First Baptist Church of Clinton, Louisiana 1689 Second London Baptist Confession: "Of the Holy Scriptures, Part 4" March 19, 2017

- Read 2LCF 1.1 and 1.10.
- What about "words from God" or "God telling me something in my spirit?"
- Several reasons to conclude that God does not give us revelation or commands outside of the Bible.
  - First, there is no biblical example of God telling a private person through direct special revelation what that person should do in ordinary life situations.
  - Second, new words from God are always for His whole people and to explain what God is doing to redeem them, never only for private individuals and their personal lives.
  - A third reason we should say that God doesn't give any more revelations is the doctrine of the sufficiency of Scripture.
    - Scripture: Ps 119:1; Prov 30:5-6
    - Prophets gave new revelations. But there were strict tests about prophets. Deut 13:1-5; 18:15-22.
    - Reasons we know that no new prophets or apostles will come.
      - Christ is now our final mediator (1 Tim 2:5).
      - In these last days, God has spoken to us in His Son (Heb 1:1-2). God speaks directly in Christ and through the apostles and NT prophets (Jn 14:26; 16:13-15).
      - The apostles and the prophets were the foundation of the church (Eph 2:20).
        - The foundation does not need to be laid again (1 Cor 3:11).
        - Paul tells us he was the last apostle (1 Cor 15:8).
        - To be an apostle, you had to be personally appointed by Christ and able to work miracles (Matt 10:1-2). Therefore, no one today qualifies as an apostle.
        - There are only 12 Apostles because heaven only has 12 foundation stones with the 12 Apostles names written on them (Rev 21:14).
  - Therefore, we should not look to special and extra-biblical revelations to guide our lives.
    - We should look to the Word of God to form our minds and consciences in wisdom.
    - What is the role of the Holy Spirit?

- The Holy Spirit illumines our understanding of the Bible.
- The Spirit and Word always work together.
- Hearing the Spirit speak to us in His Word isn't cold, but sweet and intimate.