

Belgic Confession, Article 7, “The Sufficiency of Scripture”

Scripture Lesson: 1 Peter 1:3-12

Lesson Aim	To understand three things: First, how the Bible is sufficient to reveal salvation in Christ and to reveal how God demands to be worshipped. Second, what the role of tradition is in interpreting the Bible. Third, how the Bible is not sufficient for all things pertaining to this life.
Steps to Learning	Read Belgic Confession, Article 7 and 1 Peter 1:3-12 . Discuss the sermon and the particulars of the lesson below. It may work best to work through the material over several days or sessions.
Discuss	<p>For what is the Bible sufficient? The Bible is sufficient to reveal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ and to reveal the way in which God commands believers to worship him.</p> <p>What are some biblical passages that tell us the Bible is about Jesus Christ and salvation in him? Luke 24:25-27 and 1 Peter 1:10-12.</p> <p>What commandment tells us that we must worship God in the way that he demands? The second commandment, “You shall not make any images of God.”</p> <p>What is the “Regulative Principle?” That we worship God only in the way that he has commanded in the Scriptures.</p> <p>Why is tradition important in interpreting the Bible? Tradition is the process of the church learning how to interpret the Bible and passing along that learning to succeeding generations.</p> <p>What is the “Rule of Faith?” The Rule of Faith is the mechanism or system derived from the Scriptures to interpret the Scriptures. This system has been written down in history in the form of our Creeds and Confessions.</p> <p>Is the Bible sufficient for everything in our lives? No. The Bible itself instructs us to get wisdom for living in this world by studying the creation itself and learning from other people. The Bible also reveals wisdom but it’s not the only source of wisdom.</p>
Bible Reading	Genesis chapters 24-33 [Isaac, Jacob, Esau stories] (covering the great Bible stories)