

IS THE NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE?

HEBREW SCRIPTURES & APOSTOLIC SCRIPTURES

- Testing the authority of the apostolic writings by biblical criteria
- Finding the Ancient Path

Why This Study?

A QUESTION OF BIBLICAL AUTHORITY

- Some Torah-pursuant believers question Paul or reject the New Testament as Scripture.
- The teaching warns against correcting one error by swinging to an opposite extreme.
- The issue affects how we understand Yeshua, the apostles, and the continuity of YHWH's revelation.

What Does “Scripture” Mean?

FROM WRITING TO DIVINE TEXT

- The underlying word can broadly refer to writing or a document.
- In religious usage, Scripture means sacred, authoritative text recognized as coming from God.
- The teaching therefore asks the deeper question: Is the New Testament Holy Spirit inspired?

Holy Spirit Inspired = Divine Text

THE CENTRAL STANDARD

- If a writing truly proceeds from YHWH by the Holy Spirit, the teaching treats it as divine text.
- The question is not merely when a later council recognized a document.
- The question is whether the message has divine origin and authoritative witness.

How the Torah Was Written

MOSES AND COVENANT REVELATION

- Moses writes the words YHWH gives him.
- Exodus 33:11 depicts a unique face-to-face, friend-like relationship.
- The teaching connects this relationship with Moses' role as a voice of covenant revelation.

How the Prophets Were Recognized

REVELATION, TESTING, PRESERVATION

- Prophets are repeatedly commanded to write YHWH's words and visions.
- Their authority is tested by divine origin, fulfillment, and consistency with prior revelation.
- Authoritative prophetic testimony is then preserved for the covenant community.

The Apostles Receive the Mysteries

AMOS 3 • MATTHEW 13 • JOHN 15

- Amos: YHWH reveals His secrets to His servants the prophets.
- Yeshua gives the Twelve the mysteries of the Kingdom.
- Yeshua calls them friends and makes known what He heard from the Father.

Are the Apostles Prophetic Witnesses?

SENT AND SPIRIT-EMPOWERED

- Yeshua sends messengers in a prophetic pattern.
- Matthew 10 says the Spirit of the Father will speak through the disciples.
- The teaching identifies the apostles as new-covenant prophetic envoys.

Intra-Canonical Attestation

SCRIPTURE RECOGNIZES SCRIPTURE

- The teaching highlights biblical authors recognizing other contemporary writings as Scripture.
- This provides an internal witness to apostolic authority.
- Recognition occurs while the writings are circulating among believers.

Paul Recognizes Luke

1 TIMOTHY 5:18 • LUKE 10:7

- Paul says, “the Scripture says,” then combines Deuteronomy with a saying found in Luke.
- The teaching presents this as Paul recognizing Luke’s Gospel as Scripture.
- Apostolic writing is therefore treated as divine text within the apostolic period.

Peter Recognizes Paul

2 PETER 3:15-16

- Peter discusses Paul's epistles and warns that people twist them.
- He compares this distortion with twisting "the rest of the Scriptures."
- The teaching reads this as Peter placing Paul's letters in the category of Scripture.

The Spirit Will Bring Remembrance

JOHN 14:26 • JOHN 16:13

- Yeshua promises that the Holy Spirit will teach the apostles and bring His words to remembrance.
- The Spirit will guide them into truth.
- The teaching sees this promise as foundational to the preservation of Yeshua's testimony.

Moses and the Twelve

A COVENANT-REVELATION PARALLEL

- YHWH spoke with Moses as a friend for covenant revelation.
- Yeshua calls the Twelve friends and makes the Father's words known to them.
- Their testimony about the new covenant is preserved in the Gospels and epistles.

What About Later Councils?

AUTHORITY BEFORE RETROACTIVE CANONIZATION

- The teaching acknowledges later historical discussions about canon.
- But it argues that apostolic writings already show internal recognition and circulation as authoritative instruction.
- Later councils are not presented as the original source of their divine authority.

Consistency With Prior Revelation

THE TORAH REMAINS A TEST

- The teaching says a claim of divine origin must align with the rest of Scripture, especially Torah.
- Apostolic authority is not presented as permission to contradict YHWH's prior revelation.
- Harmony is used as part of the test for authoritative Scripture.

A Warning About the Pendulum

TORAH SHOULD POINT TO MESSIAH

- The teaching rejects both dismissing Torah and elevating Torah in a way that diminishes Yeshua.
- Torah is presented as instruction that points to Messiah, not as a rival to Him.
- Discernment requires holding to the full counsel of Scripture.

The Conclusion

CAN WE TRUST THE NEW TESTAMENT AS SCRIPTURE?

- The teaching's answer is yes.
- The apostolic writings are presented as divinely sourced, apostolically witnessed, internally attested, and communally received.
- By the same biblical criteria used for Torah and the Prophets, they belong in the category of Scripture.

Hebrew Scriptures & Apostolic Scriptures

ONE CONTINUOUS BIBLICAL WITNESS

- The teaching prefers these terms over treating “Old” and “New” Testaments as competing bodies of revelation.
- The Apostolic Scriptures testify to Yeshua and the new covenant while remaining rooted in the Hebrew Scriptures.
- The goal is continuity, harmony, and faithfulness to the whole biblical witness.