



Why I believe the Bible to Be the Word of God

Faith's Foundation Series

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Lesson 1

2 Timothy 3:14-16, "But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

First: Are you a servant of God? (v. 17)

Second: How do you know?

Third: Is your salvation grounded in FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS (v. 15b)?

If you have placed your faith in Christ Jesus, are you willing to be a servant of Jesus Christ?

You do know that you have a choice to be a servant...and the freedom to accept servanthood or freedom to do as you choose...Don't you?

If you have chosen to be a servant...you have access to the greatest tool and friend ever placed in man's hands and heart!

(1) The Bible—The Word of God.

(2) The Holy Spirit providing you access to God's nuggets of truth.

(3) The ability given by the Holy Spirit to understand the Holy Scriptures.

Scriptures are Foundational to Faith.

- ***They are "inspired by God"... meaning "God breathed."***

The Greek word theopneustos, which means "God-breathed, inspired by God, due to the inspiration of God," but other scriptural passages support the basic premise of Scripture being inspired by God.

The power of the breath of God in divine inspiration pervades Scripture.

- ✓ God breathed “the breath of life” into Adam (Genesis 2:7), and
- ✓ Jesus “breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit’” (John 20:22).
- ✓ In 2 Peter 1:21 we are told that “prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

Here we see the truths of Scripture described as coming directly from God, not from the will of the writers He used to record them.

- ✓ Peter notes that Paul writes “with the wisdom that God gave him” and that failure to take heed to these messages is done at the peril of the readers (2 Peter 3:15–16).
 - ✓ Scripture comes from the Holy Spirit, who gives it to us “in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words” (1 Corinthians 2:13).
 - ✓ The Berean believers faithfully used the inspired Word of God to check Paul’s adherence to the Word as they “examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true” (Acts 17:11).
- ***They are “informative”... meaning, they give us the basic instructions to life.***
 - ***They are “instrumental”... meaning they provide the way of salvation.***

The problem with the information given us as basic instructions for life is that there are those who write for their own benefit in lieu of for God’s glory.

Be sure to double check instructions for life with the true Word of God...making sure the instructions given are “God approved.”

“The Bible is our all-sufficient rule for faith and practice. ”

The #1 Fundamental Truths of the Assemblies of God is:

1. The Scriptures Are Inspired of God

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

- **2 Timothy 3:15-17** (quoted above)

- **1 Thessalonians 2:13**, “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.”
- **2 Peter 1:21**, “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.”

Important Belief or Testimonial Truth:

- **The Bible is an invaluable collection of “sacred, credible, factual and infallible” ancient texts, written, assembled (fitted and joined together) over several hundreds of years by numerous authors.**
- **These texts were written to particular people living at a definite time and place who shared common experiences and knowledge. However, the Bible is also written that men might:**
 - ✓ “..believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing (they) may have life in His name” (John 20:31),
 - ✓ Come to know the Savior in a personal way...and be willing to share the “good news” and “...go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I (Jesus) have commanded you...” (Matthew 28:19-20a),
 - ✓ Continue to “study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that does not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Timothy, 2:15) after the initial salvation experience.

It is relevant for the proper understanding of the Word of God, however, to believe that “all Scripture is given by inspiration of God (God breathed), and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, ‘thoroughly’ furnished unto all good works” (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

The Bible, therefore, is inspired, approved, and “determined” by God.

Man has “discovered” these truths and placed it in written form (the canon) to provide man with the means to know the truth and in which to live according to God’s principles.

In a real sense, Christ is the key to the inspiration and canonization of the Scriptures. *It was He who confirmed the inspiration of the Hebrew canon of the Old Testament; and it was He who promised that the Holy Spirit would direct the apostles into all truth.*

Knowing that the canon, the Bible, the inspired Word of God, has been established, it is applicable to understand that there are many books and writings that were written over the years that were considered

inspirational and historical, but not inspired (God breathed) by the Holy and Righteous God.

What are some inspirational books that you felt was approved by God, but not worthy of being called “God Inspired.?”

The Ability Given by the Holy Spirit to Understand the Scriptures.

“The divine nature of God provides spiritual illumination to the born-again (John 3:3) believer – beginning at the point of his conversion from being under self-rule, to humbling one’s self of yielding to the drawing power of the Holy Spirit of the living God. The fall of Adam tainted the entire human race; thereby, all off-spring have inherited his sin nature. God’s holy Word reveals sin as being anything we think, say, or do that breaks God’s laws.¹

Regeneration brings the illumination of divine revelation of the inspiration of Sacred Scripture to the new nature of man so that he may see the lost state found in the degradation of man and flee from it into the arms of a waiting Father who longs for him to become all He intended from the beginning.

The light of the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit shines upon the world around the new man revealing the truth of Jesus Christ: the crucified Savior of the world: resurrected, manifested, ascended, and seated on the throne beside His Father in heaven (Revelation 3:21). The work of the Creator points back to a timeless Supreme Being and is revealed as the Author of His Word.

The Person of the Holy Spirit, while being equal to the Father and the Son, is subject to the Father and the Son. His work within a Christian will always complement the administrative work of the Father and the Son. The Bible reveals that the Triune God is One in essence yet three identified persons all at work within the life of each individual whom He chooses and draws to Himself. Spirit-filled Christians are called to let their lights shine while being the salt of the earth and causing others to thirst for the truth of the Living Water (Genesis 1:3; Ephesians 5:8; Matthew 5:13; John 4:10).

Spiritual illumination by the Holy Spirit will enlighten the hearts of all who respond to the redemptive work of Jesus Christ and resolve to become a student of the Word of God.

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Conclusion: Make sure your foundational truths are based on the Bible...the true Word of God. It will keep you informed and ready for action as a main player in God's drama of life