

A man with a long white beard and a head covering, likely a prophet or scribe, is shown writing on a scroll with a quill pen. The background is dark and textured, suggesting an ancient setting.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

**WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS
IF THE BIBLE IS INSPIRED?**

**TO WHAT EXTENT DOES THE
BIBLE CLAIM TO BE INSPIRED?**

WHAT IS INSPIRATION?

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

ALL of these concepts are under relentless attack!

ORIGIN?

PRESERVATION?

ACCURACY?

TRUTHFULNESS

Historically there have been MANY enemies of the scriptures,

Jews / Rome / Catholics / Muslims / Joseph Smith / the Watchtower

TODAY: Modern Atheists / Agnostics & modernist / Denominationalism

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE



WHAT IS THE EVIDENCE?

IT IS ALL FROM GOD!

(Not the product of man)

IT HAS BEEN PRESERVED!

(Not lost or embellished over time)

IT IS STILL ACCURATE!

(Not altered or corrupted over time)

ITS WORDS ARE TRUE!

(Not fallible or inaccurate in its claims)

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

WHAT IS THE EVIDENCE?

IRRIFUTABLE ARGUMENTS

- **The CONTENT of the Bible demands divine origin.**
 - ▶ Textual Consistency, unity and Uniqueness.
 - ▶ Predictive Prophecy and Divine Insight.
 - ▶ The undeniable Standard for Moral Standards.
 - ▶ External evidence.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

IT IS ALL FROM GOD! *(Not the product of man)*

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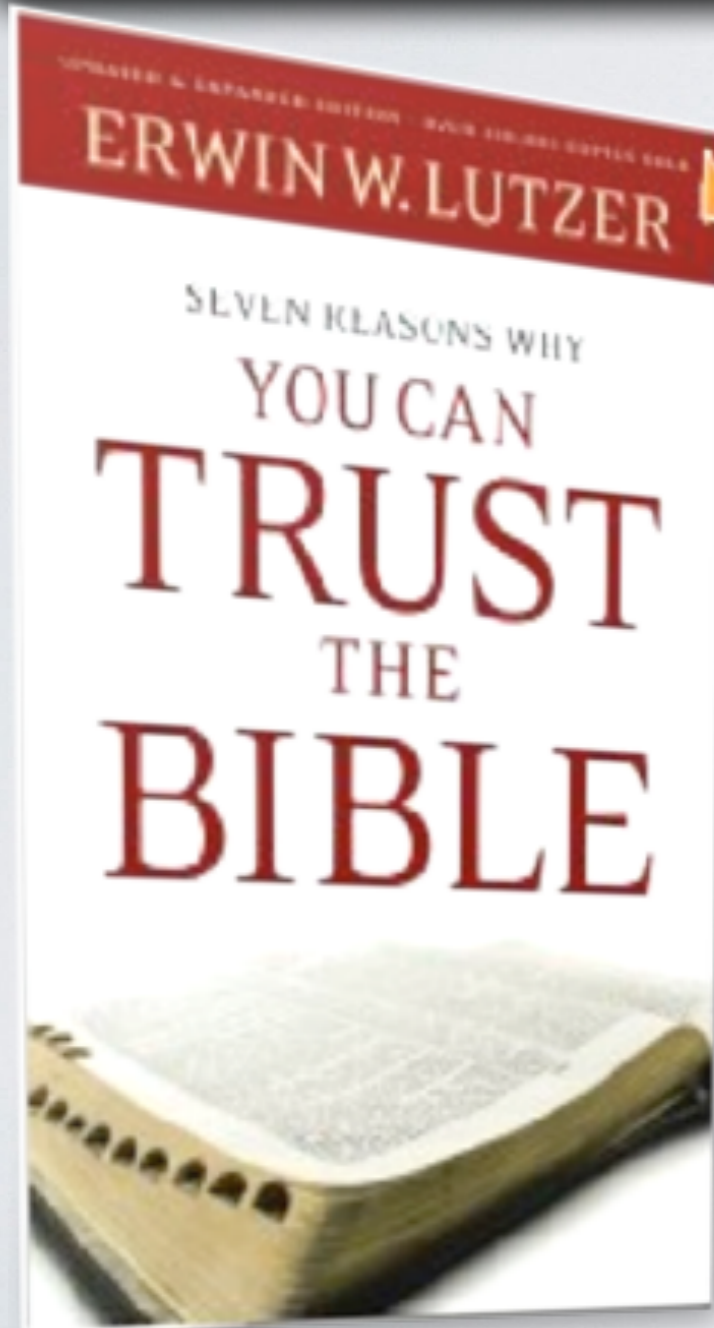
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● If God is, and He is able to create the universe, would He not have the power to reveal Himself, and His will for His creation, and then preserve that revelation?

- ▶ **POWER & WILL** - Isaiah 45:18; Rom 1:18-20; 16:26; Acts 17:23-31
- ▶ **DESIRE & CLAIM** - He has revealed what He wants us to know - Deut. 29:29; 1 Cor. 2:10; Eph. 3:5; Titus 2:11,12; 1 Pet. 1:10-12; 2 Pet 1:3
- ▶ **TRUSTWORTHINESS** — Promised to preserve His word - Luke 21:33; 1 Peter 1:22-25

