

THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE – PART TWO: ONE REVELATION

From the beginning of time, God has never left mankind without a witness of His will. Though creation declares His glory, it is through revelation that we come to know His mind, His purposes, and His plan for salvation. Without divine revelation, man is left to his own imagination, resulting in countless religions, conflicting messages, and spiritual confusion. This lesson examines the truth that there is only one true revelation from God—complete, inspired, and sufficient to guide every soul to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3).

Introduction:

1. This is the second lesson in the series *There Can Be Only One*, which emphasizes five unchanging truths: one God, one revelation, one religion, one way of salvation, and one church. In the previous lesson, we learned that there is only one true and living God, the Creator of all things.
2. Because there is only one God, it follows that He has given only one revelation of Himself and His will. The God of truth does not speak with conflicting voices or contradictory messages (Numbers 23:19).
3. The world is filled with many “holy books,” traditions, and philosophies claiming divine authority, yet all stand in contrast to the single, unified revelation God has given in His Word.
4. In this lesson, we will see that God’s revelation is unique in its origin, complete in its content, and final in its authority. Every message that contradicts or adds to it must be rejected.

1. The Need For Divine Revelation (Job 11:7; 1 Corinthians 2:9–10):

Man, by his own wisdom, cannot discover God. The distance between the infinite Creator and finite humanity is too great. Therefore, God took the initiative to reveal Himself to man.

- a. Job asked, “Canst thou by searching find out God?” showing that man cannot reach divine truth through human reason alone (Job 11:7).
- b. Paul explained that the things of God are hidden from natural understanding but are revealed by the Spirit, for “the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God” (1 Corinthians 2:9–10).
- c. Human philosophies, mysticism, and religious speculation all fail because they originate in man’s limited mind rather than God’s eternal wisdom (Proverbs 14:12).

2. The Source Of True Revelation (2 Peter 1:20–21; 2 Timothy 3:16–17):

The only true revelation is that which comes from God Himself, given through His chosen messengers and preserved in His written Word.

- a. Peter taught that “no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation,” but that “holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (2 Peter 1:20–21).
- b. Paul affirmed that “all scripture is given by inspiration of God,” meaning it is God-breathed, not man-conceived (2 Timothy 3:16).
- c. Because God is perfect and cannot lie, His revelation must likewise be perfect, trustworthy, and without contradiction (Psalms 19:7; Titus 1:2).

3. The Unity And Harmony Of God’s Revelation (Hebrews 1:1–2; John 17:17):

Though given across centuries through many writers, God’s revelation speaks with one voice. It is consistent, harmonious, and centered in Christ.

- a. God “spoke in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,” but in these last days has spoken unto us by His Son (Hebrews 1:1–2).
- b. Every part of Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, points to Christ and unfolds the plan of redemption (Luke 24:27, 44).
- c. Jesus affirmed the absolute truth of God’s Word when He said, “Thy word is truth” (John 17:17), leaving no room for multiple, conflicting revelations.

4. The Finality Of God's Revelation (Jude 1:3; Revelation 22:18–19):

God's revelation is complete and final. It cannot be added to, altered, or replaced by human traditions or later "revelations."

- a. Jude urged believers to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," showing that the revelation of God's truth is a completed deposit (**Jude 1:3**).
- b. The book of Revelation closes with a warning that no man should "add unto these things" or "take away from the words of the book" (**Revelation 22:18–19**).
- c. Any supposed modern revelation that contradicts the written Word is false, for God's truth stands forever settled in heaven (**Psalms 119:89**).

Conclusion:

1. The one true God has given one true revelation—His inspired, infallible, and sufficient Word (**Romans 1:21–22**). Every human philosophy, tradition, or religion that departs from Scripture originates in the imagination of man rather than the wisdom of God. From the Garden of Eden onward, spiritual deception has always begun when men questioned or distorted what God had revealed (**Genesis 3:1–4**). The Bible stands as God's final and complete communication to mankind—a revelation that needs no supplement and tolerates no rival. To possess it is to have the mind of God in written form; to reject it is to reject the voice of the Creator Himself.
2. Because revelation is complete, believers must look nowhere else for truth (**2 Peter 1:3; 2 Timothy 3:17**). The Scriptures contain all that pertains to life and godliness; they are sufficient to teach, correct, and equip the child of God for every good work. To seek additional revelations through dreams, feelings, or traditions is to imply that God's Word is lacking. The wise Christian anchors faith and conduct solely in the inspired Scriptures, trusting that God has already given us every spiritual resource needed to live faithfully and victoriously.
3. The unity of Scripture is overwhelming proof of its divine origin (**2 Samuel 23:2**). Written by over forty men across fifteen centuries, in three languages and on three continents, the Bible speaks with one harmonious voice. From Genesis to Revelation, its message unfolds one plan, one purpose, and one Redeemer—Jesus Christ. Such coherence is impossible apart from divine authorship. The unity of Scripture demonstrates not only its truth but also its authority; it stands above all human writings as the unchanging revelation of the eternal God.
4. To reject or neglect God's revelation is to turn from the only light that can lead us to salvation (**Psalms 119:105**). The Bible is not merely a book to be admired; it is a lamp to guide our path through a dark and deceptive world. When men close its pages, they stumble in confusion and perish in ignorance. But when the Word of God is read, believed, and obeyed, it brings light to the mind, strength to the soul, and direction to the heart. The one revelation of God is therefore not optional—it is essential for knowing Him, serving Him, and reaching our eternal home.

