

**What Vatican II Really Said about the Bible:
Studying the Word of God from the Heart of the Church
Week 1 | Divine Revelation**

1. *Dei Verbum*: Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (1965)
2. Chapter I: Revelation Itself
 - a. *DV* 2-3: What is divine revelation, and how is it communicated?
 - b. *DV* 4
 - i. In what or whom is divine revelation fulfilled?
 1. John 1:14
 - ii. When will we receive new public revelation?
 - c. *DV* 5: How does God want us to respond to divine revelation? How is this response made possible?
 - d. *DV* 6: Can we discover anything about God using human reason alone? If so, what is the extent of this knowledge?
 - i. Romans 1:18-21
3. Chapter II: Handing on Divine Revelation
 - a. *DV* 7: Whom did Jesus choose to hand on the Gospel, and how did they do it?
 - b. *DV* 8: What is Sacred Tradition? How is it handed on?
 - i. Matthew 28:16-20
 - ii. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-2, 11-15
 - c. *DV* 8-9: What is the relationship between Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition?
 - d. *DV* 10
 - i. What is the Word of God, and who has the authority to interpret it?
 1. 2 Peter 1:16-21

- ii. What are the three sources of divine revelation? How are they related to one another?

4. Authorship of the Bible

a. Old Testament

- i. 12th - 2nd century B.C.
- ii. 46 books
- iii. Mostly Hebrew, also Aramaic and Greek

b. New Testament

- i. 1st - 2nd century A.D.
- ii. 27 books
- iii. Greek

5. Development of the New Testament canon

- a. 2nd century: Four-fold Gospel and 13 Pauline epistles
- b. Disputed books
- c. Criteria for canonicity
 - i. Orthodox teaching
 - ii. Universal acceptance
 - iii. Liturgical use
 - iv. Apostolic origin
- d. Late 4th century: Canon authoritatively defined with books we use today
- e. Deuterocanonical books
- f. 16th century: Protestant Reformation and the Council of Trent

6. Reading for next week: *DV* 11-26