

God's Infallibility

Written by: Dr. Eddie Bhawanie

(God is Infallible and Inerrant in His Revelation to Man): Is an Inescapable Concept:

“I am the LORD: that is My name: and My glory will I not give to another, neither My praise to graven images. Behold, the former things are come to pass, and new things do I declare: before they spring forth I tell you of them” (Isaiah 42:8-9).

The living God, in His Word, spoke through the prophet Isaiah, declaring that when He speaks, His Word, surely and infallibly, comes to pass (see Isaiah 55:11). He declares, moreover, that He alone is God, and that He will neither share nor give His glory to another. But in our day, as in Isaiah's day, many question this declaration; they reduce it to religious poetry, rhetoric, myths, or imagery, and they deny the living God His sovereignty and His Word, its infallibility. This denial is taking its toll on churches, on society, and on individuals!

The doctrine of the infallibility of Scripture can be denied, but the concept of infallibility, as such, cannot be logically denied and it can be proven. *Infallibility is an inescapable concept*. When men refuse to ascribe infallibility to sacred Scripture, it is because men have transferred the concept of infallibility to *something* or *someone* else – namely, the word of man. Man places himself at the center of all things in the universe. To man, the concept of infallibility is veiled, and it is then ascribed to things, men himself, and to manmade institutions.

“The concept of infallibility is still all around us in a great variety of substitutes. One such substitute is the word *Democracy*. This *new god*, (democracy) –speaks infallibly in and through majorities of people. In a Democracy, ‘right is what the majority makes it.’ Not surprisingly, every movement *toward democracy* has been a direct or indirect attack, or assault, *on Biblical Christianity*. Why is this so? Because democracy has an explicit *doctrine of infallibility*; it is necessarily and logically hostile to a rival doctrine of infallibility, and the claims of sacred Scripture are either implicitly or explicitly denied.”¹

It is not surprising, that for man to live successfully, he must have an ultimate standing ground: *Every philosophy is authoritarian*, in that, while it may attack savagely all other doctrines of authority, it does so *from* the vantage point of *a new authority – man's word*. This new base becomes a total religious base, a base which rests on the particular concept of man's infallibility. Therefore, every man has ‘a platform’ from which he speaks. Man always draws his thinking from the concept of human thought – hence, his own, fallible-worldview.

When, and if, the infallibility of Scripture is denied, it is denied only in order to ascribe infallibility to nature, to man, to the state, or to some aspect or institution of man. Man makes of himself a *graven image*, thereby he becomes infallible.

A necessary aspect of the doctrine of infallibility is the total self-existence of the infallible, infinite, living God. For there to be an *infallible Word*, there has to be a Being who is *totally Self-existent*. God is totally Self-existent (Jer. 23:23-24) and *transcendent*.

¹ Rushdoony, vol. 1, p. 2-3.

God is preeminent and incomparable. There is *no unconscious, or subconscious mind* in God, nor does the Almighty sleep (Psalm 121:4). The Self-existent living God is *omnipotent, immutable, omniscient, and omnipresent*. God declares, “I am the LORD, I change not” (Mal. 3:6).

The living God is totally Self-existent. He is the living, *infinite-personal* God. Man, on the other hand, is *finite*, and is not self-existent. There are hidden recesses in the mind of man, unrealized potentials unknown to that person. *Man cannot therefore fully determine what he is, or what he can do*. King Solomon Observed; “Man’s goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way? (Proverbs 20:24).” The determination of man is not in man, nor does man ever have a full self-consciousness about himself.

An infallible Word requires a totally Self-existent speaker Who can speak with, and reveal total knowledge of, Himself, and His abilities, and attributes. Not surprisingly, the French existentialist, and philosopher, Jean Paul Sartre a man of letters (born 1905), said: “That the goal of man is to be god,” and “Man fundamentally is (unto himself, and has) the desire to be God.” (*His book: Being And Nothingness, p. 50ff*). Man, in his desire to be God, has one problem: ‘*man is not self-existent.*’ Man is a created being. Hence, Jean-Paul Sartre finds it *imperative to deny* the totally Self-existence of God, Who is the infinite, living God of revelation.

Summary:

Norman Williams, in his work: (*Verbal Inspiration, page, 18*), wrote: “A Man cannot reject any Word of God without in principle, rejecting every Word of God.” If the Word of God does not lead us to obedience, service, and worship, then the Word of God is used as a *mask* for another word –which is our own word. And our faith, and actions would be false, and alien, living without the foundation of God’s Truth, as that of the false Rabbis during Christ’ earthly ministry (see John 8:44). How tragic!