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

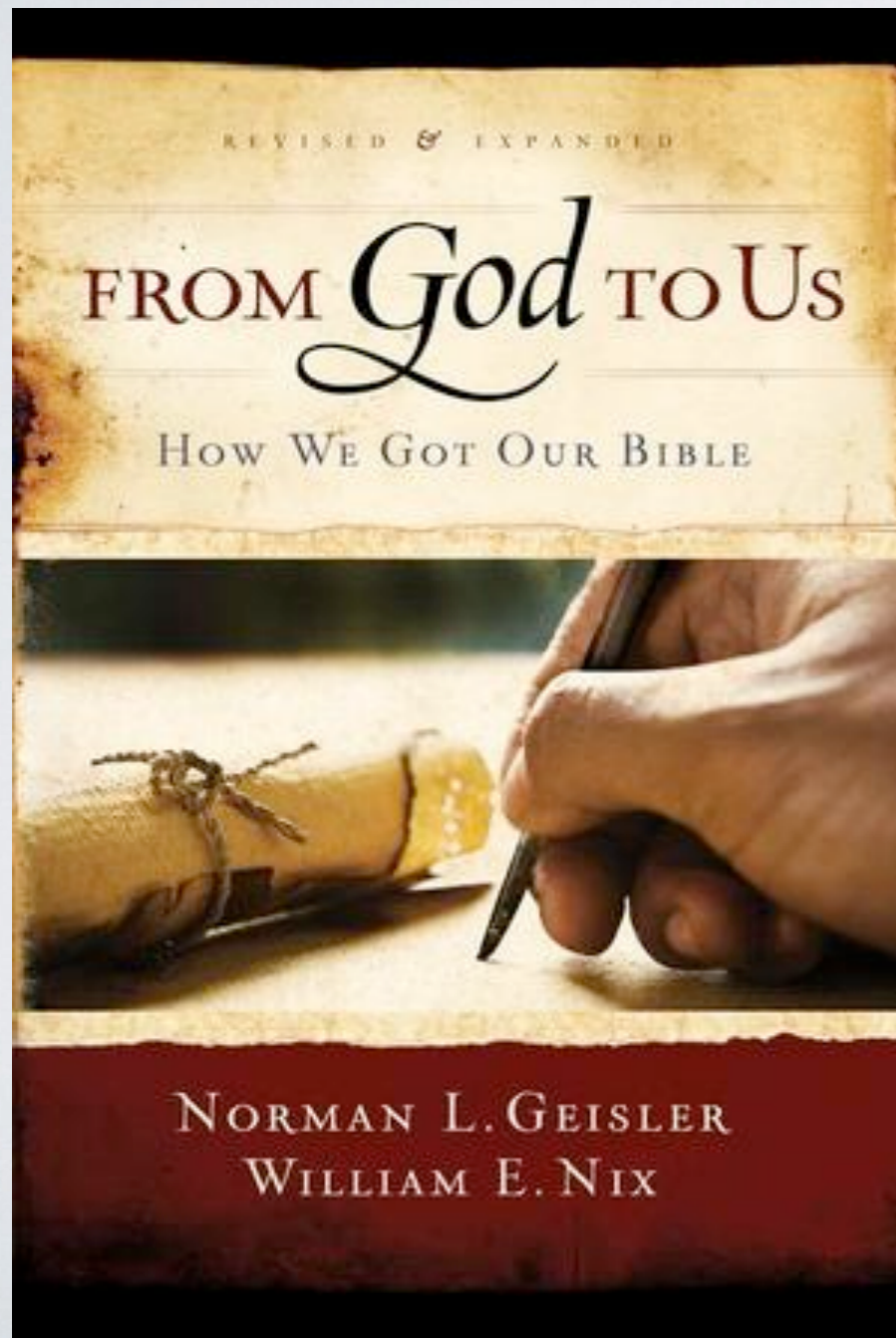
IT IS ALL FROM GOD! *(Not the product of man)*



- **Cause And Effect** — The Most Reasonable Cause For The Bible.
- **Order of The Scripture** — The Most Reasonable Explanation For the Organization & Unity of the Bible.
- **Complexity of its Contents** - The Most Reasonable Cause for the Depth & Fulness of its content.
- **Mind, Ethics, & Reason** – Most Reasonable Explanation For Its Moral & Practical Content.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

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● **Harmonious In Thought!**

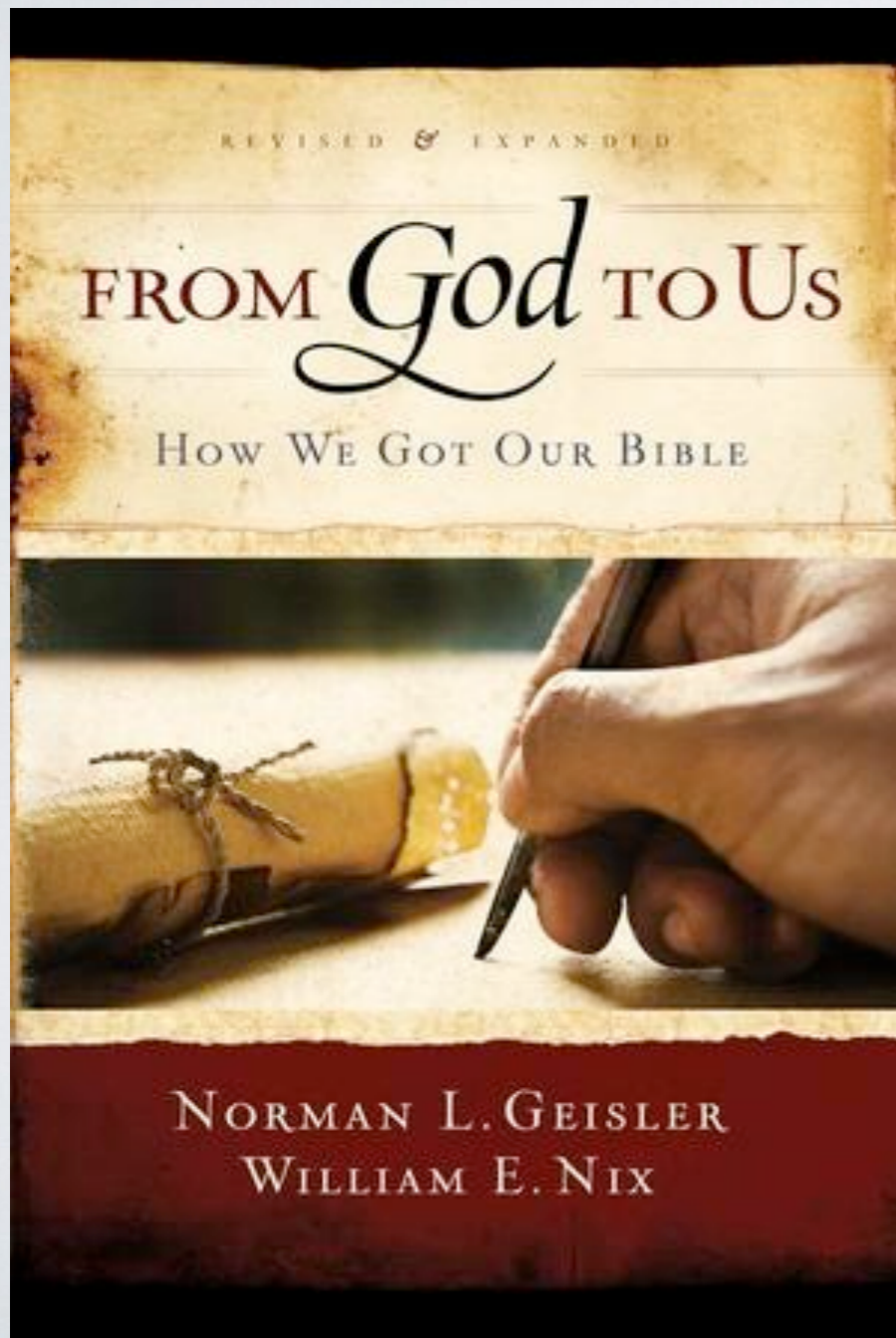
- ▶ 66 different books –
- ▶ Written by 40 different men –
- ▶ Three different languages
- ▶ Written over 1600 year span

● **YET - One Harmonious Thought!**

- ▶ Christ is coming! –
- ▶ Christ has come! –
- ▶ Christ is coming again!

