

The Bible Version Issue - Part 2

This week, we'll be looking at the Bible basis for the Text of Inspiration.

We will examine the Word

what the Bible IS and where it is and what claims it makes of itself.

The Bible professes that - every word that is written down was breathed out of God's mouth.

2 Tim 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

Paul quoted Moses' writings and Matthew's writings and Luke's writings, and called them scripture:

1 Tim 5:18 For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.

Deut 25:4 Thou shalt not muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn.

Matt 10:10 Nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat.

Luke 10:7 And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house.

It is important to remember: It is the written words on the page that are inspired -

NOT the writers! The importance is on the words ... not the writers.

The Bible is dictation --- not composition. God said it --- and man wrote it down.

Whatever the scripture says, God said.

Luke wrote (and Peter said) that God spoke when David spoke about Judas. David wrote Psa. 41:9 and it was called it 'scripture':

Acts 1:16 Men and brethren, this scripture must needs have been fulfilled, which the Holy Ghost by the mouth of David spake before concerning Judas, which was guide to them that took Jesus.

In Mark, we see the same explanation. David spoke by God, and he wrote down those words of God in Psalms 110:1:

Mark 12:35-36 And Jesus answered and said, while he taught in the temple, How say the scribes that Christ is the Son of David?

36 For David himself said by the Holy Ghost, The LORD said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool.

When Paul was talking, he quoted Isaiah writings, and said that it was God that spoke it. We'll read in Acts which is a quote from Isa. 6:9-10:

Acts 28:25-27 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias the prophet unto our fathers,

26 Saying, Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:

27 For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed; lest they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

Again, Hebrews 3:7-11, does the same thing, quoting Psa. 95:7-11. David wrote it, but the scripture says that God said it:

Heb 3:7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, To day if ye will hear his voice,

Heb 10:15 Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, (then He quoted Jer. 31:33)

They quoted what was WRITTEN down!

Two common objections to the KJV are these:

(Objection # 1)

Matt 2:17-18 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, 18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

That was spoken by Jeremiah but Jeremiah did not write it down. Just because he said it, that does not mean he HAD to have written it.

When God's word is written down it is called scripture. Everything God spoke, everything God did, was not written down --- but what was written down is scripture:

John 21:24-25 This is the disciple which testified of these things, and wrote these things: and we know that his testimony is true.

25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

(Objection # 2)

Compare two passages -- Matt. 27 and Zech 11:

Matt 27:9-10 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying, And they took the thirty pieces of silver, the price of him that was valued, whom they of the children of Israel did value;

10 And gave them for the potter's field, as the Lord appointed me.

Jeremiah spoke it but did not write it --- someone else did.

Zechariah is the person who actually wrote it down:

Zech 11:12-13 And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver.

13 And the LORD said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prized at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD.

Next, let's look at a place where the scripture specifically says it is WRITTEN in the prophet^S (plural - more than one prophet). KJV is correct, because the next two verses we read are written in two different prophets. The 1st quote is from Malachi 3:1. The 2nd quote is from Isa. 40:3. Mark 1:2 is a verse where the other versions have it wrong:

Mark 1:2-3 (KJV) As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

Notice carefully how the NIV (New International Version) reads:

Mark 1:2-3 (NIV) It is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way" The reference verse given in the margin of the NIV for verse 2 is Malachi 3:1. There is an admitted mistake because this verse is not written in Isaiah like the NIV says it is.

3 "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

The NASV (New American Standard Version) does the exact same thing as the NIV. It reads that BOTH quotes are written only in Isaiah --- when really just the 2nd one is. The 1st quote is written in Malachi. The NIV and NAS are both simply wrong:

Mark 1:2-3 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, “Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way;

3 “The voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘Make ready the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.’”

That is an example of 2 very important points:

(Point # 1)

It is important to translate the actual words --- word for word --- which is what the KJV is.

(Point # 2)

It is also important to translate from the correct manuscripts --- which is what the KJV is from. Our bible is translated from the ‘Majority Text’ manuscripts. They are also called the Received Text, because that is the Text that the Majority Received. The ‘majority’ were the believers. The Received Text is the Text Received. The Latin words for Text Received are ‘Textus Receptus.’

Next, let’s see that

There is a DESIGN in inspiration.

The design is this: God takes the written word and makes it equal to Himself.

The written word is also the living word. What is written down is yet alive:

Heb 4:12 For the word of God is quick (that’s ‘alive’), and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

God’s word has energy and strength. When you read it it reads you!

God’s word reveals your hidden motives. The Word of God comes out of God’s mouth:

Rev 19:13, 15a And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

15 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword,

God's word also has the ability to foresee just like God does:

Gal 3:8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

God's word can also preach just like God does. Abraham didn't even have a Bible. Moses wrote it down about 500 years later after that. It was GOD Himself that preached to Abraham, but that verse said the scripture did it, thereby making the voice of God the same as the words of God. Duh????

The scripture uses God and the scripture INTER-CHANGABLY. He makes Himself and His word the same thing. Inspiration is the very words out of God's mouth.

