

Pastor Dolapo Lawal



SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Bibliology (*Part 4*)

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Systematic Theology: Bibliology (Part 4)

Pastor Dolapo Lawal

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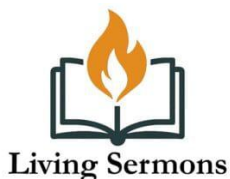
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Foreword

In this series on Systematic Theology, particularly the doctrine of Bibliology, Pastor Dolapo Lawal leads us into one of the most foundational realities of the Christian faith: the nature, authority, and infallibility of the Word of God.

What stands out throughout this manuscript is not only doctrinal clarity but spiritual urgency. The preacher repeatedly brings the listener back to a simple but weighty truth: the Bible is not merely to be studied—it is to be received. It is inspired, infallible, and perfect. Yet beyond definition, it must be loved, obeyed, and lived.

You will notice a consistent call throughout these pages: the danger of familiarity without revelation, activity without intimacy, and knowledge without transformation. In an age where information is abundant but spiritual depth is rare, this message confronts complacency and awakens hunger for the Word of God.

Equally important is the emphasis on interpretation through Scripture itself. The Bible is shown as a unified revelation—Old Testament shadows finding fulfilment in the New Testament substance. This is not theological abstraction; it is the unveiling of Christ at the centre of all Scripture.

Perhaps most striking is the reminder that spiritual understanding is not merely intellectual but revelatory. The Scriptures are not unlocked by human effort alone but by divine illumination through the Holy Spirit. This calls every reader back to humility, dependence, and devotion.

May this work strengthen your conviction in the authority of Scripture, deepen your hunger for the Word, and anchor your faith in the unchanging truth of God.

— *Wisdom Epsi*
Chief Editor, LivingSermons.com

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Publisher's Note

This book is a faithful transcript of a live sermon delivered by the preacher under the inspiration and unction of the Holy Spirit. Every effort has been made to preserve the preacher's exact words, tone, flow, and spiritual authority, while carefully proofreading and formatting the message into a clear and readable ebook format.

The message you are about to read was originally ministered in a live congregational setting. As such, it carries the weight, urgency, and atmosphere of that sacred gathering. Minor grammatical and structural adjustments have been made solely to enhance readability, without altering the substance, intent, or power of the original delivery.

The live sermon from which this message was transcribed can be accessed here: [Live Video](#)

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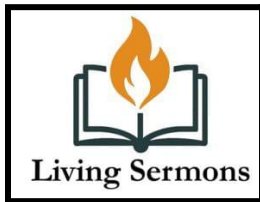
It is our prayer that as you read, the same grace, conviction, clarity, and impartation present in the live service will minister to you afresh.

— *Livingsermons.com*

A Spirit-led Publishing Stewardship

Main Message

Begins Here:



BIBLIOLOGY: THE STUDY OF SCRIPTURE

Let's go into it.

Systematic Theology. What we are dealing with today is **Bibliology**. Bibliology is the study of the nature, origin, authority, and purpose of the Bible. If you are made a cell leader, you must take note of this. One of the things we expect is that you keep systematic theology notes. If you do not have them, it reflects a lack of seriousness.

You must take down definitions. You must take notes because at some point, you will be required to teach systematic theology so others can understand the faith in a structured way.

So, Bibliology is the study of the nature, origin, authority, and purpose of the Bible. It answers two key questions:

What is the Bible? And why do we believe the Bible?

KEY TRUTHS ABOUT SCRIPTURE

1. THE BIBLE IS INSPIRED

The Bible is inspired. This means it is not man-made.

God is the Author of Scripture. He divinely guided human writers to write exactly what He intended.

2 Timothy 3:16–17 (KJV)

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

Scripture is profitable for:

- Doctrine (teaching)
- Reproof (evidence and correction)
- Instruction in righteousness

This is how God shapes believers into maturity and good works.

THE DIVINE ORIGIN OF SCRIPTURE

2 Peter 1:20–21 (KJV)

“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

The Bible was not written by private imagination. Holy men spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. God used human minds, but it was fully inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Scripture is often described as being given by the breath of God—by the Spirit.