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

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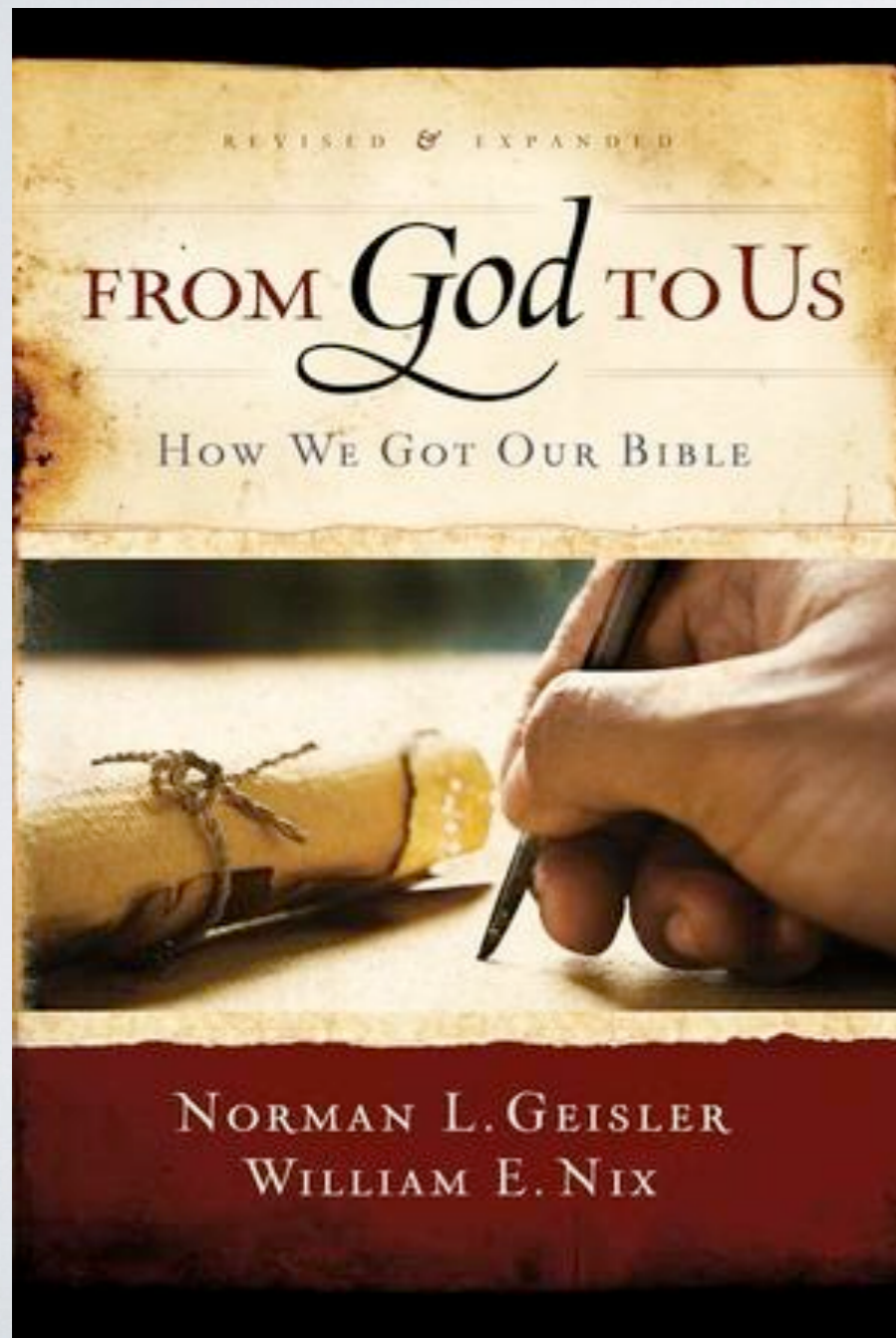
● The Claim it Makes

- ▶ "Thus says the Lord" occurs 418 times in the NASB, 413 in the KJV
- ▶ "God said" occurs 46 times in both the NASB and the KJV
- ▶ God spoke through prophets - 1 Kings 14:18; 1 Pet 1:10-12; 2 Pet 1:16-21
- ▶ The Spirit of the Lord spoke - 2 Sam 23:2; 1 Kings 22:24; 2 Chron 20:14,15
- ▶ All scripture inspired - 2 Tim 3:16

