



PRIPRIETARY



A person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and dark pants is sitting on a dark grey couch. They are leaning forward, reading an open Bible that is placed on a dark grey table in front of them. Their right hand is resting on the left page of the Bible, and their left hand is resting on the right page. The background shows a blue cushion on the left and a dark grey wall on the right.

DEALING

WITH

BIBLE

DIFFICULTIES



1

The
BOOK
We Love

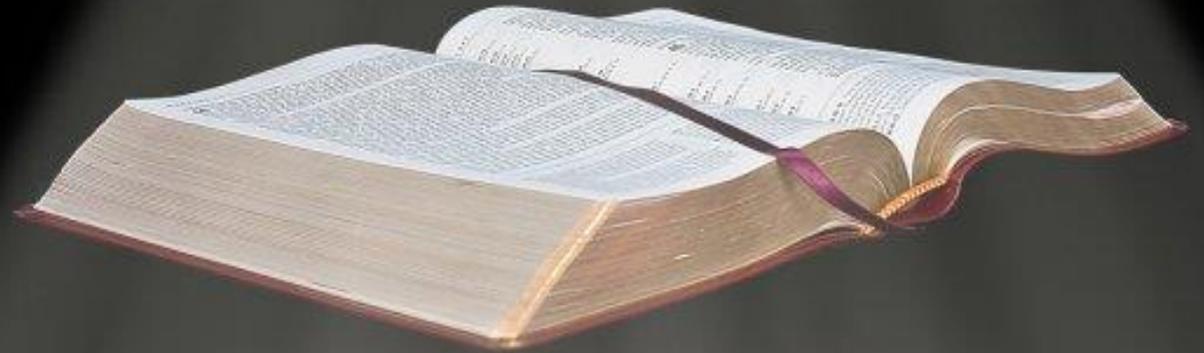
It is a Book
LIKE NO
OTHER
!



