



Scripture
Divine and Human




Various Errors

- ▶ Quietism: evangelical Docetism
- ▶ Literalism: evangelical Zionism
- ▶ Legalism: evangelical Judaism
- ▶ Decisionism: evangelical Bultmannianism
- ▶ Subjectivism: evangelical Schleiermacherism
- ▶ Jesus-in-my-heart-ism: evangelical Catholicism



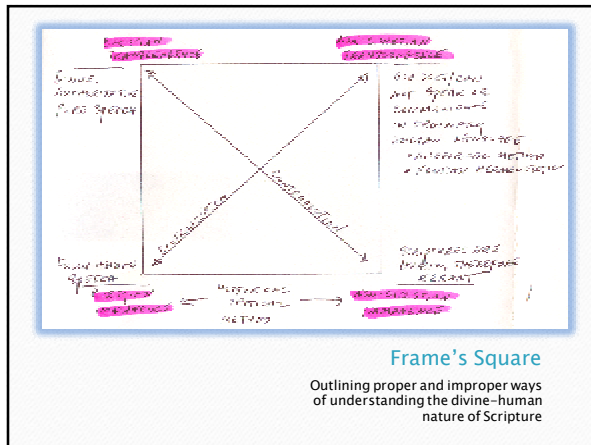
Presuppositions and Hermeneutics

- ▶ Early alternatives
 - *Tertullian* (155–230): “I believe what is absurd.”
 - *Aquinas* (1225–1274): “I understand in order to believe)
 - *Augustine* (354–430): “I believe in order to understand,” or “faith seeking understanding.”
- ▶ Presuppositions are unavoidable, no absolute neutral objectivity



Evangelical presuppositions about the communication of Scripture

- › Sender/author: God
- › Message: Scripture = reliable word of God
- › Receiver: human beings, who have been created in the image and likeness of God



The Four "alones" and Evangelical presuppositions about the interpretation of Scripture

- › Grace alone: Points us to the ontological priority of God.
- › Christ alone: Points us to the soteriological and hermeneutical priority of the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- › Scripture alone: points us to the phenomenological and material priority of Scripture.
- › Faith alone: points us to the ontological inability of the sinner and the epistemological priority of the Holy Spirit.

Noetic Salvation

- ▶ Sin has darkened human understanding (Rom 1:18-32; 12:1), so we engage in “snake-think.”
- ▶ Salvation includes renewal of the mind (Rom 12:2; 1 Cor 1-2).

Christology and Hermeneutics

- ▶ Three principles
 - Jesus is God, the infallible communicator.
 - Jesus in the Word, the infallible message.
 - Jesus is the God/Man, the infallible receiver.
- ▶ The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the hermeneutical norm for all of reality:
 - All reality was created by Christ, through Christ, and for Christ (Col 1:15-16).
 - God’s plan is to sum up everything in Christ (Eph 1:9-10).
 - In Christ are all the treasures of wisdom and understanding (Col 2:2-3).