This is why the Bible is trustworthy. It is not shaped to make man look good or to present a polished narrative. It tells events exactly as they are. You read David and see both his victories and failures. You read Solomon and see wisdom and weakness. Scripture does not hide human nature—it reveals it truthfully.

SCRIPTURE INTERPRETS SCRIPTURE

The New Testament must be understood in light of the Old Testament. We do not interpret Scripture from personal opinion. We interpret it from Scripture itself. The Gospels present the life of Jesus, and the epistles interpret His work in light of the Old Testament.

True understanding requires sitting in the audience of Scripture—understanding context, especially how Paul and the apostles used Genesis to Malachi as their reference point. When the early church preached Christ, they always anchored Him in Scripture:

- “According to the Scriptures”
- “It is written”

Even the gospel message is validated by Old Testament prophecy.

CHRIST IN THE SCRIPTURES (PSALM 22–24)

Psalm 22 reveals the suffering of Christ:

“They pierced my hands and my feet...”

This reflects the crucifixion of Jesus.

Psalm 23 speaks of His journey through death:

“Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death...”

Psalm 24 speaks of resurrection:

“Lift up your heads, O ye gates...”

These three Psalms reveal Christ across His crucifixion, burial, and resurrection.

SCRIPTURE AND THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Acts 2

The manifestation of tongues was not random. It was prophesied in Scripture. Peter explained what was happening using the Scriptures—specifically the prophecy of Joel.

This is the pattern of biblical teaching: Scripture explains Scripture. If it does not align with Scripture, it is not doctrinal truth.

Even ordinances like baptism and communion carry Old Testament shadows and typology:

- Crossing the Red Sea
- River Jordan experience
- Manna in the wilderness and Christ as the bread

The New Testament reveals what the Old Testament concealed.

PROPHETS AND SCRIPTURAL AUTHORITY

Genesis 20:7

“...for he is a prophet...”

Abraham is called a prophet, not because he declared “thus saith the Lord,” but because he walked in obedience and taught God’s ways in his household. A prophet is not only a seer—it is one who carries and enforces the ordinances of God. True prophetic ministry is rooted in Scripture, not divination. If prophecy is not grounded in Scripture, it is error.

REVELATION AND SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING

Spiritual understanding requires illumination.

Ephesians 1:18 speaks of the eyes of understanding being enlightened.

Sin blinds perception, but revelation restores sight.

Luke 24

Jesus opened their understanding that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

Revelation is not human discovery—it is divine unveiling.

Psalm 25:14

“The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him...”

Scripture can be read, yet misunderstood without revelation. Scripture must be rightly divided. Misinterpretation leads to error. Not everything that sounds spiritual is accurate. Some conclusions drawn from Scripture are wrong because they lack proper revelation and context.

True understanding comes from:

- The Word
- The Spirit
- Correct interpretation

The believer must stay grounded in Scripture to avoid error and misrepresentation. But if you check the context, it is the **Spirit of wisdom and revelation**. And this is important: when you are exposed to a teaching ministry, you must be careful about pride.

There is a danger that what becomes normal to you will make you look at others as though they are dull or unintelligent. But what you don't understand is this: *to some, it is not given to know the mysteries of the kingdom.*

To you it is given.

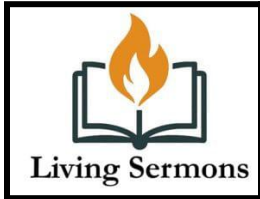
Having eyes, yet they do not see. Having ears, yet they do not hear. Having hearts, yet they do not perceive. So it is not just about reading. It is God who helps you understand.

SCRIPTURE IS NOT PRIVATE INTERPRETATION

2 Peter 1:20–21 (KJV)

“No prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation...”

Holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. They were moved. They spoke. And sometimes, as impressions came, they wrote. This is important: the way we dramatise spiritual experiences today can be exaggerated. If it had been in modern human expression, we might have overreacted to the weight of inspiration. But under divine inspiration, they simply wrote.



THE SACRED IN THE ORDINARY

Many people do not realise this: when Paul wrote his letters, he did not know they would become Scripture. He was simply writing to churches—Ephesus, Corinth—addressing real issues. Something so ordinary became eternally sacred.

