

Is The Bible Inspired?

The Bible Claims Inspiration

- “For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”
—2 Peter 1:21

The Bible Claims Inspiration

- “and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.” —2 Timothy 3:15-17

The Bible Claims Inspiration

- “For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.” —1 Corinthians 2:11-13

The Bible Claims Inspiration

➤ Three Points

- The Spirit Of Man Knows What Man Is Thinking
- The Apostles Have Received The Spirit Of God – Hence, They Know His Thoughts
- God's Thoughts Have Been Put Down In Words Which That Spirit Taught Men

Theories Of Inspiration

- Dictation Theory
 - Readily Seen Personality Styles Are Seen Throughout – Mark Differs In Style From Luke, etc.
 - These Men Wrote According To Their Cultural Backgrounds
 - Yet, The Spirit of God Worked Through These Men To Produce The Text The God Wanted Produced

Theories Of Inspiration

- Flute Theory

- Songs Sound Different When Played On Different Instruments: Like Yankee Doodle On A Piano As Opposed To A Flute
- Some See That The Writers Wrote The Books, Especially The Gospel Differently Because They Were Different Personalities
- Point Is They Are Both Playing The Same Tune, Without Any Errors, Not Missing Any Notes

Theories Of Inspiration

- Thought Theory

- The Idea That God Gave The Writers The Thoughts And They Wrote It How It Came To Mind
- This Method Appeals To Some Theologians Because It Allows That What We Have Are The Essential Thoughts Of God, But The Words Were Not From God, But The Writer
- Places The Writings In The Realm Of Opinion

Theories Of Inspiration

- Plenary Verbal Inspiration
 - Plenary = Complete, Entire / Verbal = Every Word
 - What The Disciples Wrote Is What God Wanted Them To Write
 - Compare Inspiration To The Incarnation Of Christ

Three Approaches To Authority

- Old Liberal – Only Apply What Can Be Explained By Human Reason: Hence Denial Of Miraculous
- Neo-Orthodox or Existential – Only Accept As Authoritative What Appeals To Your Feelings – What Feels Good
- Conservative or Orthodox View – Since The Bible Appears To Consider Itself As Authoritative, Then It Behooves Us To Accept It In That Light