Applications:

1. Since God has given one revelation, we must honor it as the sole and final authority for faith and practice (**Colossians 3:17**). The Bible alone carries divine authority, and no creed, council, or religious leader can stand beside or above it. Every teaching, tradition, or practice must be tested by the Word of God, not by human opinion or religious heritage (**Isaiah 8:20**). To elevate man's word above God's Word is to dethrone the Almighty and enthrone human wisdom. The faithful Christian therefore submits wholly to Scripture as the ultimate standard of truth, doctrine, and morality.
2. The Bible must be studied diligently and rightly divided (**Acts 17:11; 2 Timothy 2:15**). God's revelation was never intended for casual reading or surface acquaintance—it must be searched, compared, and meditated upon with reverent attention. The Bereans were commended because they "searched the scriptures daily" to see whether things were so. Likewise, every believer must cultivate the discipline of careful study to discern the difference between truth and error. The more we handle the Word accurately, the more clearly we see the mind of God and the path of righteousness.

3. We must reject every claim of new revelation that contradicts or adds to Scripture (**Galatians 1:8–9**). Many today claim to receive visions, prophecies, or inner voices that supplement or even supersede the Bible. Yet God has spoken once for all in His written Word, and no new message from heaven is forthcoming. The one revelation is sufficient, complete, and sealed. To accept additional revelations is to open the door to deception, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light (**2 Corinthians 11:14**). True faith is content with what God has spoken and refuses every counterfeit.
4. God's revelation should lead us to deeper faith, obedience, and transformation (**Romans 12:2; James 1:22–25**). The Word of God is not meant only to inform but to reform—to shape our thoughts, attitudes, and actions into the likeness of Christ. As we hear and obey, the Spirit renews our minds and conforms our hearts to divine truth. A believer who merely reads without obeying deceives himself, but the one who applies the Word is blessed in his deeds. The proof of our respect for revelation is found not in what we profess but in how we live.
5. To know there is one revelation should fill us with profound gratitude and confidence (**Psalms 119:130**). The God of heaven has not left us to stumble in darkness or speculation; He has spoken clearly, completely, and faithfully through His Word. Every page reveals His wisdom, love, and purpose for our lives. We should approach Scripture with thanksgiving, recognizing it as the greatest treasure entrusted to mankind. When we cherish it, study it, and live by it, the light of that revelation will guide us safely to eternal life.

Questions:

1. Why can man not discover God by his own wisdom and reasoning (**Job 11:7; 1 Corinthians 2:9–10**)?
2. How were the prophets and apostles able to record the Word of God without error (**2 Peter 1:20–21**)?
3. What proves the unity and harmony of God's revelation throughout Scripture (**Hebrews 1:1–2; John 17:17**)?
4. What warning does the Bible give about adding to or taking away from God's revelation (**Revelation 22:18–19**)?
5. How should the knowledge that there is one revelation affect the way we live (**2 Timothy 3:16–17**)?

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Questions & Answers:

1. Why can man not discover God by his own wisdom and reasoning (**Job 11:7; 1 Corinthians 2:9–10**)?

Answer: Because the things of God are beyond human understanding; only the Spirit of God can reveal divine truth to man (**1 Corinthians 2:9–10**).

2. How were the prophets and apostles able to record the Word of God without error (**2 Peter 1:20–21**)?

Answer: They were guided and moved by the Holy Spirit, who ensured that what they spoke and wrote was the very Word of God (**2 Peter 1:20–21**).

3. What proves the unity and harmony of God’s revelation throughout Scripture (**Hebrews 1:1–2; John 17:17**)?

Answer: Every part of Scripture, though written by many men over centuries, agrees perfectly and points to Christ as its center (**John 17:17**).

4. What warning does the Bible give about adding to or taking away from God’s revelation (**Revelation 22:18–19**)?

Answer: God warns that anyone who alters His Word will face judgment, showing that divine revelation is complete and final (**Revelation 22:18–19**).

5. How should the knowledge that there is one revelation affect the way we live (**2 Timothy 3:16–17**)?

Answer: It should lead us to trust and obey the Bible as our only rule of faith and conduct, knowing it fully equips us for every good work (**2 Timothy 3:16–17**).