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

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● The Claim it Makes

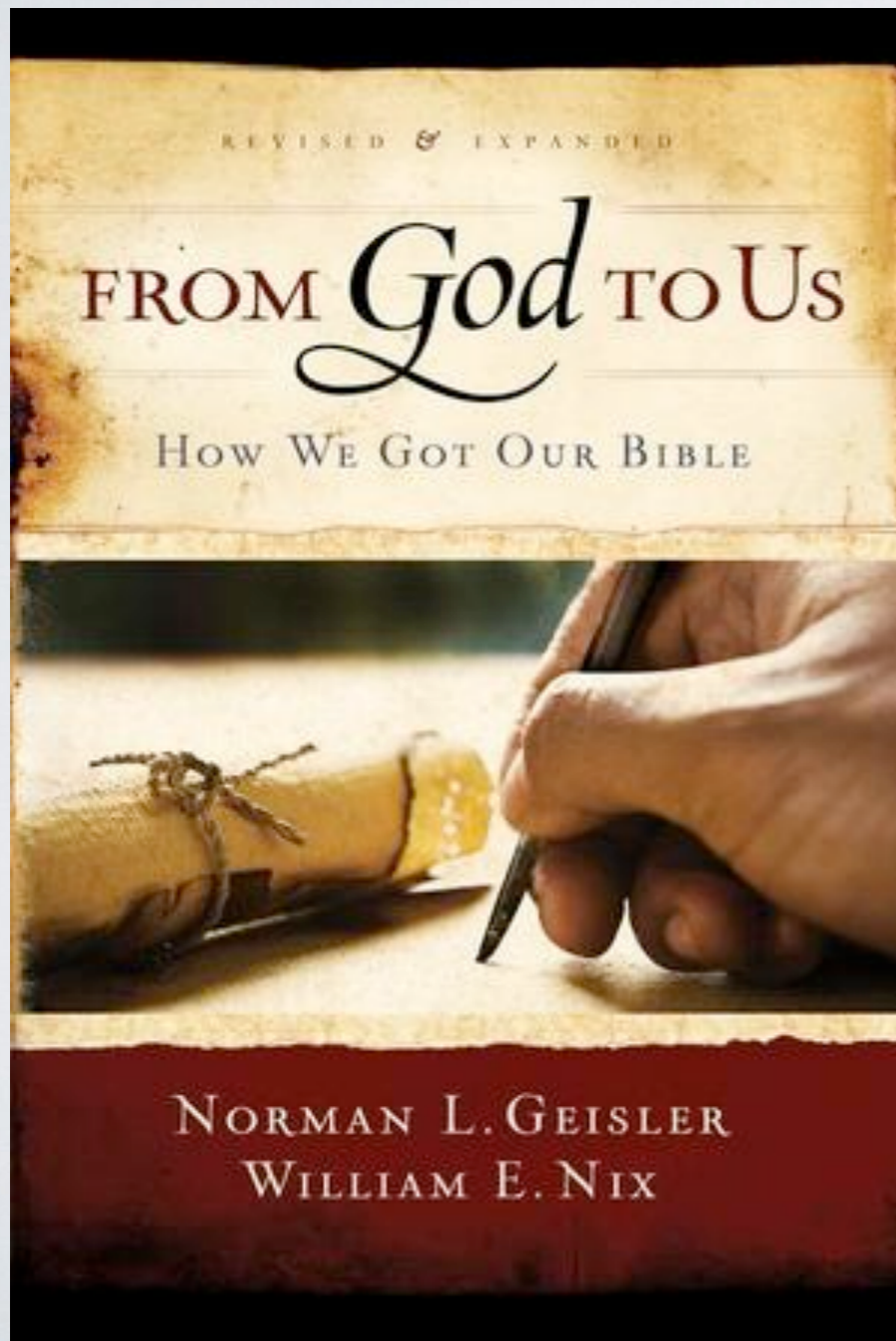


2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)

¹⁶ All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

IT IS ALL FROM GOD! *(Not the product of man)*

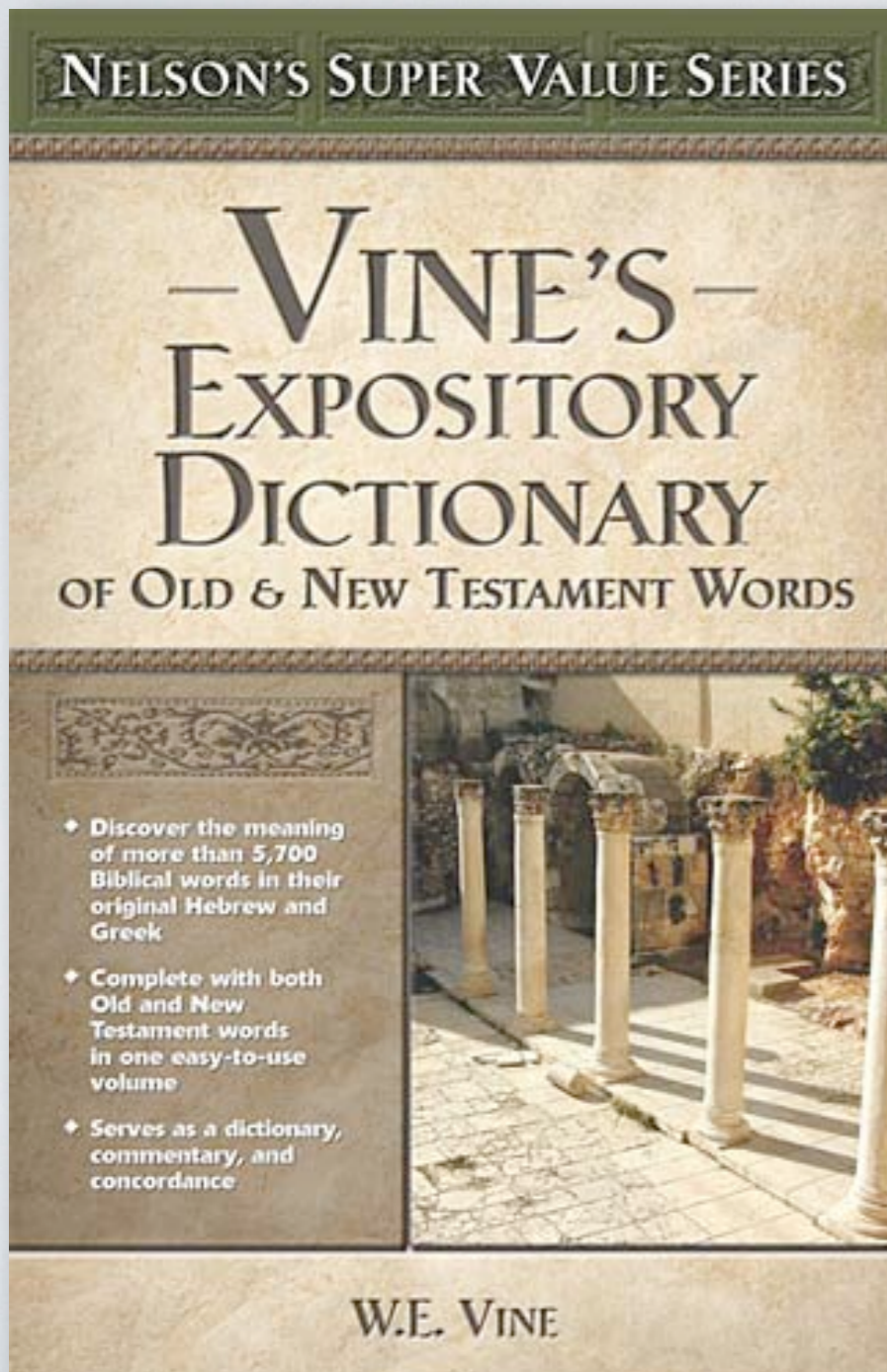


● The Claim it Makes

- ▶ The logical implication of the statements within the Bible is that they are inerrant since they claim to be offered from God.
- ▶ Either they are or they are not!
- ▶ If the scriptures are not inspired, then their claims of speaking for God are lies.
- ▶ If the scriptures are from God, then they true and need to be believed and followed!.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

Inspiration Defined & Explained



Inspiration of God -

Strong's Number: <G2315>

Original Word:

θεόπνευστος, theopneustos

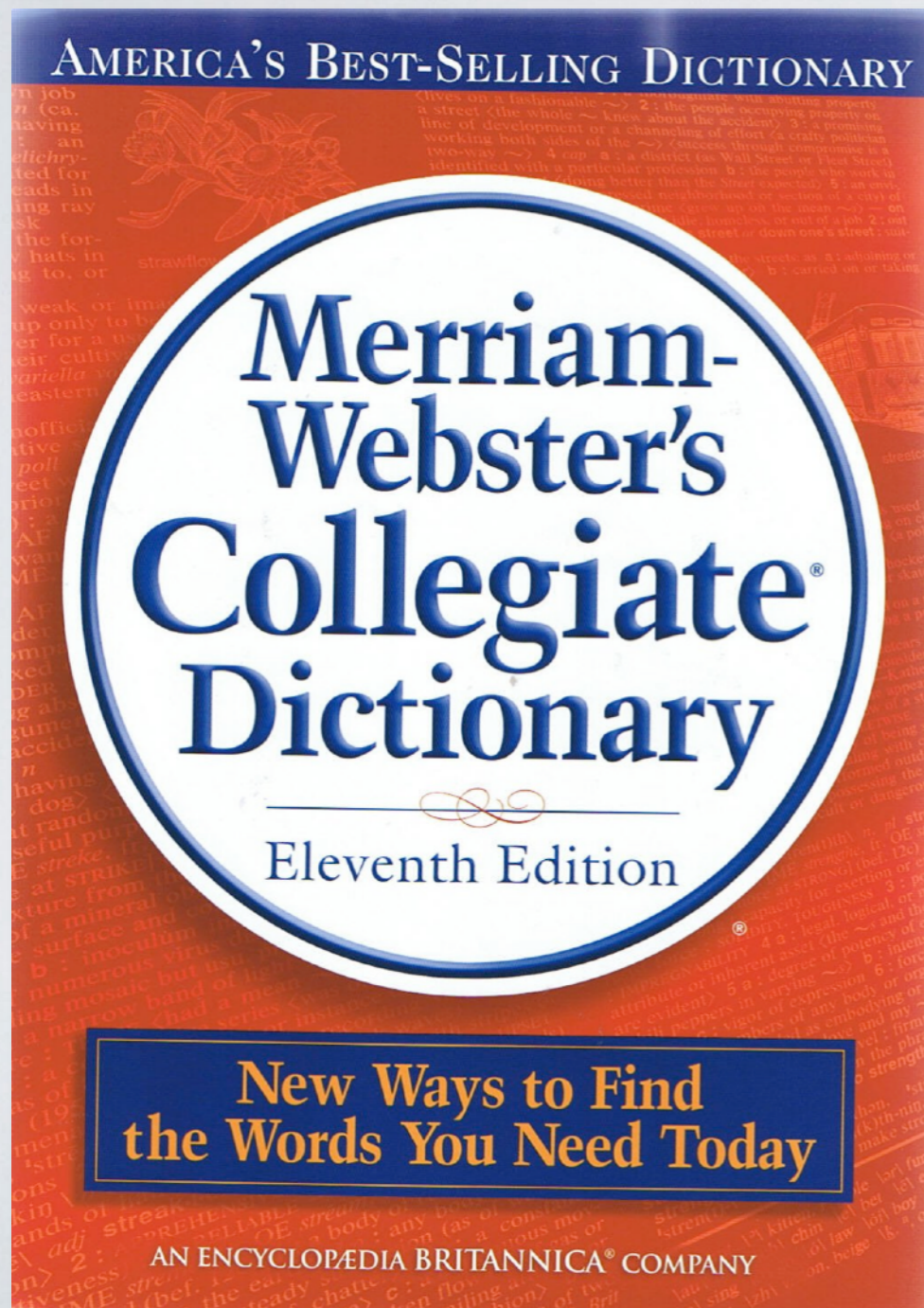
Usage Notes:

"inspired by God" (Theos, "God," pneō, "to breathe"), is used in 2 Tim. 3:16, of the Scriptures as distinct from non-inspired writings.

Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old Testament and New Testament Words.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

Inspiration Defined & Explained



Inspiration \In`spi*ra"tion\, n.

1. The act of inspiring or breathing in; breath;
3. (Theol.) A supernatural divine influence on the prophets, apostles, or sacred writers, by which they were qualified to communicate moral or religious truth with authority; a supernatural influence which qualifies men to receive and communicate divine truth; also, the truth communicated.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

Inspiration Defined & Explained

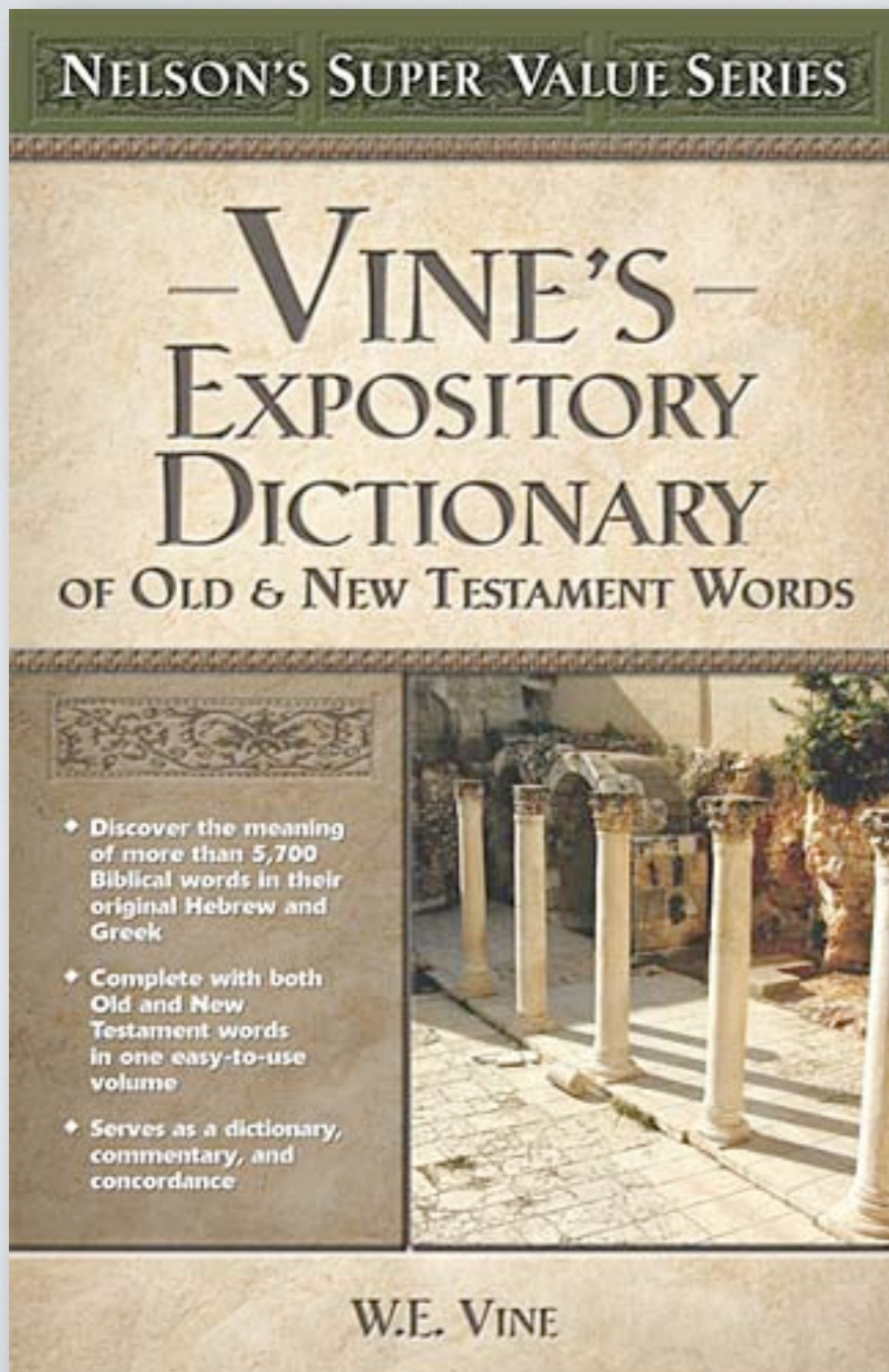


2 Peter 1:20-21 (NKJV)

²⁰ knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation,
²¹ for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

