

So if the Law is about Jesus, and points to His work on our behalf, it's there to show you that you can't possibly be good enough.

Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.
Romans 10:4

So the Law is very much about Jesus.

Indeed, all the prophets from Samuel on, as many as have spoken, have foretold these days. ²⁵ And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, "Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed."
Acts 3: 24,25

Jesus is the One who comes and fulfills these covenants, so we can get the blessed through him. Peter is saying in this sermon, "Until you see that, you will never understand the Scriptures."

Paul says in 2 Corinthians; "If you read the Bible, today without reading it through the lens of Jesus Christ, there's a veil over your heart.

Most of those people had never met the risen Jesus.
What is Peter talking about?

If you listen to the Gospel preached, you're listening to Jesus preaching, and it cuts you, it changes you, and it blesses you.

Community Group Questions:

1. Can you explain Sartre's quote?
2. What doctrines do you see as essential in the Bible's authority? Why?
3. John 5:46 is telling; where do you see Moses writing about Jesus?



Why Is It Important to Receive the Bible as Authoritative?
Acts 3:15-26

Peter's 2nd Sermon

Jean-Paul Sartre an atheist, was one of the key figures in the philosophy of **Existentialism**.

Sartre' said, "For those of us who do not believe God exists are forlorn, (despondent) for we cannot find anything to depend on either inside or outside ourselves. Morals are for us both unavoidable and impossible."

Madalyn Murray O'Hair, herself, a militant atheist, said; "I can't believe in a final truth. A truth that's imposed on you. I don't believe in a final kind of absolute truth. I gave up on the idea of truth. Hitler said that truth was to kill six million Jews. Roman Catholic Church said the truth was to exterminate thousands through the Inquisition. So don't search for truth."

She illustrates perfectly why her position here is both impossible and unavoidable as Sartre says. "I was so offended by the people who took this idea of truth and used it to hurt people, that I gave up on the whole idea of truth, the idea that you can impose your truth on someone else. I gave up on the idea ..."

Here's the unavoidable problem that her statement makes:

As soon as you get rid of the idea of truth, you don't have any reason to be offended. O'hair does what she denies. She asserts a truth, "hurting others is wrong".

So it really boils down to this; you can say there is no truth; and in doing it she had to make a truth statement. It is unavoidable, as Sartre' said.

I. Peter says truth is found in the Scriptures.

Jesus told him, "I am the way, **the truth**, and the life. John 14:6

"You are a king, then!" said Pilate. Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world **is to testify to the truth**. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me." John 18:37

"Now, brothers," says Peter, "I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. But this is how God fulfilled **what he had foretold** through all the prophets, Acts 3:17,18

The Prophets brought us the Words of God not words about God

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. Hebrews 11:1,2

For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1:21

Why it's important to receive the Bible as authoritative?

1. If you don't have a Bible that's completely true; then you are left to your own view of right and wrong.

Why are Christians called to believe the whole Bible?

Because you can't follow Jesus legitimately and contradict the very source on which He based his entire life upon.

2. If you have a Bible where you pick and choose what you want to follow, then you don't have an ability to be corrected.

All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16,17

In the Old Testament, what was an idol? Tim Keller: "An idol was something you made in your workshop, something you shaped to fit you. The living God is one who makes you in the workshop, and he shapes you to fit him. There's no in between, because either you have a God who can contradict you, who can say, "That's your will, but I want you to do mine,"

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10

No amount of good works will produce salvation, but many good works are produced by salvation.

II. Peter tells us the Bible is actually all about a Jesus.

If you really believed Moses, you would believe me, because he wrote about me. John 5:46

Moses wrote down the law God gave to him; the Moral law, the Civil law, and the Ceremonial Law. The whole point of the Law was to show us we couldn't approach God on our own terms.

The **Apostle Paul** would later clarify this; "Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin." Romans 3:20

For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh, Romans 8:3