that challenges the assumptions that canonical heritage can be centered in epistemology as was done by both Reformers and Modernists alike. Argues for a new paradigm that centers canon in the early church while retaining an evangelical core. A seminal book for both philosophers and serious students.

Achtemeier, Paul J. *Inspiration and Authority*. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, 1999. A serious attempt to defend the authority of Scripture, *without* the idea of inerrancy, by grounding the doctrine in a covenantal framework that points to the Spirit's power *through* the Word of God.

Achtemeier, Paul J. *The Inspiration of Scripture: Problems and Proposals*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1980. A clear overview of the doctrine of inspiration which shows the problems as well as proposals which will not gain universal agreement from evangelicals.

Barton, John. *Holy Texts, Sacred Writings*. Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press, 1997. Examines the complex relationship between the canonical texts of the Old and New Testaments. How did the Canon develop? Draws a sharp distinction between "Canon" and "Scripture."

- Bavinck, Herman. *The Philosophy of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1979 (reprint of 1909). Originally part of the Stone Lecture series given at Princeton Theological Seminary, now a classic of the older Reformed school.
- Blaisdell, Charles R., ed. *Conservative, Moderate, Liberal: The Biblical Authority Debate*. St. Louis: Convention Baptist Press, 1990. How does Scripture function as authority? This collection of essays includes thought from both sides of the modern Southern Baptist battle over the Bible, thus providing an insightful look from proponents of two views.
- *Bloesch, Donald G. *The Ground of Certainty*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971. Suggests, helpfully, a divergence from the traditional ways in which theology and philosophy have related to one another. Calls for a transformation of approach rather than a synthesis, thus showing how reason *cannot* establish the truth of divine revelation.
- *Bloesch, Donald G. *Holy Scripture: Revelation, Inspiration & Interpretation*. Downers Grove, Illinois, 1994. The second volume in an on-going systematic series, Christian Foundations. This work defends orthodox evangelical faith from what Bloesch calls both "its friends as well as its enemies." Even those evangelicals who reject Bloesch's understanding of inerrancy should wrestle with his necessary distinction between the *living* Word and the *written* Word.
- Boice, James M., ed. *Transforming Our World: A Call to Action*. Portland, Oregon: Multnomah Press, 1988. How do we bring the truth of the Word of God to bear upon our culture? Essays by well-known writers such as Colson, Sproul, Packer and Guinness.

- Boice, James M. *Standing on the Rock: Biblical Authority in a Secular Age*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994. A clear and helpful book rooted in the late James M. Boice's work as the leader of the International Council on Biblical Inerrancy (ICBI). Popular in style but useful for serious readers.
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- Braaten, Carl E. and Robert W. Jenson, eds. *Reclaiming the Bible for the Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995. Serious theologians speak to the issue of a crisis that exists regarding biblical authority in our time. They challenge the adequacy of the historical-critical method.
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- suggestions about how the congregation can and should use the Word of God. Most practical.
- Buss, L. Russ and Thomas J. Nettles. *Baptists and the Bible*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1980. Reprinted several times, this historical study argues for a high view of the Bible among the Baptists.
- Carroll, B. H. *Inspiration of the Bible*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1980 (reprint of 1930 edition). Eight sermons by the popular Southern Baptist conservative who founded Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary early in the last century.
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- *Carson, D. A. and John D. Woodbridge, eds. *Scripture and Truth*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1983. The very best volume of essays to come out of the IBCI discussions of the 1970s and 80s. Includes work by Packer, Nicole, Longenecker, Grudem, Carson and the late Philip Edgcumbe Hughes.
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- other evangelical scholars as well as his standard argument rooted in logic as the criterion of all truth.
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- Yoder, Dayton, Webber, Dyrness, Wells, and Fackre. A wide assortment of genuinely evangelical voices who definitely do not agree on all the specifics of inspiration.
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intents and purposes, launched what became "the battle for the Bible" with this historic book. Engaging, flawed, and very troublesome at times.

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*Linnemann, Eta. Robert W. Yarbrough, trans. *Historical Criticism of the Bible: Methodology or Ideology?* Grand Rapids: Baker, 1990. Linnemann studied under Bultmann and did not come to saving faith until later in her life. She then turned against the radical methods of the critical theory she had been taught. This is truly an amazing story and a useful book.

*Linnemann, Eta. Robert W. Yarbrough, trans. *Is There a Synoptic Problem? Rethinking the Literary Dependence of the First Three Gospels*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992. A second book which destroys the various "synoptic" problems many scholars seek to uphold.

