

LOGIC & Reason & Understanding

By: David A. Sargent

Logic is not absolute. The reasoning logic of any substance is in itself illogical, and unreasonable. Logic is dependent on premise; ergo, if premise is false, no matter how sound reason or logic is the conclusion will be false. Now about that sound logic or reason:

There are three different types of logic or reason:

1. Inductive Logic or Reasoning
2. Deductive Logic or Reasoning
3. Hypothetico-Deductive Logic or Reasoning

Question: How can Logic or Reasoning be absolute when there are three DIFFERENT TYPES of Reason and / or Logic?

1. **Inductive:**

- a. Inductive: Pronunciation: in-'duk-tiv. Adjective: Leading on. The act of bringing forward or adducing (as facts or particulars). The act of causing or bringing on or about.
- b. Inducing: Pronunciation: in-'dus-ing: of, relating to, or employing mathematical or logical induction; mathematical demonstration of the validity of a law concerning all the positive integers by proving that it holds for the integer 1 and that if it holds for an arbitrarily chosen positive integer k it must hold for the integer $k+1$ which is called also mathematical induction.
- c. Induction: Pronunciation: in-'duk-shun: Noun: inference of a generalized conclusion from particular instances; Also a conclusion arrived at by induction as in inductive reasoning, thought or logic. Compare Induction to its antonym: Deduction.

Inductive Reasoning (Logic)

In logic, types of non-valid inference or argument in which the premises provide some reason for believing that the conclusion is true.

Typical forms of inductive argument include reasoning from a part to a whole, from the particular to the general, and from a sample to an entire population. Induction is traditionally contrasted with deduction. Many of the problems of inductive logic, including what is known as the problem of induction, have been treated in studies of the methodology of the natural sciences.

2. **Deductive:**

- a. Deductive: Pronunciation: di-'duk-tiv: Adjective: of, relating to, or provable by deduction. A conclusion reached by logical deduction
- b. Deductively: Pronunciation: de·duc·tive·ly: Adverb: Employing deduction in reasoning or logic.
- c. Deduction: Pronunciation: (de-), di-'duk-shun: Noun: an act of taking away. The deriving of a conclusion by reasoning; specifically: inference in which the conclusion about particulars follows necessarily from general or universal premises. Compare Deduction to its antonym Induction.

Deductive Reasoning (Logic)

In logic, a type of inference or argument that purports to be valid, where a valid argument is one whose conclusion must be true if its premises are true (see validity).

Deduction is thus distinguished from induction, where there is no such presumption. Valid deductive arguments may have false premises, as demonstrated by the example: "All men are mortal; Cleopatra is a man; therefore, Cleopatra is mortal." Invalid deductive arguments sometimes embody formal fallacies (i.e., errors of reasoning based on the structure of the propositions in the argument); an example is "affirming the consequent": "If A then B; B; therefore, A" (see fallacy; formal and informal)

3. **Hypothetico-Deductive:** Pronunciation: "hi-po-'the-ti-"ko-di-'duk-tiv: adjective: relating to, being, or making use of the method of proposing hypotheses and testing their acceptability or falsity by determining whether their logical consequences are consistent with observed data.

Usage of Logic & Reasoning as a Methodology to Bible Study:

Inductive is a logic or reasoning that adds as it reasons what should come next: Positive Logic. Starting with a premise and adding to it, until you prove your assumed premises then reaching a conclusion. (The process of trial and error) This starts with an hypothesis, and working at proving it's correctness by adding an assumed "next logical step" then testing this to see if the hypothesis proves correct, if it does then the process is continued till the end of the process where if finally can no longer be proved.

Inductive logic may prove a false conclusion because it allows for an inducing of information from the very beginning from all sources and not from an absolute authority. In the Bible Study realm, this logic will eventually lead to the questioning of the Bible's authority and seek understanding from its source i.e. original autographs (which do not exist), instead of the author.

Deductive is a logic or reasoning that subtracts as it reasons what should come next: Negative Logic. (The process of elimination) This starts with the "big picture" and subtracts till the truth is presented. This assumes there are many possible conclusions to a given problem, and eliminates the obvious assumptions that might be ruled out, and retesting to prove this hypothesis, and repeating this procedure till one element is left which should be the truth. "When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth?" (Quotation from the Sherlock Holmes stories, by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle)

Deductive reasoning starts with a verse or a passage of the Bible, and reasons it's understanding, then when the next passage about this is crossed the understanding is added to the previous verse, but the

understanding of the meaning of the first passage is clarified further, and something that you may have assumed at first you must subtract from the understanding. This logic will eventually lead to trusting in what God said, in the Scriptures given to us, and not attempting to over-throw the Bible's authority by appealing to its source. Instead, we would seek from the Lord the truth of the words of God by revelation and a rightly dividing of the words.