Inspiration Defined & Explained



Moved *by the Holy Spirit*

Original Word: φέρω, pherō

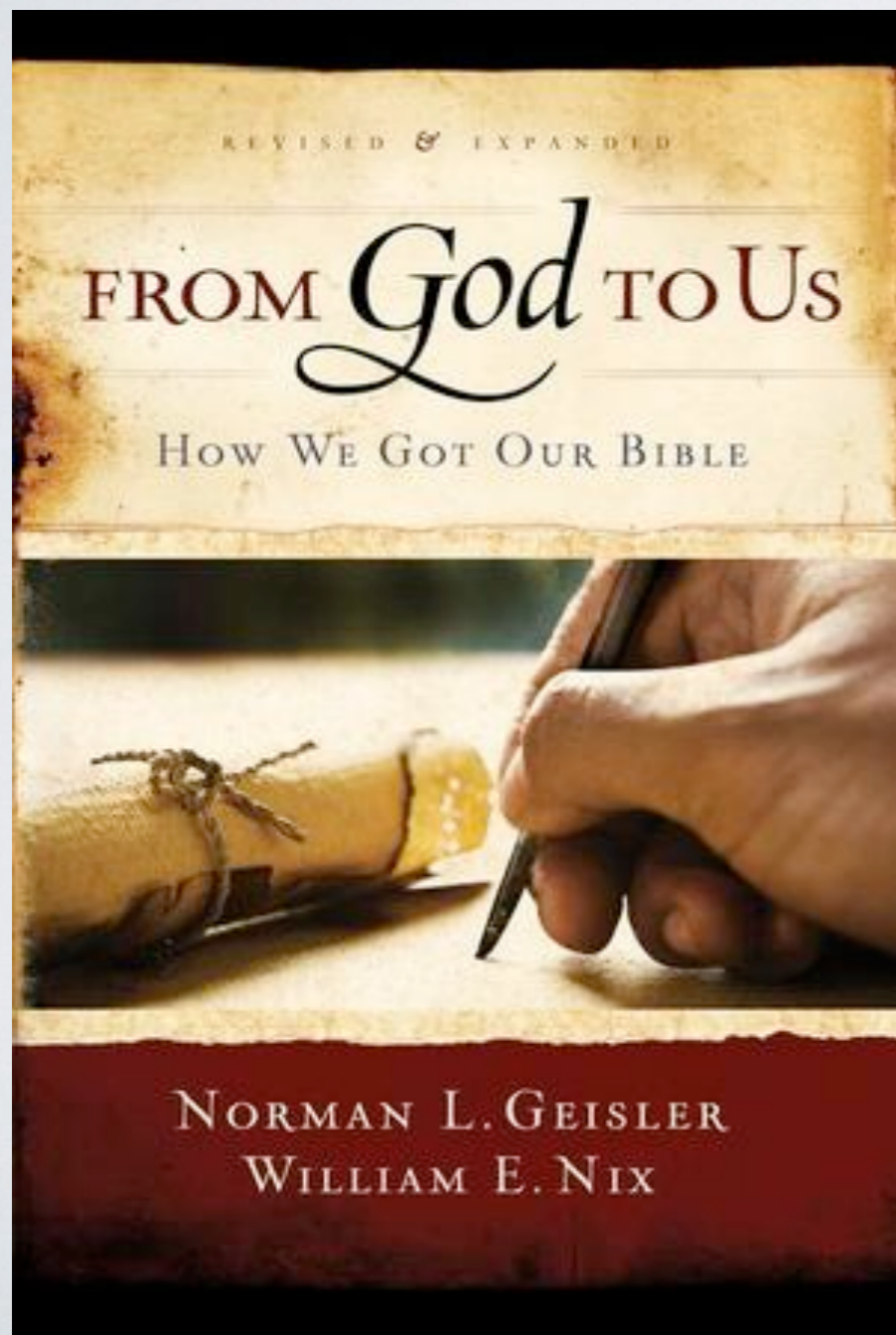
Usage Notes:

"to bear, carry," is rendered "being moved" in 2 Pet. 1:21, signifying that they were "borne along," or impelled, by the Holy Spirit's power, not acting according to their own wills, or simply expressing their own thoughts, but expressing the mind of God in words provided and ministered by Him.

Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old Testament and New Testament Words.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

Inspiration Defined & Explained



“The Bible is inspired in the sense that Spirit-moved men wrote God breathed words that are divinely authoritative for Christian faith and practice . . . That God is the ultimate source and original cause of Biblical truth is the first and most fundamental factor in the doctrine of inspiration”

(From God To Us, How We Got Our Bible; Norman Geisler & William E. Nix; pg. 17)

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

False Theories of Inspiration

Natural

- To get an idea by the natural thought process

- This eliminates God's involvement

Partial

- A denial of scripture

- 2 Tim 3:16 - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,

- 2 Peter 1:21 - holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

- 2 Sam 23:2; “The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me, And His word was on my tongue.”

- Acts 1:16 this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David . . .

Mechanical

Noematical

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

False Theories of Inspiration

Natural

■ **Some inspired, some NOT inspired**

► How can we know which is which???

Partial

■ **A denial of scripture**

► 2 Tim 3:16; All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,

► Psalm 119:160 – “The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.”

Mechanical

► Prov 30:5 Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.

Noemactical

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

False Theories of Inspiration

Natural

■ **Man was just a dictation machine**

▶ Limits Man's Involvement.

Partial

■ **Literary styles do exist**

▶ Matthew (*Jewish measurements*);
Mark (*Roman*); Luke (*Greek*).

Mechanical

▶ The personalities of the writers come through: Isaiah & Jeremiah.
Matthew & John, Paul & James. Etc.