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*McKim, Donald K. *The Authoritative Word: Essays on the Nature of Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983. Includes the work of a very wide range of scholars including Paul Achtemeier, Robert M. Grant, C. K. Barrett, F. F. Bruce, Donald Miller, Donald Bloesch, G. C. Berkouwer, H. N. Ridderbos, Jack Rogers, and the Roman Catholic theologian Avery Dulles. Very helpful material, especially by Bloesch, Bruce, and Berkouwer.

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- Martin, Robert. *Accuracy of Translation and the New International Version*. Carlisle, Pennsylvania: Banner of Truth 1989. A seriously flawed argument regarding the matter of dynamic equivalence, a principle fraught with dangers for sure. The NIV has weaknesses but this is definitely not the best critique of what they are.
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- Nash, Ronald H. *The Word of God and the Mind of Man*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1982. A defense of the proposition that God's revelation consists of truth coming from God to us.
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- Nicole, Roger R. and J. Ramsey Michaels, eds. *Inerrancy and Common Sense*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1980. One of the better collections to come from the debates over inerrancy. Includes essays by John J. Davis, Gordon D. Fee, Richard Lovelace, J. I. Packer, and R. C. Sproul.
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- *Orr, James. *Revelation and Inspiration*. Grand Rapids: Baker,

- 1969 (reprint of 1910). A classic in the field of inspiration and the doctrine of the Bible. A must read for serious theologians and pastors. For nearly one hundred years this has been the standard conservative treatment.
- Orr, James. *The Bible Under Trial*. New York: Marshall Brothers, n.d. This volume includes apologetic papers Orr wrote on assaults upon the Bible by early Modernist theologians in his era.
- O'Neill, J. C. *The Bible's Authority: A Portrait Gallery of Thinkers from Lessing to Bultmann*. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1991. An overview of major theologians and philosophers, who in various ways, tried to understand or undermine the authority of the Bible.
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- *Packer, J. I. *God Has Spoken*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1979. Another Packer "gem" that stands useful to the present day!
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popular and useful book which defends the authority of the Bible.

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- Rogers, Jack B. and Donald K. McKim. *The Authority and Interpretation of the Bible: An Historical Approach*. New York: Harper & Row, 1979. An attempt to root the authority of the Bible in formulations that do not insist on inerrancy as defined in the past one hundred years or so (cf. John Woodbridge below).
- Rogers, Jack B., ed. *Biblical Authority*. Waco, Texas: Word, 1977. An effort to turn the arguments over the Bible in the 1970s from inerrancy to authority and the practical use of Scripture in the church's spiritual life. Some good essays are to be found here.

- Runia, Klaas. *Karl Barth and the Word of God*. Leicester, England: Theological Students fellowship, n.d. Shows how Barth made some distinctions that were invalid but nonetheless held an essentially correct understanding of preaching the Word.
- Ryle J. C. *The Inspiration of the Scriptures*. London: Evangelical Press, n.d. A small booklet which holds to the conservative view of inspiration.
- Satterthwaite, Philip E. and David F. Wright, eds. *A Pathway into the Holy Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994. Contains the papers given at the jubilee meeting of the Tyndale Fellowship for Biblical and Theological Research, an event commemorating the 500th anniversary of the birth of the English reformer William Tyndale. Includes a discussion of Tyndale, current trends in Old and New Testament scholarship, biblical theology, Paul's view of Scripture, hermeneutics, and inspiration. An extremely valuable contemporary volume which is highly recommended for serious readers.
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- Thomas, Robert L. *How to Chose a Bible Version*. Inverness, Scotland: Christian Focus Publications, 2000. An attempt to fairly represent the principles and methods of modern Bible translations. Like all such books carries the author's presuppositions but retains a general measure of fairness.
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- *Wenham, John W. *Christ & the Bible*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1972. Argues that proper belief in the Holy Scripture must be built on proper faith and confidence in Jesus Christ.
- *White, James R. *The King James Only Controversy: Can You Trust the Modern Translations?* Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1995. It is rare that a book of this sort works so well. Read it and give it to others!
- Wolterstorff, Nicholas. *Divine Discourse: Philosophical Reflections on the Claim that God Speaks*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1995. An impressive work in philosophy which directly crosses over into theology.
- *Woodbridge, John D. *Biblical Authority: A Critique of the Rogers/McKim Proposal*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan,

1982. A work of scholarship that undertakes to demolish the aforementioned Rogers/McKim volume listed above. A most important work.

Young, E. J. *Thy Word is Truth: Some Thoughts on the Biblical Doctrine of Inspiration*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1957. One of the best explanations and defenses of biblical authority from the old Princetonian tradition.

Youngblood, Ronald, ed. *Evangelicals and Inerrancy: Selections from the Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*. Includes twenty-three articles from the journal.

*Highly recommended