

## All Scripture Profitable.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16.

Readers of this verse generally pay most of their attention to its wonderful claim that all Scripture is inspired. However, this is not all that is contained in the verse. In fact, the purpose of the verse in its context is not primarily to declare that Scripture is inspired.

The inspiration of the Scripture is given here simply as a basis of the statements contained in the rest of the verse. It might even be translated: "All Scripture, being inspired by God, (or since it is inspired by God) is also profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."

If we are truly to conform to the image that God wants us to follow, we cannot be satisfied with only a portion of the pattern that He has given. He says that all Scripture is profitable for all the purposes which He lists. If we are to have the true righteousness of God we cannot get it from merely one portion of His prescription.

Do you know the meaning of Hosea for your spiritual life? Have the truths contained in II Samuel sunk deep into your soul? Do Isaiah and Micah have their proper share in the content of your doctrinal beliefs?

The whole Word of God is given for our edification. From all of it we can learn the doctrines that He wants us to know. In all of it we can find reproof for our wickedness. In all of it we find correction for our errors. It takes all of it together to give us that instruction which is necessary if our lives are to conform to the model that God has set before us.