

THE BIBLE AS A WHOLE

Psalm 1 1 Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; 2 But his delight *is* in the law of the Lord, And in His law he meditates day and night. 3 He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper.

4 The ungodly *are* not so, But *are* like the chaff which the wind drives away. 5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. 6 For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

I. THE NATURE OF THE BIBLE

A. The Bible came through _____.

1. **God chose approximately _____ individuals** to be His instruments for writing the Bible. They came from almost every walk of life.

Moses scholar from the universities of Egypt

David shepherd, a warrior, a king

Daniel prime minister

_____ herdsman

Nehemiah cupbearer

Matthew tax collector

_____ doctor

Peter fisherman

Paul Rabbi

2. **God sent His message through men over a span of more than _____ years.** Moses wrote Genesis in the 1400s BC (The Exodus was around 1462.) The book of _____ is certainly about events during the patriarchal period, and nothing precludes the conclusion that it was written even before Moses' time. John was given the _____ between 70 and 96 AD. Therefore, it took 1500 years or more for the entirety of the Bible to be sent through the men God chose.

B. The Bible came from _____.

2 Pet. 1:21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as *they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.

While the men wrote it down, it is God who told them what to write. That is why there is consistency in the message. There is only one _____ author. God did not change over that 1500 years. He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

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,

“Inspiration” is the Greek word “theopneustos” God-_____. Throughout the Bible, the words of the Bible are called the Word of God and the Word of the Lord.

God is the _____ of all Scripture.

II. THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE**A. The _____ Of Inspiration**

Often people search for a single methodology by which God communicated His truth to men to record. Sometimes people argue, favoring one means of inspiration over another. The testimony of the Scriptures is that God used _____ means of inspiration. One means is not preferable over another. The fact is that through each of the means, God _____ out His Word to the recipient.

1. Inscription – God _____ it Himself.

Exodus 34:1 And the LORD said to Moses, “Cut two tablets of stone like the first *ones*, and I will write on *these* tablets the words that were on the first tablets which you broke.

2. Dictation – God dictated word for word, and the human author wrote it down.

Exodus 34:27 And the LORD said to Moses, “Cut two tablets of stone like the first *ones*, and I will write on *these* tablets the words that were on the first tablets which you broke.

3. _____ – God showed the author something and told him to write what he saw.

Revelation 1:11 saying, “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last,” and, “What you see, write in a book and send *it* to the seven churches

which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea.”

4. **Research** – God revealed the truth through the research of the author.

Luke 1:1-4 1 Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us, 2 just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us, 3 it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an orderly account, most excellent Theophilus, 4 that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed.

5. **Reporting first hand experiences** – God’s revelation came through the experiences of the author.

2 Peter 1:16 For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

6. **Teaching by the Holy Spirit** – God revealed truth through the _____ testimony of the indwelling Holy Spirit in the life of the author.

1 Corinthians 2:13 These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

B. The Results Of Inspiration

1. **Plenary (_____) Inspiration** – The whole Bible is inspired.
2. **Verbal Inspiration** – Every _____ is inspired.

The truth of Verbal Inspiration is in contrast with the popular modern theory called Dynamic Inspiration.

- a. **Verbal Inspiration** – each word of the _____ is inspired.
- b. **Dynamic Inspiration** – only the _____ were inspired, but the human authors selected the words as seemed best to them.

3. **Inerrant Inspiration** – in the original autographs, there are no _____.
4. **Infallible Inspiration** – it will not lead you astray.

III. THE STRUCTURE OF THE BIBLE

The Bible is composed of two testaments. Testament means _____.

OLD TESTAMENT	# of Books	NAMES OF THE BOOKS
Law	5	Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
History	_____	Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther
_____	5	Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song Of Solomon
Major Prophets	___	Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel
Minor Prophets	12	Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

NEW TESTAMENT	# of Books	NAMES OF THE BOOKS
Gospels	4	Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
History	1	Acts
Letters	21	Paul To _____ (Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians) _____ To Individuals (1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews) From Others (James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude)
Prophecy	1	_____

An interesting pattern: 5+12, 5, 5+12 = 39 books of the O.T.

3 x 9 = 27 books of the N.T.

IV. THE PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE

John 8:32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

God wants mankind to know the truth: the truth about Himself, His _____, His ways, and His _____. The purpose of the Bible is to reveal God to man, that people may come to know Him personally through faith in His Dear Son.

John 20:31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

But God not only wants us to become His children, He wants us to be made _____, sanctified, which means becoming more and more like Christ. So Jesus prayed for all who would believe:

John 17:17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

God gave us His Word to bring us to Christ and then make us like Christ. The Bible is not just an informational book. It is a _____ book. That is why the Scripture says,

James 1:22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

CONCLUSION: The story of Dr. Harry A. Ironside

Psalm 19:7–9

The law of the Lord *is* perfect, converting the soul;

The testimony of the Lord *is* sure, making wise the simple;

The statutes of the Lord *are* right, rejoicing the heart;

The commandment of the Lord *is* pure, enlightening the eyes;

The fear of the Lord *is* clean, enduring forever;

The judgments of the Lord *are* true *and* righteous altogether.