

## The Solution of Scripture

**Text:** 2 Timothy 3:10–17 (KJV)

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### Introduction

We live in a world filled with confusion, moral decay, and spiritual deception. People are searching for answers—some in philosophy, others in science, and many in self-help. But the real solution to life’s deepest problems is found in one source: **the Word of God**. Paul reminds Timothy that in the midst of persecution and false teaching, the Scriptures are sufficient to equip the believer for every good work.

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### Theme:

**The Word of God is the believer’s ultimate solution for guidance, growth, and godliness.**

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### I. The Pattern of a Godly Life (Verses 10–11)

#### 2 Timothy 3:10–11

*“But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, Persecutions, afflictions, which came unto me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra; what persecutions I endured: but out of them all the Lord delivered me.”*

Paul begins by reminding Timothy of his example. Timothy had observed Paul's **doctrine** (what he taught) and **manner of life** (how he lived). Notice the connection: truth and life go together. Paul's life was marked by **purpose, faith, and love**, even in the face of persecution.

- **Related Scripture:**

- *Philippians 3:17* – “Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.”
- *Hebrews 13:7* – “Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.”

**Transition:** Paul's life was shaped by the Word of God. But he warns Timothy that the world will not applaud such living.

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## **II. The Reality of Persecution (Verses 12–13)**

### **2 Timothy 3:12–13**

*“Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.”*

Godliness attracts opposition. This is not optional—it is inevitable. The world is moving in the opposite direction: **evil men and seducers** are getting worse, not better. This reminds us that human progress does not equal moral progress.

- **Related Scripture:**

- *John 15:18* – “If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.”
- *Matthew 5:10* – “Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

**Transition:** In such a hostile world, where do we turn for stability and strength? Paul gives the answer in the next verses.

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### III. The Power of the Scriptures (Verses 14–15)

#### 2 Timothy 3:14–15

*“But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”*

Paul urges Timothy to **continue**—to remain steadfast in the truth he has learned. Notice the phrase: *“holy scriptures... able to make thee wise unto salvation.”* The Bible is not just information; it is transformation. It leads us to salvation through faith in Christ.

- **Related Scripture:**
  - *Romans 10:17* – “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”
  - *Psalms 19:7* – “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.”
- **The Holy Spirit’s role:**
- Helps us understand and apply God’s Word
  - Joh 14:26 “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”
  - Without Him, we cannot truly grasp or obey Scripture.

**Transition:** The Scriptures not only bring salvation—they equip us for every aspect of life.

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## IV. The Sufficiency of Scripture (Verses 16–17)

### 2 Timothy 3:16–17

*“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”*

#### A. Inspiration of God

The phrase *“inspiration of God”* means **God-breathed** (*theopneustos*). Scripture is not man’s opinion; it is the very breath of God recorded through human authors under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. This makes the Bible **authoritative, trustworthy, and sufficient**.

- **Supporting Scripture:**

- *2 Peter 1:21* – “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”
- *Psalms 119:160* – “Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.”

#### B. Profitable for Every Area of Life

Paul lists four ways Scripture works in us:

1. **Doctrine** – It teaches what is right.
  - *John 17:17* – “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”
2. **Reproof** – It shows what is wrong.
  - *Hebrews 4:12* – “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the

dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

3. **Correction** – It sets us back on the right path.
  - *Galatians 6:1* – “Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.”
4. **Instruction in righteousness** – It trains us to live godly lives.
  - *Psalm 119:9* – “Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.”

### **C. The Goal: Equipped for Every Good Work**

The result of Scripture’s work is that the believer becomes “**perfect**” (mature, complete) and “**thoroughly furnished**” (fully equipped) for every good work. The Bible is not just for information—it is for transformation.

- **Supporting Scripture:**
  - *James 1:22* – “But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.”
  - *Psalm 119:105* – “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

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### **Conclusion**

In a world of confusion and compromise, **Scripture is the solution**. It is God-breathed, authoritative, and sufficient for every need. The Word of God teaches us, corrects us, and trains us to live for Christ. When we hold

fast to the Word, we will stand firm in truth and be equipped for every good work.

**Call to Action:**

- **Read it daily.**
- **Believe it fully.**
- **Obey it completely.**

*Psalm 119:11* – “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.”

## Discussion Questions

1. **Godly Example (vv. 10–11)**
  - Which qualities in Paul's life—doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, love, patience—stand out most to you?
  - How can we show these qualities today?
2. **Persecution (vv. 12–13)**
  - Why does living for Christ bring persecution?
  - How should we respond when people oppose our faith?
3. **Power of Scripture and the Spirit (vv. 14–15)**
  - How have the Scriptures helped you know Christ?
  - Why do we need the Holy Spirit to understand and obey God's Word?
4. **Sufficiency of Scripture (vv. 16–17)**
  - What does *theopneustos* ("God-breathed") mean?
  - How has Scripture corrected or guided you personally?