Inductive is to add, while deductive is to subtract. This does not imply that inductive reasoning would not ever subtract nor does it imply that deductive reasoning never adds. Both logical reasoning seeks new information whereby the reasoning may add the data to the existing data to better understand and reason the doctrinal, geographical, and spiritual application of Scripture. It is how the new information applies to the old that is the substance of the issue when dealing with reasoning. The process of reasoning Biblical truths and doctrinal beliefs and understanding the perspective of the Bible as a whole based on what you read, and not based on preconceived notions or ideas.

Inductive Bible Study will add to the understanding until a conclusion is reached. This type of reasoning would not limit the authority to God, or the Bible, but would expand and breach the boundaries of Biblical authority to include extra-Biblical data. The process starts with a passage and looks to interpret this passage in light of present knowledge, or adding more knowledge from any particular source. Example of Inductive Bible Study would be interpreting a Bible passage in light of the Book of Mormon, or the writings of any Pope. Or appealing to the original Greek or Hebrew that actually do not exist: et al.

Deductive Bible Study would start with the Bible as a whole, and complete and perfect words of God, and deduce from this parts of the Bible that are about a particular doctrine or not. One such way in doing this would be to run a word through the Bible using a concordance, and deduce whether the passage has to do with the subject matter, or if the word is used in a different way. This would retain a Bible Believing view of the scriptures at the same time help the serious Bible student understand the Bible comparing Scripture with Scripture. This would also fulfill the command to study, as well as the way to study: 2 Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." So that "...rightly dividing..." is deductively studying the Bible.

About Logic or Reasoning Being Absolute

Logic or Reasoning is NOT absolute any more than a tool or device. ALL are subject to RIGHT and WRONG. There are ways of using logic and reason to do wrong, and the reasoning behind this is invalid, ergo: THAT logic is faulty and therefore NOT absolute.

Here is an example of a really faulty logic and reasoning, and it will be based on a passage of the Bible, but the premises extracted thereby will be completely false:

Ephesians 1:4-5a, "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us..." (Assumed: to heaven or hell.)

1. Premise extrapolated from the verse: We are chosen and elected by God before the foundation of the world, having predestinated us to heaven or hell, Therefore:

2. We have no choice and the human will **MUST** be so totally, completely, entirely, thoroughly, wholly, fully, utterly and absolutely depraved so as to not be able to choose what is right or good, neither can it choose to receive Jesus Christ, Therefore:
3. Our election by God before the foundation of the world **MUST** be unconditional, and forced upon us, by God's predisposition: He had to choose the good vessels to go to heaven and the bad vessels to go to hell before the foundation of the world, Therefore:
4. The atonement **MUST** be limited to only the elected ones and not wasted on the bad vessels so that the limitation of the atonement rests upon only the ones whom Christ died for so none of the atonement is wasted on people God chose to go to hell anyway, Therefore:
5. God made in time his grace irresistible to the elect only and turned his back on the vessels of wrath, He **MUST** show His mercy and grace on his elected ones that were chosen before the world began, but to make sure they are really the elect they , Therefore:
6. **MUST** endure to the end to be saved, they **MUST** persevere through all the trials of life, and **MUST** be faithful stewards of the graces and sacraments given to them by God's choice alone; or else they were **NOT** one of the Elect after all, Therefore:
7. The Conclusion:
 - a. Total Depravity
 - b. Unconditional Election
 - c. Limited Atonement
 - d. Irresistible Grace
 - e. Perseverance of the Saints.
 - f. TULIP based on Predestination to Heaven or Hell before the world began!

The 5 pentagram points of Calvinism's papist pagan fatalistic false philosophies stem from a path of logic and reason that is in itself sound: however, the premise is false, being miss read, deliberately altered with the missing ending of verse 5, ergo the first point made is a lie, and ever point subsequently is thus like: A LIE; therefore the conclusion is also a LIE! Yet the logic is sound! Therefore it is not LOGIC nor REASONING that are absolutes, but the RIGHT or WRONG premise that determines the outcome and conclusion of a matter, given that the logic and reasoning are in fact sound.

If pressed for the 8th point in that procession we would have to also conclude that in that line of reasoning no one receives Jesus Christ as their own personal saviour; they only count on the predestinated choice by God to go to heaven before the foundation of the world and therefore are LOST according to John 1:12-13: 1 John 2:2; Colossians 2:6; Matthew 7:11 & Luke 11:13 just to name a few.