For example, in Corinth: A man was sleeping with his father’s wife. Paul was correcting disorder in the church. And yet, what he wrote became holy Scripture. This shows how God can take normal moments and make them eternal truth.

THE LEADING OF THE SPIRIT IN EVERYDAY LIFE

The leading of the Spirit is not always dramatic. It can look ordinary: A normal decision. A normal movement. A normal act of kindness.

Consider Rebekah.

She may have simply woken up that morning thinking she was going to fetch water like every other day. But that “ordinary moment” became prophetic destiny. Her

kindness—her willingness to serve beyond expectation—became the doorway into divine selection. She did not just give water; she gave water for camels as well.

Character aligned her with destiny.

THE ROLE OF CHARACTER IN DIVINE USE

If a person is not shaped by godly character, there are dimensions God will not entrust to them. Devil may still use such a person, but not God. Divine purpose is not only about ability—it is also about nature. The Bible is infallible. That means it is without error.

Some people struggle with this idea, but Scripture does not contain contradiction in truth. Where confusion appears, understanding is incomplete—not Scripture itself.

A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH SCEPTICISM

There was a moment when someone asked: “Are you telling me you have never seen a contradiction in the Bible?”

After thinking deeply, the answer was simple: “No, I have not seen one.”

But there is a conviction behind that statement: a believer approaches Scripture with faith that it is true. If something looks contradictory, the believer seeks understanding—not rejection.

THE FOUNDATION OF BELIEF

To believe the Bible is to accept realities that are spiritually revealed, not merely intellectually proven.

- A virgin gives birth.
- God becomes man.
- Christ dies and rises again.

These are not human constructs. They are divine truths. You cannot fully explain them intellectually—you receive them by revelation.

THE FOOLISHNESS OF PREACHING

1 Corinthians 1:21 (KJV)

“It pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”

Romans 1:16 (KJV)

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation...”

The gospel may appear weak to human reasoning, but it is the power and wisdom of God. The Jews seek signs. The Greeks seek wisdom. But the gospel is Christ—both the power and wisdom of God.

Jesus often spoke in ways that offended natural understanding. When He said He would give His flesh and blood, many misunderstood Him and left. When He said, “I am the bread from heaven,” people struggled to comprehend. Even when He provided miracles, people still demanded more signs. But Jesus is not a performer responding to pressure. He reveals truth according to divine purpose.

THE WORD AS PERFECT TRUTH

Psalms 12:6 (KJV)

“The words of the LORD are pure words...”

The Word of God is perfect and true. If there is confusion, it is not the Word that is wrong—it is understanding that is incomplete.

If you love God’s Word, it will open to you. But if you approach it casually, it will remain closed. Those who are hungry for Scripture will receive clarity, depth, and revelation. The Word responds to reverence, hunger, and consistency.

A HEART FOR THE WORD OF GOD

I was sharing with someone today about the Bible. The first time I got hold of it, I read it in nine days. I could not believe there was something like that.

“Thy word have I hid in mine heart...”

It was so sweet.

Go and read Psalm 119 and see the testimony of a man about the Word of God. A human being speaking like that about Scripture.

He said:

- “Your word have I hidden in my heart that I might not sin against You.”
- “Your word is like honey to my soul.”

That is someone describing the Word of God with deep affection. And yet many believers do not even open it.

THE CIRCUMCISION OF THE HEART

Many Christians struggle with hardness of heart. There is a spiritual circumcision that must happen—an inner transformation that produces love for the Word of God.

Jeremiah 4:4

When this happens, you do not need to be begged to read the Bible. You live by the Word. You eat the Word. That is your mindset. The Word of God becomes:

- Your direction
- Your guidance
- Your bearing in life

A Christian who is not feeding on the Word becomes a contradiction.

SPIRITUAL DECLINE IN MINISTRY

One of the most dangerous places for spiritual decline is ministry itself. You can be active, busy, and still spiritually empty. It is possible to teach others while losing personal encounter with God. If one or two weeks pass without personal instruction from God—correction, direction, or conviction—something is wrong. There must be a continual personal engagement with the Word.