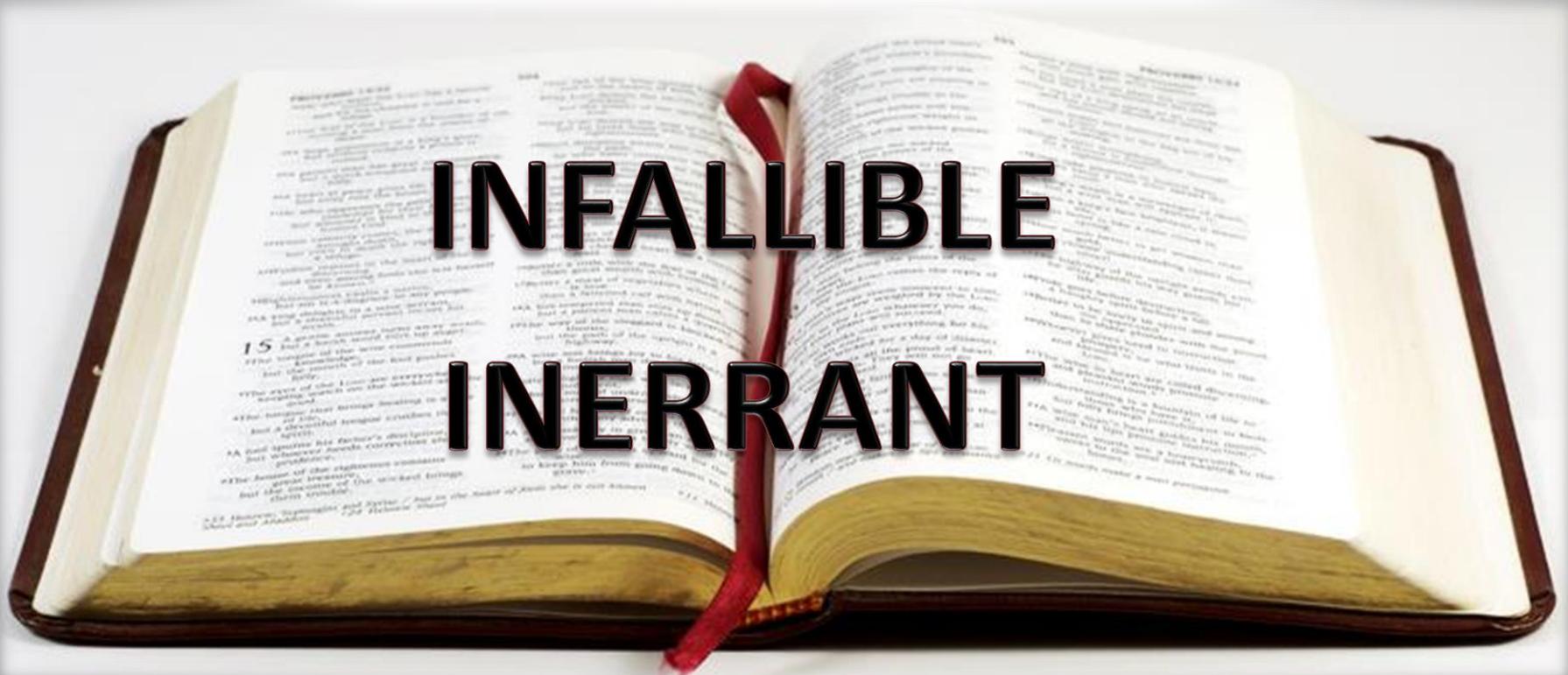
INSPIRATION

GOD is the AUTHOR

**He used
HUMAN
PENMEN**



IT IS WITHOUT ERROR



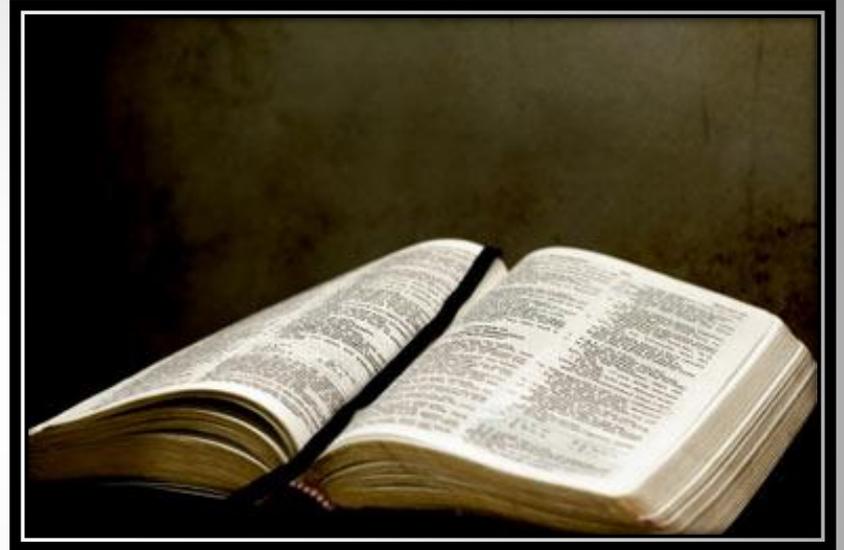
**INFALLIBLE
INERRANT**

How can a man know God?



CREATION

Thus, all are
without excuse.



The WRITTEN WORD

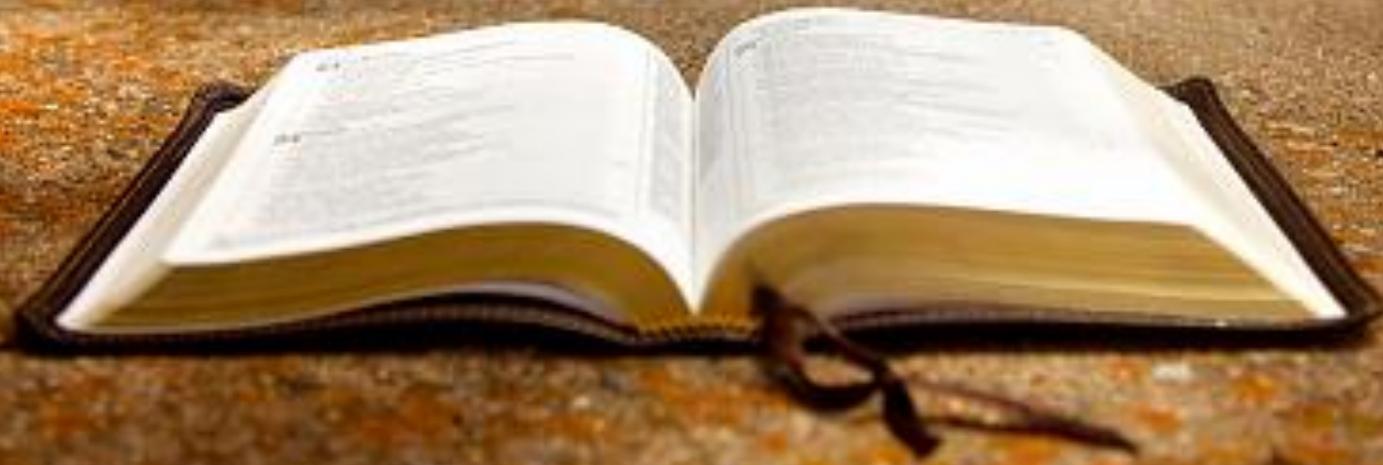
Revealing salvation.