Next, let's read

The PROCESS by Which Inspiration is Accomplished:

Notice that Peter gave an **experience** he had which was unmistakably the AUDIBLE voice of God coming from heaven then he follows that by explaining that the scriptures that are written down are 'more sure' than the eye-witness account:

2 Peter 1:16-21 For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

There you have it plainly in a nutshell --- HOW inspiration was carried out.

Now, we will see that the scripture SPECIFICALLY says that it is the W-O-R-D-S

--- NOT just the 'ideas' or 'concepts' ---- that God teaches:

1 Cor 2:12-13 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

Let's read some verses that demonstrate inspiration. Notice how the scripture views itself:

Jesus told the Sadducees that they could read the scripture to know what God spoke to them. Moses wrote down the words God said back in Exo. 3:6 that Jesus referred to as 'scripture':

Matt 22:29-32 Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God.

30 For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.

31 But as touching the resurrection of the dead, **have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God**, saying,

32 I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.

Here is an account where God channeled His word through different men. Moses had told the Lord in Exo. 4:10, that he was not eloquent, but was slow of speech, and of a slow tongue. Although God made man's mouth, He passed His word through Moses on to his brother Aaron yet it remained GOD's word:

Exo 4:15 And thou (**Moses**) shalt speak unto him (**Aaron**), and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.

Exo 4:28 And Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him.

Exo 4:30 And Aaron spake all the words which the LORD had spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people.

Exo 19:25 So Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them.

Exo 20:1 And God spake all these words, saying,

God told Moses to write his word in a book. That was the beginning of the Bible:

Exo 17:14 And the LORD said unto Moses, **Write this for a memorial in a book**, and rehearse it in the ears of Joshua: for I will utterly put out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven.

Exo 34:27 And the LORD said unto Moses, **Write thou these words**: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel.

Balaam had contracted with Balak to curse Israel. But instead, blessing came out of his mouth. How do we know about it? It is written in the book:

Num 22:38 And Balaam said unto Balak, Lo, I am come unto thee: have I now any power at all to say any thing? the word that God putteth in my mouth, that shall I speak.

King David knew he was speaking God's Holy Word. He penned the things he spoke:

2 Sam 23:1-2 Now these be the last words of David. David the son of Jesse said, and the man who was raised up on high, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, said,

2 The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and his word was in my tongue.

Isaiah recognized he was writing God's Word:

Isa 8:1 Moreover the LORD said unto me, Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man's pen concerning Mahershalalhashbaz.

Jeremiah knew he was speaking God's Word. He also wrote the things he said:

Jer 1:4-9 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

6 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.

7 But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.

8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

9 Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth.

Jer 5:14 Wherefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, Because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them.

Jer 6:18 Therefore hear, ye nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. 19 Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it.

Jer 36:1-2 And it came to pass in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that this word came unto Jeremiah from the LORD, saying,
2 Take thee a roll of a book, and write therein all the words that I have spoken unto thee against Israel, and against Judah, and against all the nations, from the day I spake unto thee, from the days of Josiah, even unto this day.

God inspired the WORDS then Jeremiah dictated God's words to Baruch ... who wrote them in a book. Here the transmission of the scriptures came from God (the words were God-breathed) --- into a man's mouth --- out of the man's mouth --- into another man's ears --- through that man's ears ---- onto the roll of a book. Here again, God's word was channeled through two men:

Jer 36:4-6 Then Jeremiah called Baruch the son of Neriah: and Baruch wrote from the mouth of Jeremiah all the words of the LORD, which he had spoken unto him, upon a roll of a book.

5 And Jeremiah commanded Baruch, saying, I am shut up; I cannot go into the house of the LORD:

6 Therefore go thou, and read in the roll, which thou hast written from my mouth, the words of the LORD in the ears of the people in the LORD'S house upon the fasting day: and also thou shalt read them in the ears of all Judah that come out of their cities.

Jer 36:8 And Baruch the son of Neriah did according to all that Jeremiah the prophet commanded him, reading in the book the words of the LORD in the LORD'S house.

The prophet Ezekiel was aware that God was speaking through him. He also wrote God's message:

Ezek 2:1-2 And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.

2 And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me.

Ezek 3:10-11 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, all my words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears.

11 And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear.

John knew he was writing God's word:

Rev 1:10-11 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

11 Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea.

Notice the importance God places on the individual, exact words. Don't mess with them:

Rev 22:18-19 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book:

19 And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Prov 30:5-6 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

6 Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar.

Paul heard the words of Jesus out of His mouth:

Acts 22:14-15 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth.

15 For thou shalt be his witness unto all men of what thou hast seen and heard.

Gal 1:11-12 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Eph 3:1-4 For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,

2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:

3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,

4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

1 Tim 6:3-5 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness;
4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings,
5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

We should back off from relationships with people who don't believe the Bible.

The 'Bible issue' is of utmost importance. It is the very basis for our faith and salvation.

The WORDS were inspired by God --- not the MEN.

This is David Dowell, saying, "Think about it!"