

## The Word of God

- IV. **The Inerrancy of Scripture** – We have already established the fact of the inerrancy of Scripture when we talked about the authority of Scripture. Remember that God cannot lie or speak falsely (2 Sam. 7:28; Titus 1:2; Heb. 6:18), therefore all the words in Scripture are claimed to be completely true and without error in any part (Num. 23:19; Psalms 12:6; 119:89, 96; Prov 30:5; Matt. 24:35) and are the ultimate standard of truth (John 17:17).
- a. *The Meaning of Inerrancy*: The inerrancy of Scripture means that Scripture in the original manuscripts (for over 99 percent of the words in the Bible, we know what the original manuscript said) does not affirm anything that is contrary to fact.
    1. This definition focuses on the question of truthfulness and falsehood in the language of Scripture.
    2. The Bible *always* tells the truth concerning *everything* it talks about.
    3. We are *not* saying that every copy of Scripture is without human error. We *are* saying that, in every word of Scripture, God communicated perfect truth and his communication is 100 percent without error.
    4. Further, we are saying that this communication has been preserved for us in the Bible. Therefore, we can trust Scripture as we trust God.
  - b. *Problems With Denying The Inerrancy of Scripture*
    1. If we deny the inerrancy of Scripture, we claim that God is not always truthful. This is a biblically untenable position since Scripture clearly states that God cannot lie (Heb. 6:18). The bible says that we are to imitate God (Eph. 5:1). Would we then conclude that we must lie to imitate God?
    2. If we deny the inerrancy of Scripture, we must wonder if we can really trust God. How would we then decide which things in the bible are to be believed and which things are not? The authority of Scripture crumbles if we deny its inerrancy.
    3. If we deny the inerrancy of Scripture and thus find ourselves having to decide which words are true and which ones are in error, we essentially make our minds and intellect the ultimate standard of truth.
    4. If we deny the inerrancy of Scripture, even if only in minor details, then we must also admit the possibility of error in major doctrinal issues as well. All of Christianity hinges on the fact of the absolute trustworthy nature of God's words.