THE DANGER OF APATHY

Some ministers are highly anointed publicly but disconnected privately. The best place to meet them is on the pulpit. Outside that, there is nothing of substance. We must not become like that. There must be sincerity of heart and consistency in private devotion.

Proverbs 30:5 “Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.”

If you love God’s Word, it will open to you. But if you do not love the Word, it will remain closed. Some people ask for new Bible plans repeatedly, but spiritual health is shown in consistency. If you have been reading the Bible consistently for 30 days, it should become a habit. Loss of appetite for the Word is a sign of spiritual sickness. Even if you are praying, but you have no desire for Scripture, something is wrong.

RECOVERING HUNGER FOR THE WORD

To recover hunger:

- Listen to sermons that exalt Scripture
- Surround yourself with Word-centered teaching
- Engage with messages that magnify the Bible

Faith grows where the Word is honoured.

PROXIMITY AND SPIRITUAL INFLUENCE

Sometimes, spiritual growth comes by proximity. Being around fire makes you burn. If you cannot prophesy, stay around prophets. If you are around those who are burning, something will transfer.

This is why gatherings, retreats, and meetings matter—they are not just events, they are spiritual refuelling moments. We must not over-package spiritual things until we lose the spiritual atmosphere. The house of God is still family. Excellence is important, but over-formality can distract from encounter. What matters most is presence, not performance.

THE VALUE OF DISCIPLESHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Spiritual growth requires accountability. A true disciple is not just someone receiving knowledge, but someone being examined and shaped.

Without accountability, error becomes easy. Even soul care matters—how you are thinking, what you are struggling with, what is forming in your heart.

LABOUR IN THE WORD

Spiritual depth comes through labour. If everything is simply handed to you, you may forget it easily. But when you labour in Scripture:

- It stays in your heart
- It becomes revelation
- It becomes part of you

Lazy believers struggle with depth.

We are still on the truth that Scripture has no error.

Matthew 24:34–35 (contextual understanding)

“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”

When Jesus speaks of “this generation,” it must be understood in context—not as contradiction, but as fulfillment within the scope of His prophecy.

Many supposed contradictions in Scripture are actually misunderstandings of context.

THE APPARENT “DEATH” OF ADAM

Genesis 2:17

“In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”

Yet Adam lived to 930 years.

This is not contradiction. It reveals that death in Scripture is more than physical death—it is separation from God.

From the moment Adam sinned, death began its process:

- Spiritual separation
- Physical decline
- Eventual physical death

This also explains the concept of the “second death” in Revelation—eternal separation from God.

UNDERSTANDING DEATH BIBLICALLY

Death in Scripture is not only physical cessation.

It is:

- Separation from God
- Loss of divine fellowship
- Eternal consequence in judgment if unredeemed

The seriousness of sin is not just physical death, but spiritual consequence.

The rich man in Jesus' story cried for a drop of water.

John 7:37–38 (KJV)

“Out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water...”

That water represents the Holy Spirit.

What he was really asking for was a taste of spiritual life—an encounter with God's presence.

What makes heaven heaven is the presence of God. If God is not present, it is no longer heaven. In the same way, hell is defined by the absence of God. This means even on earth, wherever God is absent, that condition reflects a form of spiritual death.

The torment described in Scripture is not only physical—it includes deep regret and anguish of soul.

THE PAIN OF ETERNAL REGRET

The phrase “gnashing of teeth” speaks of regret. In eternity, the soul is fully conscious. People will see clearly what they missed because of foolish choices. Hell is not a place of random punishment—it is the consequence of rejection of life.

CHRIST, PEACE, AND DIVISION

Matthew 10:34 (KJV)

“I came not to send peace, but a sword.”

Yet in Luke 2:14, angels declared peace on earth. This is not contradiction—it is context. Jesus explains in Matthew 10 that His coming will divide households:

- father against son
- mother against daughter

He is not saying He brings chaos, but that truth will create separation between those who accept Him and those who reject Him.

TRUE PEACE IN CHRIST

Christ does not bring worldly peace—He brings people into peace.

John 14:27 (KJV)

“My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth...”