Noemactical

▶ The education of the writers comes through: I John is written in elementary school Greek. - Hebrews has graduate school vocabulary.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

False Theories of Inspiration

Natural

- God supplied the thought but men expressed the thought in his own words (*Men would decide what to say*)

Partial

- The very words & tenses of the words were “God breathed”

Mechanical

- ▶ Prophets searched their own writings (1 Peter 1:10-12)

- ▶ Paul wrote things “Hard to understand” (2 Peter 3:14).

Noematic

- ▶ Requires trusting in men (1 Cor 2:5).

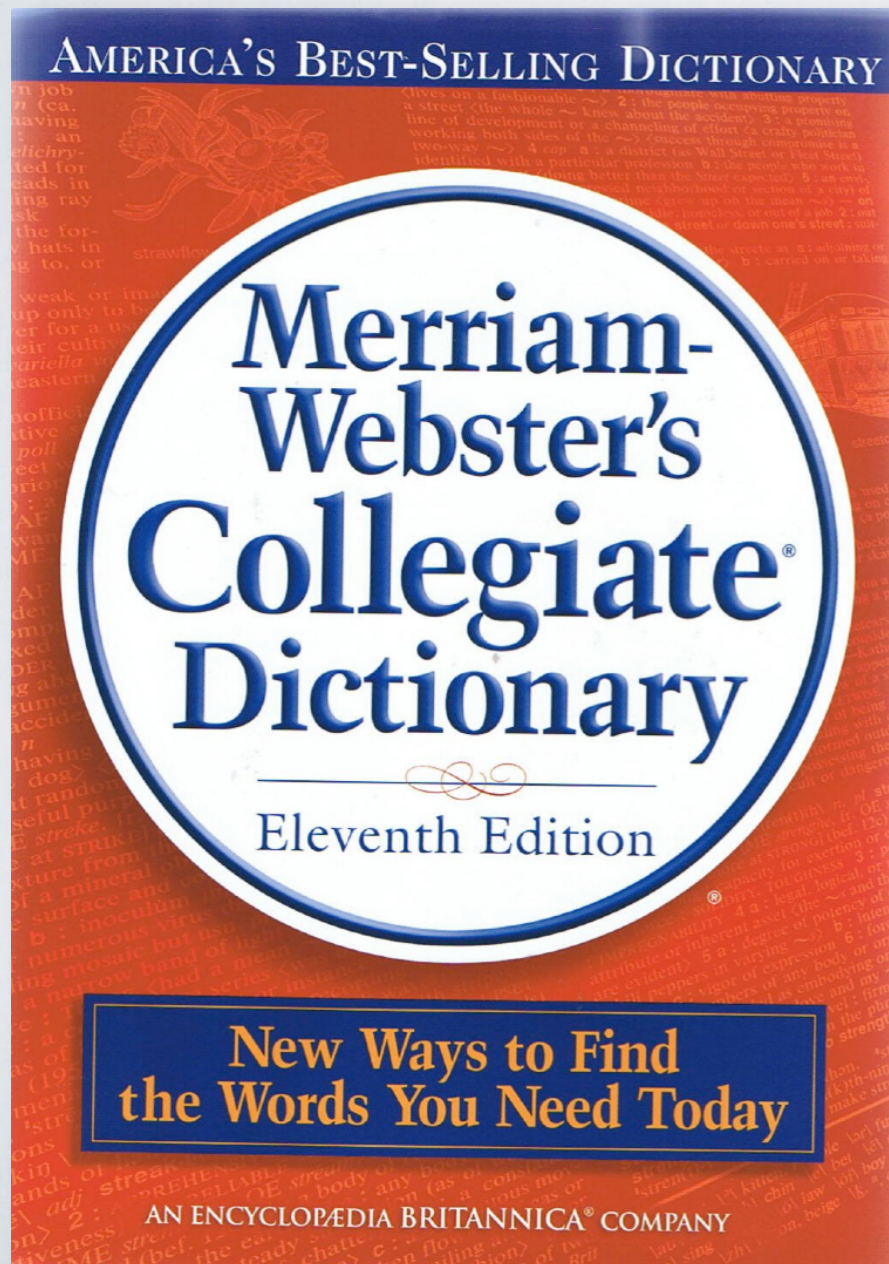
- ▶ Inspiration extended to the very words (Mat 5:18; 22:32; 1 Cor 2:13).

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

PLENARY, VERBAL INSPIRATION

● Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary (1913)

- ▶ **Plenary inspiration** (Theol.), Full; entire; complete; absolute; as, a plenary license; plenary authority. That kind of inspiration which excludes all defect in the utterance of the inspired message.
- ▶ **Verbal inspiration** (Theol.), that kind of inspiration which extends to the very words and forms of expression of the divine message.



THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

PLENARY, VERBAL INSPIRATION



❁ The Word-Method of Revelation

- ▶ God has revealed His will to us through words.
- ▶ Words are vehicles of thought and convey concepts.
- ▶ The Very Words Of The Bible Are Inspired By God.
- ▶ All of God's Word Is Inspired
- ▶ We accept God's will through accepting the words of Scripture.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

PLENARY, VERBAL INSPIRATION



● VERBAL INSPIRATION

1 Corinthians 2:11–13 (NKJV)

¹¹ For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, ...

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

PLENARY, VERBAL INSPIRATION



● VERBAL INSPIRATION

1 Corinthians 2:11–13 (NKJV)
that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. ¹³ These things we also speak, **not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches,** comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

PLENARY, VERBAL INSPIRATION



● PLENARY INSPIRATION

2 Timothy 3:16–17 (NKJV)

¹⁶ All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

PLENARY, VERBAL INSPIRATION

WHAT THEY SAID

**Matthew 10:19–20
(NKJV)**

¹⁹ But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; ²⁰ for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.

INSPIRED

WHAT THEY WROTE

**2 Peter 1:20–21
(NKJV)**

²⁰ knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹ for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.



THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

PLENARY, VERBAL INSPIRATION

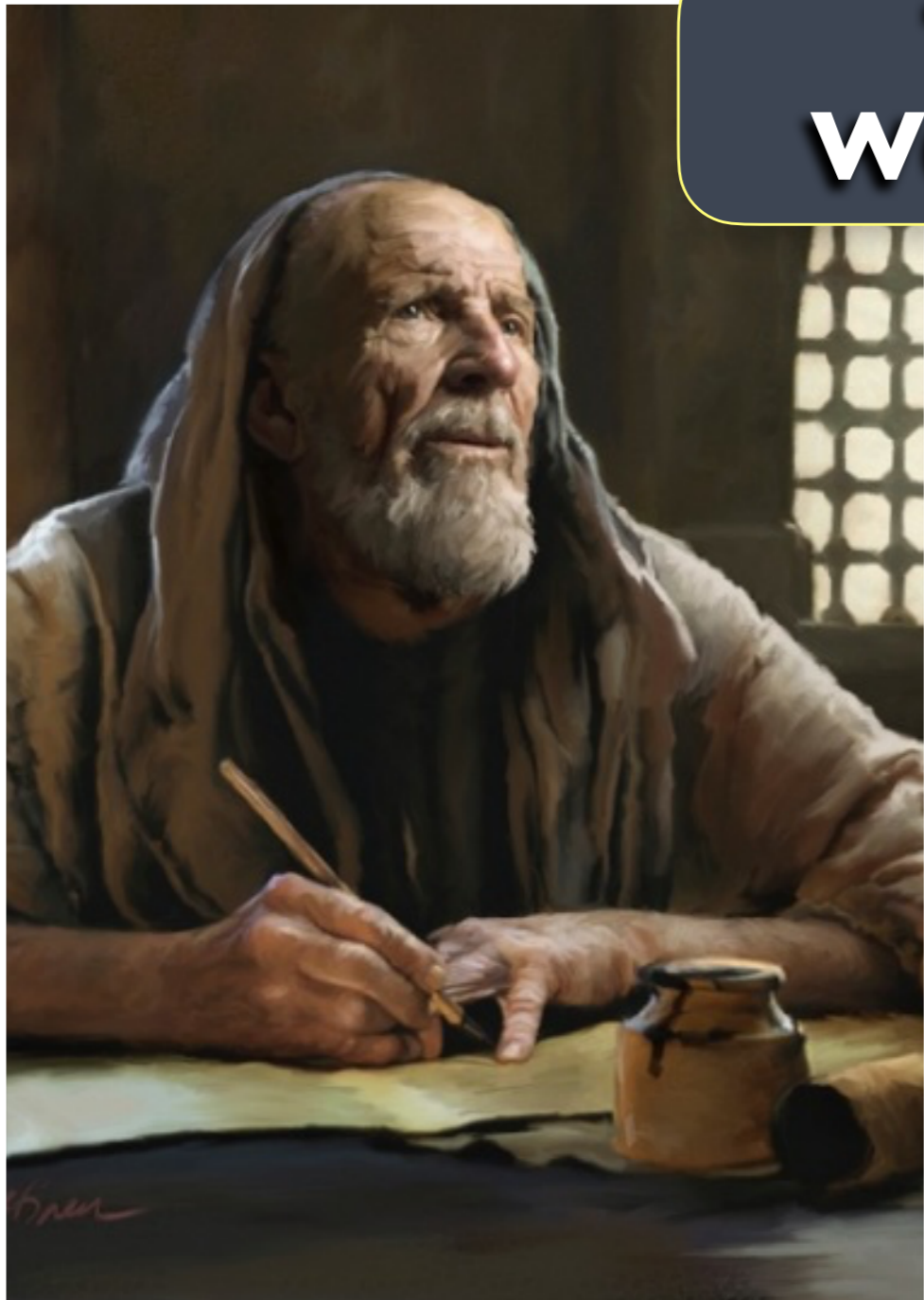


- Words were inspired (Mat 10:19-20; 1 Cor. 2:13).
- Tense is inspired (Mat 22:31,32).
- The grammatical number is inspired (Gal 3:16).
- Smallest letter & Mark Irrevocable (Mat 5:18).
- Unbreakable (John 10:35).
- Final Authority (Mat 4:4; Gal. 1:6-9; Rev. 22:18,19).

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

PLENARY, VERBAL INSPIRATION

THE MEANING & USE OF WORDS IS VERY IMPORTANT



- Baptism - “Baptizo” – immersion; “Rantizo” – sprinkling; “Cheo” – pouring.
- For, - gar gar gar –for this cause, therefore; (Mat. 26:28)
- For, - peri peri per-ee’ on account of, because of; (Mat. 26:28)
- For, - eis - 1) into, unto, to, to-wards, for, among - (Mat. 26:28; Acts 2:38)

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

PLENARY, VERBAL INSPIRATION



- When the Bible writers spoke or wrote, they did so by inspiration.
- God gave them the idea and then selected and chose from their vocabulary the words to be used in making the idea known.
- Both the thought and the words by which the thought was made known are equally inspired.
- Thus, every word in every part of the original manuscript is there because The Holy Spirit directed it to be there . . .

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INSPIRATION & INTERPRETATION



- Even though the Bible is God's revelation, it must still be interpreted.
- Interpretation has to do with our reception and understanding of that which God revealed and recorded.
- Revelation is a divine act. Interpretation is a human responsibility.
- Divine inspiration guarantees the truthfulness of God's word but not the accuracy of our interpretation.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INSPIRATION & INTERPRETATION



- The Bible is infallible in all it affirms to be true and therefore absolutely reliable. (Ps. 19:7; Jn 10:35)
- We, however, may be fallible in our interpretation and application of the Bible. (Jn 5:39-47)

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INSPIRATION & INTERPRETATION



- The BIBLE Is RIGHT - For us to be right we must correctly understand & apply the Bible.
- ▶ **Honesty & Humility** (Prov. 1:7; Acts 17:11,12; Isa. 66:2).
- ▶ Realize **TRUTH matters** (John 8:32)
- ▶ **Hunger** - Develop a love for God & His word and desire to please Him (Mt 5:6)
- ▶ **Zeal** - Be diligent in your search for truth (2 Tim 2:15)

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

A detailed oil painting depicting a scribe in a historical setting. The scribe's hands are the central focus, with the right hand holding a quill pen and writing on a large, unrolled scroll. The left hand rests on the scroll, guiding it. The scribe is wearing a simple, light-colored tunic. In the background, a wooden desk holds various writing tools: a quill holder with several quills, a small wooden container, and a rolled-up scroll. The lighting is warm and focused on the writing area, creating a sense of concentration and historical authenticity.

What is your attitude towards
the word of God? (1 Thes. 2:13)

Henri Fuselier

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE



Do you accept the Bible as God's
word & tremble (Isaiah 66:2)

Ken Feltner

THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE



God's word will judge us - Are You
Ready? (John 12:48)

Ken Feltner



THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

**Do You
Believe The
Bible?**

- 👁️ **HEAR (Rom 10:17)**
- 👁️ **BELIEVE (Jn 8:24)**
- 👁️ **CONFESS (Rom. 10:9,10)**
- 👁️ **REPENT (Acts 17:30)**
- 👁️ **BE BAPTIZED (Acts 22:16)**
- 👁️ **WALK IN TRUTH (1 Jn. 1:7-9; 2 Jn 4)**



THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE

Charts by Don McClain

Preached August 22, 2021

West 65th Street church of Christ/ P.O. Box 190062 / Little Rock AR 72219 / 501-568-1062

Prepared using Keynote

Email – donmcclain@sbcglobal.net

Our Website: w65stchurchofchrist.com

2 Peter 1:19–21 (NKJV)

¹⁹ And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; ²⁰ knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, ²¹ for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.