

GOD'S WRITTEN WORDS

THE BIBLE DOCTRINE OF INSPIRATION

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God..."

~ 2 Timothy 3:16

1. Inspired Scripture

- a. 2 Tim 3:16 series – *We* start with the Bible, but it is the product of a process.
- b. It began with revelation (God speaks), through prophets (mediation)
- c. Scripture ~*def.* Any thing written (script, scriptorium, scribe, inscription)
- d. Inspiration ~*def.* Breathing into something (air-lung, ideas-mind, life-dust, spirit-body, meaning-words, words-page) – God's record from the beginning.
- e. Scripture by inspiration – God speaking by men to inscribe words on a page
 - i. God's written record = the Holy Scripture = the Bible.

2. Given by Inspiration

- a. God writes himself a few times – Exo 31:18, 32:16, Daniel 9:23-25, John 8:5-9
 - i. Even then, men had to record what he wrote – Moses, Daniel, John
- b. The Bible is the written revelation from God unto men – Rom 3:1-4
- c. It is a book written by prophets – God's record by prophets – 2 Pet 1:20-21
- d. An example: from God through servants written down – Rev 1:1-2
- e. Another example: apostles and prophets wrote words revealed – 1 Cor 2:10-13
 - i. Scriptural inspiration had its beginning and ending with Israel.

3. Who Wrote It

- a. ~40 writers - shepherds, herdsmen, fishers, scribes, priests, kings, preachers
- b. Some nameless (Judges, Job, Hebrews, Mark), unpopular (Agur, Asaph, Lemuel)
- c. Prisoners, rejected, abortion-survivors, slaves, kings, ostracized – Heb 11:32-40
- d. Paul's testimony of himself can be for all writers – 2 Cor 6:7-10
- e. Despise not prophesyings speaks to God's words through men – 1 Th 2:13, 5:20
- f. *"Thus saith the Lord"* – Mal 1:1, Hag 1:1, Amos 1:3, Oba 1:1, Hos 1:1, Exo 4:22

4. Holy Men of God

- a. The word of God in the beginning – John 1:1-2, Ps 119:160, Luke 4:4
- b. The writers were fallible, but believers – Rom 3:10, 2 Pet 1:21
- c. They were holy (set apart by God) by God's inspiration – Exo 22:31, Deu 7:6-8
- d. The scripture said (God said) – Jam 2:23, 2Ch 20:7, Ge15:6; Rom 9:17, Exo 9:16
- e. Joshua was one of the only to obey God at the border – Num 11:28, 14:6, 30, 38
- f. The apostles remained with Christ – John 6:66-71 (Judas never wrote Bible)
- g. Holy Ghost spoke by the mouth of David (and apostles) – Acts 1:16, 10:33, 13:44
- h. Paul used other men to take dictation – Rom 16:22 (cf "I" as Paul in Romans 16)
- i. Amanuensis ~*def.* a person whose employment is to write what another dictates
 - i. *"mine own hand"* – Phm 19, 2 Thess 3:17, 1 Cor 16:21, Gal 6:11
- j. *'oh that they were printed in a book!... with an iron pen and rock'* Job 19:23-24
- k. *"given by inspiration of God"* – It is written by men, but the written words of God