Peace is not an external condition; it is a position in Christ. Christ is not only a person—He is also an environment. To be in Christ is to be in peace. That is why even in storms, there can be calm.

THE TRUE MEANING OF PEACE

Peace is not the absence of storms. Peace is the stability of the soul in the midst of storms. The difference between Christ and others in the storm was not the absence of wind—it was authority over it.

HANDLING APPARENT BIBLICAL CONTRADICTIONS

Judas' death

Matthew 27:5 – He hanged himself

Acts 1:18 – His body fell and burst open

These are not contradictions—they are two perspectives of one event. He hanged himself, and later the body fell, fulfilling both accounts. Scripture often presents complementary details, not conflicting truths.

JOHN 1:18 AND THE REVELATION OF GOD

John 1:18 (KJV)

“No man hath seen God at any time...”

Yet Scripture also shows encounters with God. The word “seen” here means to fully experience or comprehend. The Son has “declared” Him—meaning revealed or unfolded Him. Only the Son reveals the Father fully.

God dwells in unapproachable light. Even angels cover themselves in His presence. He is called a consuming fire. This reveals the holiness and majesty of God.

WHY GOD DOES NOT ALWAYS EXPLAIN

When God told Adam not to eat from the tree, He did not explain why. He gave a command, not a reasoning. Obedience was meant to be based on trust, not explanation. If everything is explained, obedience becomes self-preservation instead of love. There are seasons when God will not explain. He will simply say: “Do not do it.”

Understanding often comes later—sometimes in eternity. Faith grows strongest when explanation is absent but trust remains.

ABRAHAM AND THE LIFE OF FAITH

Abraham left without knowing where he was going. He looked for a city whose builder is God. He lived as a stranger in a land he was promised. This reveals the nature of faith—it walks without full visibility. Even when promise is fulfilled, faith still sees beyond the present.

Sometimes God answers prayers we did not even structure properly. Even simple desires are seen by Him. Yet His timing and wisdom remain sovereign. The believer must learn not only to ask—but to trust.

There comes a point where “why” must give way to trust. Faith is strengthened when thanksgiving replaces questioning.

Romans 4:20 (KJV)

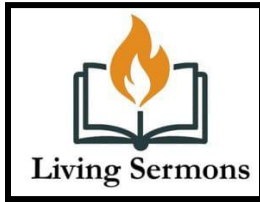
“He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God.”

FINAL EXHORTATION

The Word of God leads believers into a life of:

- Trust without full explanation
- Obedience without full understanding
- Faith that endures uncertainty
- Gratitude in all seasons

True maturity in God is learning to trust Him even when answers are not given.



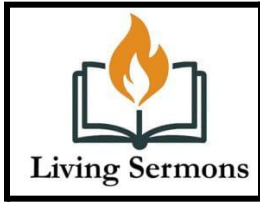
About the Speaker

Pastor Dolapo Lawal is a teacher of God’s Word with a clear, practical, and uncompromising voice. His ministry is marked by biblical accuracy, spiritual depth, and direct application to everyday life.

He is committed to raising believers who are grounded in Scripture, mature in character, and intentional about growth. His teaching addresses real issues—faith, relationships, purpose, leadership, and personal responsibility—without exaggeration or sentimentality.

Pastor Dolapo Lawal is known for clarity, accountability, and balance. He challenges listeners to look inward before looking outward, to embrace process over shortcuts, and to pursue transformation rather than appearance.

His desire is simple: that believers grow into stability, wisdom, and Christlike maturity through the uncompromised teaching of God’s Word.



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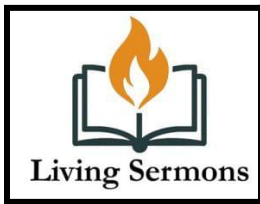
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Our mission is simple: to preserve the wisdom, revelation, and anointing carried in the preached Word and make it accessible in formats that can be studied, shared, and revisited for generations. By turning sermons into high-quality Christian books and eBooks, we extend the life and influence of each message far beyond the pulpit.

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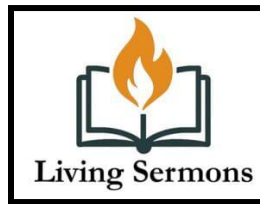
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