



Big Idea: Scripture is sufficient for every spiritual truth.

-- What we learn from Scripture is **EXACTLY** the spiritual instruction that God wants us to know, without any additions or subtractions (Deuteronomy 4:2, Deuteronomy 12:32, Proverbs 30:5–6)

1.) Do not **SUBTRACT from God's Word (v. 19).**

- Denying what is plainly revealed is a major offense against God, met with major consequences from Him (James 3:1).
- *Are you growing in your knowledge of God's Word?*
- *Are you deliberately rejecting something you know that it clearly says?*

2.) Do not **ADD to God's Word.**

- "Trip-to-heaven" books violate the prohibition Jesus gives against adding to Scripture.
- Scripture tells us that people simply do not go to heaven and come back (Proverbs 30:4, John 3:12-1).
- **Scripture gives no record of anyone's **POSTMORTEM** experience in heaven.**
 - Only four biblical authors were given visions of heaven, and none came by way of a postmortem experience (2 Corinthians 12:2-4).

-- In response to the astonishing vision God gave him of heaven, Paul states that he was forbidden by God to relate what he saw.

-- Alleged eye-witness details about heaven undermine the SUFFICIENCY of Scripture (1 Corinthians 4:6).

-- If someone has really returned from heaven to Earth with true details of what God and heaven are like, then (in theory) the details they share should be as reliable and authoritative as any verse in the Bible.

-- If those accounts are true, then God would have left us with an open **CANNON** of Scripture.

-- Anything that diminishes our reliance upon the Word of God is not the work of God.

-- The Bible is the only legitimate place to get an accurate understanding of life after death (Deuteronomy 29:29).

-- Any attempt to gain spiritual truth by inquiring of the DEAD dishonors God (Isaiah 8:19-20).

-- God's prohibition against consulting mediums and spiritists applies to books that purport to be eyewitness accounts of heaven.

-- The Bible contains everything God wants us to know about everything yet to come.

Application

-- Understand and embrace the sufficiency of Scripture (2 Peter 1:3-4).

-- Only the inspired, infallible, inerrant, authoritative Word of God is **NECESSARY** for the Good News of redemption in Christ to be known, understood, and applied to a life of faith (Jude 1:3).