



Equipping Hour

The Inspiration of Scripture

Key Verse: 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 complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

Overview

The number one best-selling book in the world is the Bible.¹ It is not only the number one best-seller, but it is also the most powerful book ever penned. It is the only book that is living and active and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of man’s heart (Hebrews 4:12). It is the only book that is able to go down deep into the soul of man and expose a person’s heart. It is the only book in the world that did not originate in the mind of man (2 Peter 1:21). It is the only book in the world that is completely perfect and incapable of error (2 Peter 1:19; Psalm 19:7). It is the only book in the world that has the answer to all of mankind’s greatest needs (Psalm 19:7–11; 2 Peter 1:3). It is the only book in the world that commands obedience and offers eternal life to those who obey its message (John 3:36). It is the only book that is the source of true joy and happiness in life (Luke 11:28). It is the only book that is supernatural. In all of human history there has never been a book written, nor will there ever be a book written, like the Bible.

In theology, the study of the Bible is called bibliology. It is important for us not only to study the contents of the Bible, but also what the Bible says about itself. In this series we will study the inspiration, inerrancy, authority, sufficiency, and canonicity of the Bible, and our obligation to the Bible. As we study each of these topics, this will help us to understand what the Bible is, where it came from, and why we can trust the Bible we hold in our hands.

If someone was asked, “Who wrote the Bible?”, how do you think they would respond? Some people would say man wrote the Bible. Other people would say God wrote the Bible. If man wrote the Bible, where did these men come up with information they wrote down? If God wrote the Bible, how did He get His words into a written format for us to read? These questions are answered in the pages of Scripture. The theological subject that answers these questions is called the inspiration of Scripture.

General Revelation

1. Psalm 19:1. What do the heavens and sky proclaim? _____

¹ <https://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/best-selling-book-of-non-fiction>

2. Romans 1:20. How have God's attributes, eternal power, and divine nature been revealed? _____

3. Romans 2:14–15. How has God revealed Himself to mankind? _____

Special Revelation

1. Genesis 2:16–17. How did God reveal Himself to Adam? _____
2. Exodus 3:2–6. How did God reveal Himself to Moses? _____
3. Genesis 37:6–7. How did God reveal knowledge to Joseph? _____
4. Isaiah 6:1–2. How did God reveal Himself to Isaiah? _____
5. Hebrews 1:1–2. How has God revealed Himself to mankind? _____
6. Hebrews 2:1. What does the writer of Hebrews admonish his readers to do? _____

7. Luke 24:27; John 5:39. How has God revealed Himself to us? _____

The Human Writers

1. Exodus 34:27. Who wrote down God's words? _____

2. Mark 12:19. What did the Sadducees call Deuteronomy? _____
3. Luke 20:42. Who did Jesus say wrote Psalm 110? _____
4. Revelation 1:9–11. Who wrote down the words of Christ? _____
5. Matthew 1:22–23. What prophet did God speak through? _____
6. 2 Peter 3:14–16. How does Peter describe Paul's writings? _____
7. 1 Timothy 5:18. What does Paul quote as Scripture? _____
8. 2 Peter 1:20–21. Who spoke from God? _____

“During the process of writing Scripture, the Holy Spirit superintended the human author in such a way that his words ultimately had their source in God.”

—Matt Waymeyer

The Divine Author

1. 2 Timothy 3:16. What is inspired of God? _____

2. 2 Peter 1:20–21. What three phrases show divine authorship?
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
3. Matthew 1:22. Who spoke “though the prophet” Isaiah? _____
4. 1 Corinthians 14:37. What did Paul recognize about his writings? _____

Verbal, Plenary Inspiration

“All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” – 2 Timothy 3:16

1. Verbal inspiration: refers to the very _____ themselves being inspired by God.
2. Plenary inspiration: refers to how inspiration extends to _____ part of Scripture.
3. Definition: God inspired every word recorded by the human writers in each of the sixty-six books of the Bible in their original form.
4. The Bible does not merely _____ the Word of God, the Bible _____ the Word of God.

“Biblical inspiration [is the] ... work of the Holy Spirit by which, without setting aside their personalities and literary or human faculties, God so guided the authors of Scripture to enable them to write exactly the words which convey His truth to men, and in doing so preserved their judgments from error in the original autographs.”

—K.S. Kantzer

Application

1. Do you trust every word in your Bible?
2. Do you hunger and thirst for the Word of God?
3. Do you submit your life to the Word of God?