It has been given so that...

WE MIGHT KNOW GOD

&

**WE MIGHT KNOW WHAT GOD
REQUIRES OF US**



TWO IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS:

PROFITABLE

that is, it is USEFUL.

But NOTE:

not all is alike
profitable.

Ex: Romans 12-14

1 Chronicles 1-9

PERSPICUOUS

that is, it is CLEAR.

But NOTE:

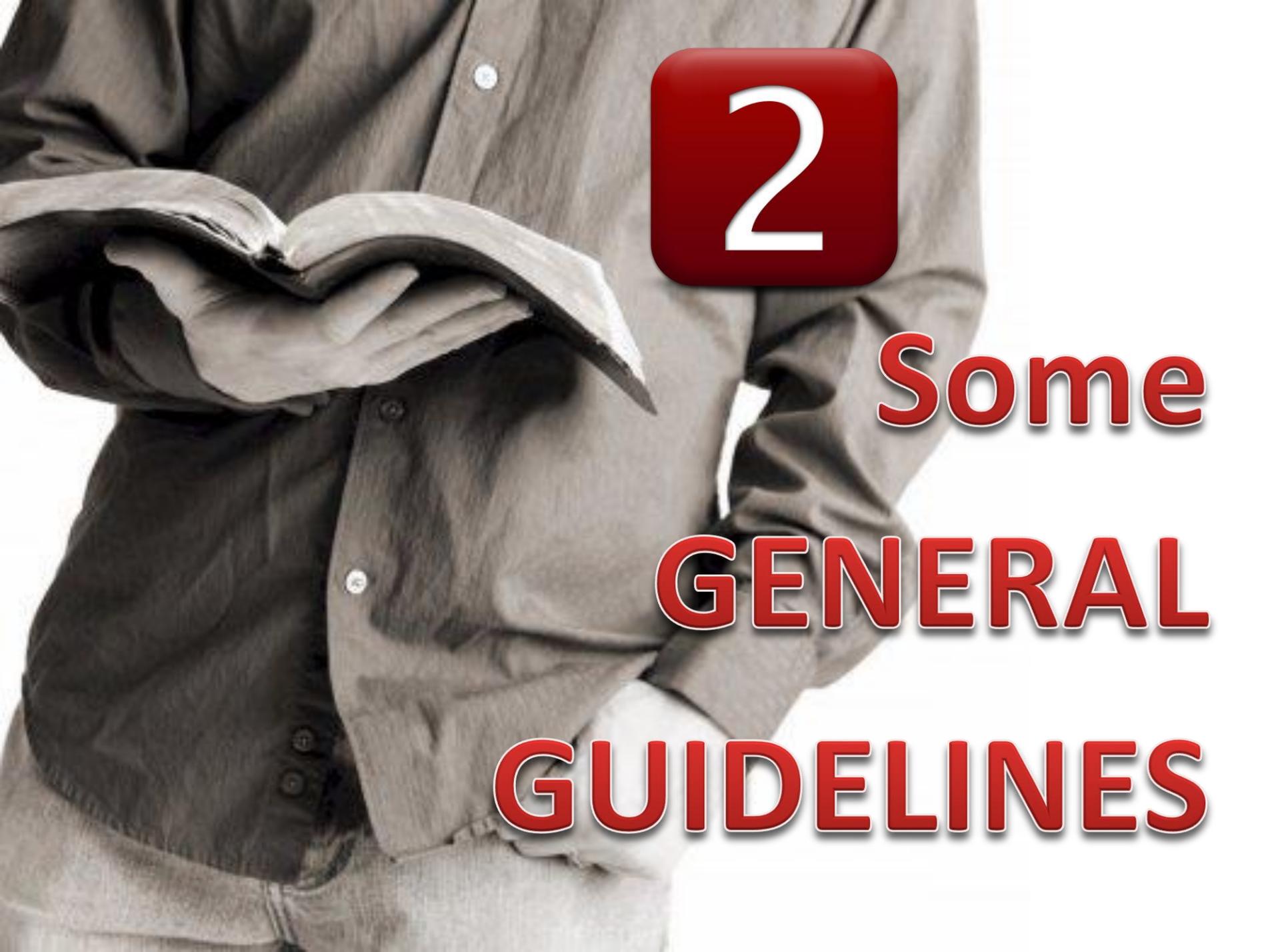
not all is alike
clear.

