

# The Scriptures Inspired

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## 1 Thessalonians 2:13

- <sup>13</sup> And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.



## The Scriptures Inspired:

- The Scriptures, both the Old and New Testaments, are verbally inspired of God and are the revelation of God to man, the infallible, the authoritative rule of faith and conduct.



## The Authoritative Rule

- 2 Tim 3:16-17
- <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.



## 3 basic kinds of religious authority:

- 1. Human Reason
- 2. The Church
- 3. The Word of God



## 1. Human Reason

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- Rationality is not to be confused with Rationalism.
- Rationalism is the belief that the highest authority is human reason.



## 1. Human Reason

- Normally people, who believe in rationalism, end up using their own reasoning as the ultimate authority in their life.
- **Judges 21:25**
- **<sup>25</sup> In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit.**



## 2. The Church

- The second common belief is that the church is the final authority.
- There are many within this group that believe the Church produced the New Testament and therefore has a certain authority over it.
- "Apostolic Succession"



## 2. The Church

- The truth is that Christ, after His resurrection, along with the Holy Spirit put the church in motion.
- Shortly thereafter God inspired the writers of the New Testament and the new covenant was recorded on paper.



## 3. The Word of God

- The third alternative is to simply trust completely in the authority of the Word of God.
- For this to work, one must believe that God is "Self Disclosing".
- That He wishes to communicate with His creation.



## John 1:1-5

- **1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. **4** In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. **5** The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.



## Hebrews 1:1-2

- **1** In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, **2** but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.



## The Word

- God sent His Son.
- This is the ultimate form of communication.
- Face to face with the incarnate God.
- Just as Jesus is the living Word, the Bible is the written Word.



## Romans 10:17

- **<sup>17</sup> Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.**



## Psalm 119:11

- **<sup>11</sup> I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.**



There are at least two more ways God chooses to speak:

- 1. Through His creation.
- **Rom. 1:20**
- **<sup>20</sup> For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.**



- 2. Through our consciences.
- **Rom 2:14-15**
- **<sup>14</sup> (Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. <sup>15</sup> They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.)**



## "The Scriptures inspired"

- **2 Tim 3:16**
- **<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed...**
- The Greek word here is "Theopneustos" and it means literally "God-Breathed".
- It would fit very closely our definition of "Inspired".



### Regarding the manner of inspiration:

- One Theory... "Mechanical Dictation"
- But, Writing styles, vocabulary and personalities are easily distinguishable throughout the text.



### 2 Pet 1:19-21

- <sup>19</sup> We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.
- <sup>20</sup> Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. <sup>21</sup> For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.



- Jesus declared His acceptance of the inspiration of the Old Testament
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- Matt. 5:18
- <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.



### What about the New Testament?

- John 14:26
- <sup>26</sup> But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.



### The really cool part:

- Just as He gave the writers understanding and lead them in the meaning of the Word.
- He also gives the reader the same understanding.
- In this way there is continuity both in the language and in the thought.



### And finally...

- Psalm 119:43 <sup>43</sup> Never take your word of truth from my mouth, for I have put my hope in your laws.