The logic used above was deductive logic which is the logic you should use when understanding the Bible. But a text without a context is a pretext; a text misapplied is a pretext out of context. Logic starting with a pretext will end in a fabrication. Nevertheless deductive logic and reasoning are in the Bible where we are told to Study: 2 Timothy 2:15. It is found in the phrase: "...rightly dividing the word of truth." Dividing in a studious form would be a deductive form of logic and reason.

The Logic used next will be of the inductive form.

To induce or induct is "to add to" or "bring into" hence: "He was inducted into the union." And again "They induced him to vomit." They had to add something into him to make him through up. The misgiving

of induction is that it seems to be positive and deduction seems to be negative; but the opposite is true. By adding something to the meal: “The evil doctor Mortificus induced a poison to his meal.” Is this positive? The same can be said of deduction: “The deduction of rations would become serious.” We all have to eat; but what we eat could be bad. In either case there is a proper usage of the words for good as well. Inducing to vomit from above would help someone that is poisoned from the evil doctor, and once better he may need to deduce that that doctor is evil.

2 Timothy 3:16-17, “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, throughly furnished unto all good works.”

Inductive reasoning:

1. “All Scripture was given by inspiration of God...” Inspiration is “God breathed” and therefore only the Original Manuscripts are inspired.
2. And because only the Original Manuscripts are inspired, then none of the copies can be inspired.
3. And because no copy is inspired then no translation can be inspired.
4. And because no translation is inspired then the King James Bible cannot be inspired.
5. And because the King James Bible is not inspired then we do not have the complete Word of God.
6. And because we do not have the complete words of God then none of the Bibles in existence today are the complete Word of God.
7. And because we do not have the complete Word of God the scholars must attempt to reconstruct the Word of God using the science of Textual Criticism to get as close to the originals as we can.

What appears to be deductive reasoning is in fact inductive reasoning. Here is what has been induced:

1. In the quote: ‘S’ is capitalized, the “is” is changed to “was” and “inspiration” is defined as “God breathed” (assumed) then the misguided conclusion to this is “only the Original Manuscripts are inspired.” More induction: the capitalization of “original” and “manuscripts”. This would seem like a magnifying of these things by using the capitalization; however this is not the case as we shall see.
2. The qualitative imperative has been now defined and based on a lie, and therefore any and all further logical steps are flawed, faulty, and fixed on the premise of a lie.

To clear this up:

1. Keep your proof text in context and unaltered. “All scripture is given by inspiration of God...” If it IS given, then it IS still given. Inspiration in this case; that is, in the present tense; is demanding of preservation. These things were induced into the reasoning.
2. It is assumed by induction that the original writings were inspired, because the passage was already interpreted to mean “God breathed” and therefore the writings were not breathed by God and therefore could not be inspired according to their definition. If only what was God breathed was inspired, then what the prophet heard from God was only inspired, and not what the Prophet spoke, nor what the scribe wrote.

3. Now we move to copies cannot be inspired: Jeremiah 36:23, “And it came to pass, that when Jehudi had read three or four leaves, he cut it with the penknife, and cast it into the fire that was on the hearth, until all the roll was consumed in the fire that was on the hearth.” Jehudi had a roll from Jeremiah the prophet, it was an original manuscript and cut it up and then burned it completely. Jeremiah 36:27-28, “Then the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah, after that the king had burned the roll, and the words which Baruch wrote at the mouth of Jeremiah, saying, Take thee again another roll, and write in it all the former words that were in the first roll, which Jehoiakim the king of Judah hath burned.” Then the Lord told Jeremiah to have Baruch the scribe to re-write all the former words on another roll that were in the first, ergo, a copy of the original. Was that second original inspired? So God CAN in fact inspired copies. Not convinced? Ok. Let’s look at the text: 2 Timothy 3:16-17, “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.” So if ALL scripture IS given by inspiration, then 2 Timothy 3:15, “And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” What Timothy had from childhood was copies here in the context called “...the holy scriptures...” So we see by induction they altered the text and took it out of its context to teach a pretext.
4. Then the move from copy to translation cannot be inspired. Here is where the inducted fir meets the induced fin. Isaiah 40:3, “The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.” This is from the Old Testament in Hebrew that they had when this was written: Luke 3:4, “As it is written in the book of the words of Esaias the prophet, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.” Which was written in Greek and translated when it was written. Notice the transliteration of the proper name “Isaiah” (a transliteration from Hebrew to English) and the proper name alteration “Esaias” (a transliteration from Hebrew to Greek to English) which would mean that this IS in fact a translation from Hebrew to Greek, and therefore an inspired translation. When it comes to the King James Bible being inspired, remember all scripture IS inspired. If it is NOT, then do NOT call it scripture!
5. Another induction is the phrase: “...we do not have the complete Word of God.” The capitalization of the ‘W’ in word is done because these people are neo-orthodox or neo-evangelical or neo-pagan. This usage of the capitalization is used so it looks like they are giving prestige to what they are saying. Notice above the caps on “Scripture”, “Original Manuscripts” and now on “Word”. This is a stepping stone to the last one “Word” when dealing with the scriptures the word of God or the words of God, a Bible Believer will NEVER use “W” for word. Because the Word of God is the personification of the word “word” in every sense in the Bible. John 1:1-3, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.” Again in John 1:14, “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.” This is obviously the Lord Jesus Christ. But if you are not sure: 1 John 1:1-3, “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) That