Ex: Salvation

Eschatology

So, what about when the
Scripture is not clear, or
when it is confusing,
or when it seems to be
contradictory?
What then?



A person wearing a brown button-down jacket is holding an open book. The background is white.

2

Some

GENERAL

GUIDELINES

First & Foremost

***Do not let your confidence
in the character of God
be shaken.***

EVER!

What is God?



God is a Spirit,
infinite, eternal,
and unchangeable,
in His being, wisdom,
power, holiness, justice,
goodness and truth.



Do not neglect the CONTEXT



Take the TIME to read the CONTEXT!

Two Fundamental Principles

*“Scriptura Scripturae
interpres.”*

Scripture is the
interpreter of
Scripture.

*“Omnis intellectus ac expositio
Scripturae sit analogia fidei.”*

Let all understanding and
interpretation of Scripture be
in conformity with the analogy
of faith.



A person wearing a blue denim shirt is shown from the chest down, rolling up their sleeves. The background is a collage of various question marks in different colors and styles, including black, red, and white. The text is overlaid in the center in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

**DON'T
BE AFRAID
TO
ROLL UP
YOUR SLEEVES**

An illustration on a teal background. A large, dark blue silhouette of a man's head and shoulders is on the right. A smaller, light blue cartoon man in a suit stands on the giant's right shoulder, holding binoculars to his eyes. The text 'STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF GIANTS' is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center. The words 'STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS' are on a dark blue horizontal bar that has a hand-like shape on its left end. The word 'OF' is positioned below the bar, and 'GIANTS' is at the bottom. The background features white clouds and a row of light blue semi-circles at the bottom.

**STANDING ON THE SHOULDERS
OF
GIANTS**

“I don’t know.”



“The Holy Scriptures require a humble reader who shows reverence and fear toward the Word of God, and constantly says, ‘Teach me, teach me, teach me!’ ”

*“How shall we deal with
difficulties of the Bible?”*

HONESTLY

HUMBLY

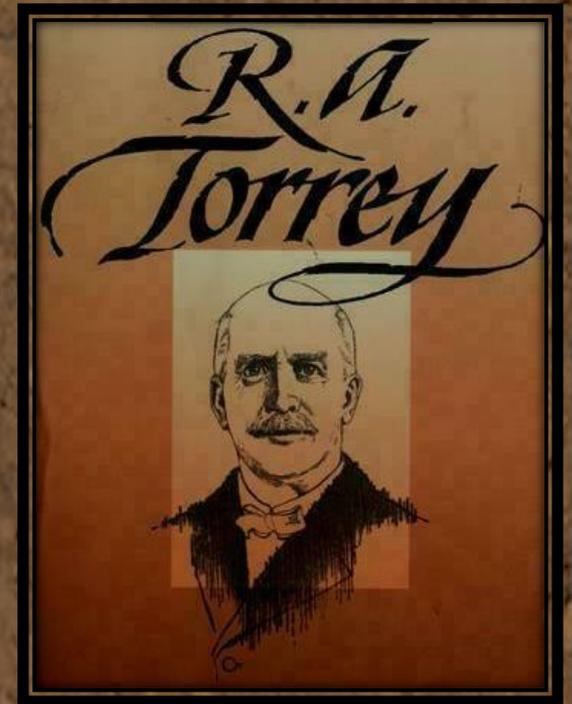
DETERMINEDLY

FEARLESSLY

PATIENTLY

SCRIPTURALLY

PRAYERFULLY



Take
a
Break!



3

An

ATTEMPTED
ILLUSTRATION

Hebrews 6:4-6

A notoriously difficult and challenging passage that, when wrongly handled has given rise or support to a serious doctrinal error.

