

The Inspiration of the Bible

Scripture Reading: **Nehemiah 8:5-6**

Introduction

1. Do you believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God? Your answer should affect how you use the Bible and its teachings in your life.

2. The Bible is not the product of man.

2 Peter 1:21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

3. B.B. Warfield, ISBE, III:1473 states: *“Inspiration is, therefore, usually defined as a supernatural influence exerted on the sacred writers by the Spirit of God, by virtue of which their writings are given Divine trustworthiness.”*

4. How we view the inspiration of the Bible will have practical effects upon our faith, life, and eternity:

Rom 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Matt 4:4 But He answered and said, 'It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.' "

5. Show chart of “INSPIRATION”

A. Doctrine: “Teaching of Christ”

B. Reproof: “To speak to in disapproval; convince or convict”

C. Correction: “change from wrong to right”

D. Instruction: “teaching, lesson, rule, or precept”

The Claim of Inspiration

1. Various passages of scripture claims the inspiration of the word

(See chart of scriptures)

John 14:26

John 16:13

Galatians 1:12

1 Thessalonians 2:13

The Bible Writers Claimed to be Speaking the Word of God

1. “Thus saith the Lord” or something equivalent occurs over 2,000 times in the Old Testament.

Isa 1:2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth! **For the LORD has spoken ...:**

Jer 10:1-2 Hear the word which the LORD speaks to you, O house of Israel. **Thus says the LORD:.....**

Ezek 1:3 the **word of the LORD** came expressly to Ezekiel the priest.....

The Bible is Verbally Inspired

1. God directed men to speak His will using words. He revealed to them the very words He wanted them to speak.

A. God didn't inspire men with “concepts” or “ideas” and then leave them to their own creative abilities to speak for God.

2. Notice the following Scriptures:

(See chart of scriptures)

1 Corinthians 2:10-13

2 Samuel 23:2

Jeremiah 1:9

Jeremiah 36:4

Acts 1:16

The Process of Inspiration:

1. This process is summed up in Zechariah 7:12:

Zech 7:12 Yes, they made their hearts like flint, refusing to hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets. Thus great wrath came from the LORD of hosts.

A. God sent His word > By His Spirit > By His prophets > To His people

God's Inspired Scriptures are Incorruptible

1. God's word will continue forever!

1 Peter 1:22-25

Scripture is the Authoritative word of God

1 Cor 14:37 If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord.

Inspiration of the Bible

1. Is supported by its unity and fulfilled prophecy

Deuteronomy 18:20-22

2. Completely equips a person to do God's will

2 Tim 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.

Conclusion

1. **Devine inspiration secures the Bible's authenticity, credibility and reliability.**
2. **We must build and maintain our trust in the verbally-inspired word of God. It alone has.....**

A. The power to save

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

B. The power to defeat error

Jude 3 Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Stephen:

Acts 6:10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke.

C. The power to give life

John 12:48-50 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."

3. **May we strive to resist every infringement on the inspiration of the Bible, the Word of God!**
- A. **The Bible is the inspired Word of God!**