which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.” He is the second Person of the Trinity: 1 John 5:7, “For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”

6. Now the step downward inducted into the abyss: there is nowhere to be found the words of God as implied by the statement: “...none of the Bibles in existence today are the complete Word of God.” So we see from this that the Bible is not to be trusted or believed but held in doubt as to its authority as a trustworthy document, let alone God’s love letter to mankind. The very eternal words of eternal life is held in in unrighteousness: Romans 1:18-32, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.”
7. Now into the fire we go: “Scholars must attempt to reconstruct the Word of God using the science of Textual Criticism to get as close to the originals as we can.” This is another attempt to induce into this magpie of contemptible inducement we meet up with the scholars and their science of Textual Criticism whereby they lie in wait to steal every word from the believer. By their pseudo-science they think they are apt to bring back the lost ‘W’ord of God. They are Reconstructionist and believe that God lost his words. They believe it is their job to reconstruct the “originals” by using Textual Criticism whose main and first rule is that the oldest manuscripts are the best because they are closer to the originals. This is a fallacy. Corruption of the text base can happen at any level of copyist. So oldest is not a proper criteria for best; it could be the worst. The best would be only fragments, because of use they would have gotten worn out. Further, the used ones would represent a text base that was also used prior to the oldest know texts because the oldest ones do not have the wear on them and therefore were not in use to become worn out. This is because they were corrupt.

Now for the third part of this study we will move on to “understanding”. The whole substance of this sort of study is to get an understanding that we gain from what we have determined as the truth from reasoning and logical progression from premise to conclusion. There are therefore three parts to this process:

1. Premise – Facts unaltered and within context.
2. Reasoning – Sound deductive logical progression towards a conclusion.
3. Conclusion – The understanding of the Facts as they relate to the conclusions drawn from Reason.

This is a simplified but useful stepping stones path to take when solving a puzzle or problem. If we are given the facts to begin with and these facts can be provable.

Job 32:7-11, “I said, Days should speak, and multitude of years should teach wisdom. But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding. Great men are not always wise: neither do the aged understand judgment. Therefore I said, Hearken to me; I also will shew mine opinion. Behold, I waited for your words; I gave ear to your reasons, whilst ye searched out what to say.”

Psalms 119:99, “I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.”

Psalms 119:130, “The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple.”

Psalms 119:144, “The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live.”

Psalms 119:169, “Let my cry come near before thee, O LORD: give me understanding according to thy word.”

Proverbs 1:2-4, “To know wisdom and instruction; to perceive the words of understanding; To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity; To give subtilty to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion.”

Proverbs 3:5-6, “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

Proverbs 3:13, “Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding.”

Proverbs 3:19, “The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; by understanding hath he established the heavens.”

Proverbs 4:7, “Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.”

Proverbs 8:5, “O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart.”

Proverbs 8:8-9, “All the words of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing froward or perverse in them. They are all plain to him that understandeth, and right to them that find knowledge.”

Proverbs 9:10, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.”

Proverbs 14:33, “Wisdom resteth in the heart of him that hath understanding: but that which is in the midst of fools is made known.”

Proverbs 16:16, “How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!”

Proverbs 16:22, “Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: but the instruction of fools is folly.”

Proverbs 19:8, “He that getteth wisdom loveth his own soul: he that keepeth understanding shall find good.”

Proverbs 23:23, “Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.”

Proverbs 24:3-4, “Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.”

Jeremiah 3:15, “And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.”

1 John 5:20, “And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life.”