HOLY BIBLE

My two cents



BEGINNING WITH THE BASICS

AUTHOR

Who is he??

GOD

The Author and Teacher who has very important instruction for the readers, then & now

READERS

Who were they??

Professing Jewish Christians who were experiencing **PERSECUTION** with the prospect of martyrdom

CONSIDERING THE CONTEXT

The **IMMEDIATE** Context

BEFORE: vss 1-3

An appeal [“Let us...”] for them
to go on to **MATURITY**.

FOLLOWING: vss 7-8

The inevitability of **FRUIT**, both
good and worthless.

NOTE the CONTRAST

- Vs 4 – those who

- Vs 6 – if they...

since they are...

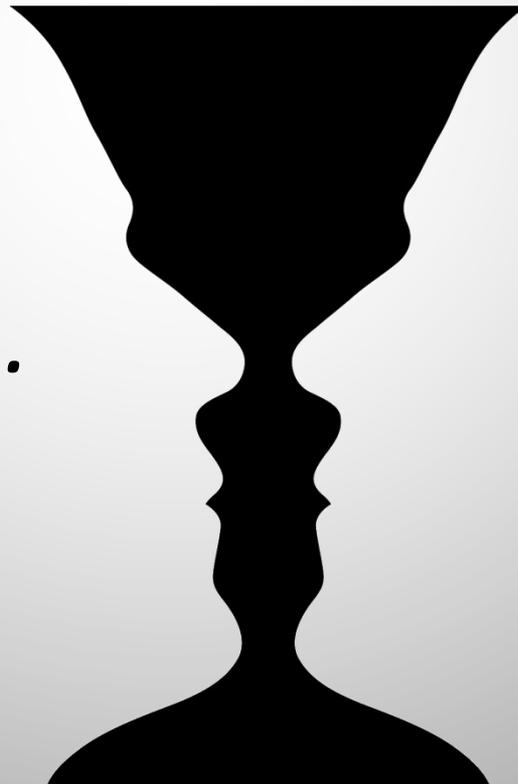
to their

own harm...

- Vs 9 – yet in

your case,

beloved...



SCRIPTURAL CONSISTENCY

The *analogia fidei*

Scripture cannot contradict itself!

ETERNAL SCURITY

The PERSEVERANCE of the SAINTS

John 6:37,39

10:27-29

Rom 8:28-39

Philippians 1:6

1 Thess 5:24

(and many more)

A STRONG WARNING!

Beware of having a taste of Christianity without being fully committed to it.

Do you know anyone like this?

Is there any such thing as a Christian who backslides?

Do you know anyone like this?



On the shoulders of GIANTS

Matthew Henry

John Owen

John MacArthur

Gleason Archer

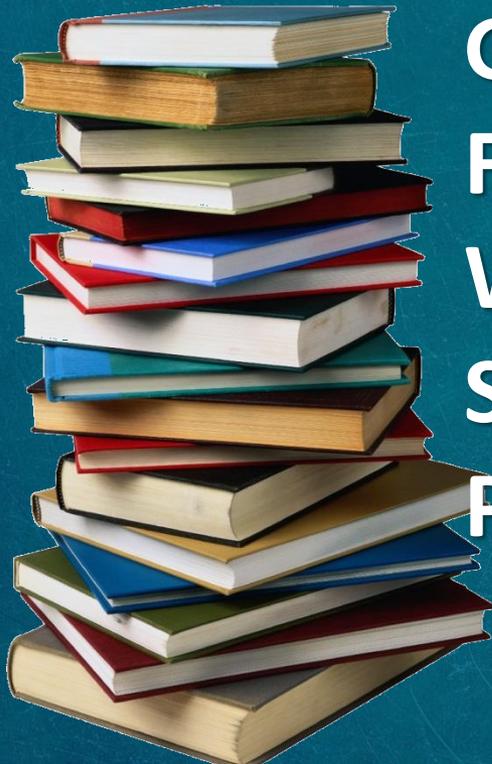
F.F. Bruce

Wm. Hendriksen

Simon Kistemaker

P.E. Hughes

etc...



CONFIDENCE

If we have done our work prayerfully and carefully, then we can embrace the interpretation with confidence and live our lives with faith and obedience.

- 1. Our salvation is secure.**
- 2. Rejecting the gospel is a serious thing.**
- 3. We must be diligent about going on to maturity and living a fruitful life.**

God bless you!

