

## *What Are the Sources and Tests for Theology?*

Wesley's quadrilateral

1. Revelation (general and special)

2. Reason

a. Good use of reason

1) Logic: our faith should be rational and even suprarational (mysterious) but it should never be irrational (illogical, contradictory)

Example: Trinity and two natures of Christ are suprarational;  $2 + 2 = 5$  is irrational.

2) Natural law: we may find common ground with those who do not accept revelation.

b. Warning about relying too heavily on reason

Martin Luther: *theology of the cross vs. theology of glory*

3. Tradition

*sola scriptura vs. nuda scriptura*

The Bible is our final but not only authority. We must interpret Scripture through the lens of tradition (Apostles Creed, ecumenical councils, church fathers).

4. Experience

Wesley used experience to support his doctrine of Christian perfectionism.