

A MESSAGE FROM DON BARRY

READ THE BOOK

Don't wait for the movie



FEBRUARY 2026

{ PROVENANCE
AND PURPOSE }

GATEWAY CHURCH

1. Its Provenance - Origin

2 TIMOTHY 3:16 (NKJV)

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness...”

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2 TIMOTHY 3:16 (MSG)

“Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another—showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God’s way. Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.”

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HEBREWS 4:12 (NKJV)

“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

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2 PETER 1:21 (JBPhillips)

But you must understand this at the outset, that no prophecy of scripture arose from an individual's interpretation of the truth. No prophecy came because a man wanted it to: men of God spoke because they were inspired by the Holy Spirit.

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“Our claim is that God has revealed Himself by speaking; that this divine {God-breathed} speech has been written down and preserved in Scripture and that Scripture is, in fact, God’s word written down which is true and reliable and as divine authority over us.”

JOHN STOTT

“Inspiration is a shorthand way of talking about the belief that God, by His Holy Spirit has guided the very different writers and editors so that the books they produced were the books God intended His people to have.”

N. T. WRIGHT

2. Its Purpose, Its Object.

JOHN 5:39 (MSG)

“You search the Scriptures, for you believe they give you eternal life. And the Scriptures point to me!”

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JOHN 5:17-18 (MEV)

Jesus answered them, “My Father is working still, and I am working.” So the Jews sought even more to kill Him, because He not only had broken the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.

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JOHN 5

19: “Whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise.”

20: “The Father loves the Son and shows Him all things.”

21: “As the Father raises the dead, the Son gives life to whoever He wills.”

22: “The Father commits all judgement to the Son.”

23: “All should honour the Son just as the honour the Father.”

24: “He who believes in me has everlasting life.”

26: “As the Father has life in Himself so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself.”

JOHN 5

31: “If I bear witness of Myself, My testimony is not true.”

33: “You sent to John, and he bore witness of the truth.”

36: “The very works that I do, bear witness of Me.”

37: “The Father Himself, who has sent Me, has borne witness of Me.”

39: “You search the Scriptures, because you think in them you have eternal life. These are they who bear witness of Me.”

46: “For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote of Me.”

LUKE 24:27 (MEV)

“And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.”

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LUKE 24:44-45 (MEV)

“He said to them, “These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and in the Prophets and in the Psalms concerning Me.” Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.”

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2 CORINTHIANS 1:20 (AMP)

For as many as are the promises of God, they all find their Yes [answer] in Him [Christ]. For this reason we also utter the Amen (so be it) to God through Him [in His Person and by His agency] to the glory of God.

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“The business of Scripture is to take us by the hand and take us beyond the words to the WORD.”

E. S. JONES



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“When we come to the Scriptures it is not a question of learning a subject, but of steeping ourselves in a personality.”

C. S. LEWIS

“As God’s word written, the Scriptures are a great, but mixed blessing. They are a blessing because each new generation of Christians has access to the fact that God speaks, the manner of his speaking, the results of his speaking. The Scriptures are a mixed blessing because the moment they are written down they are in danger of losing the living resonance of the spoken word and reduced to something that is looked at, studied and interpreted but not heard personally. Reduced to writing and left there, words no longer do what they were designed to do – create and maintain personal relationships and love. In such cases printer’s ink has become embalming fluid.”

EUGENE PETERSON

1 CORINTHIANS 2:10-12 (NKJV)

“But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

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1 CORINTHIANS 2:13-14 (NKJV)

“These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but {words} which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”

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2 CORINTHIANS 3:18 (NKJV)

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

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