

~INSPIRATION (1963)

[Greek, *the-o'pneu-stos*]

- Results From The Operation Of God's Spirit
- Controlled By The Hand Of Yehowah
- How Writers Received Divine Direction
- Is Individuality Of Expression Consistent With Inspiration By God
- Heavenly Events And Activities
- Recognition Of Scriptures As Inspired
- Authority Of Copies And Translations
- Why Are There Differences In Wording Of Quotations
- Inspired Expressions, True And False

• The quality or state of being moved by or produced under the direction of a spirit from a superhuman source. When that source is Yehowah, the result is a pronouncement or writings that are truly the word of God. The apostle Paul stated at;

• All Scripture is **inspired** of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness. (2 Timothy 3:16)

• All Scripture is inspired of God. The phrase, **inspired of God** translates the compound Greek word *the-o'pneu-stos*, meaning, literally, **God-breathed** or **breathed by God**.

• This is the only occurrence of this Greek term in the Scriptures. Its use here clearly identifies God as the Source and Producer of the Sacred Scriptures, the Bible.

• Their being **God-breathed** finds some parallel in the expression found in the Hebrew Scriptures at;

• By the word of Yehowah the heavens themselves were made, and by the spirit of his mouth all their army. (Psalms 33:6)

•• Results From The Operation Of God's Spirit

• The means or agency for the **inspiration** of **all Scripture** was **God's Holy Spirit, or active force**. That Holy Spirit operated toward or upon men to move them and guide them in setting down God's message. Thus, the apostle Peter says of Bible prophecy:

- For you know this first, that no prophecy of Scripture springs from any private interpretation. (**2 Peter 1:20**)
- For prophecy was at no time brought by man's will, but men spoke from God as they were borne along by Holy Spirit. (**2 Peter 1:21**)
- The evidence shows that God's spirit operated on the minds and hearts of all the Bible writers to carry them along to the goal purposed by God. King David said; The spirit of Yehowah it was that spoke by me, and his word was upon my tongue.
- The spirit of Yehowah it was that spoke by me, and his word was upon my tongue. (**2 Samuel 23:2**)
- When Jesus quoted Psalms 110, he said that David had written it by **inspiration**, literally, in spirit
- He said to them; How, then, is it that David by **inspiration** calls him Lord, saying; (**Matthew 22:43**)
- The parallel passage in;
- By the Holy Spirit David himself said; Yehowah said to my Lord; Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies beneath your feet. (**Mark 12:36**)
- Reads, by the Holy Spirit.

See Also SPIRIT

- Even as Yehowah's spirit moved men or qualified them to perform other divine assignments the making of priestly garments and equipment for the tabernacle
- And you yourself are to speak to all the ones wise with a heart that I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, and they must make Aaron's garments for sanctifying him, that he may act as priest to me. (**Exodus 28:3**)
- Then Moses said to the sons of Israel; See, Yehowah has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri the son of Hur of the tribe of Judah. (**Exodus 35:30**)

- **And he proceeded to fill him with the spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding and in knowledge and in every sort of craftsmanship ([Exodus 35:31](#))**
- **And for designing devices, for working in gold and silver and copper. ([Exodus 35:32](#))**
- **And in working of stones to set them and in working of wood to make ingenious products of every sort. ([Exodus 35:33](#))**
- **And he has put it into his heart that he should teach, he and Oholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan. ([Exodus 35:34](#))**
- **He has filled them with wisdom of heart to do all the work of a craftsman and an embroiderer and of a weaver in blue thread and wool dyed reddish purple, in coccus scarlet material and fine linen, and of a loom worker, men doing every sort of work and designing devices. ([Exodus 35:35](#))**
- **Carrying the load of administration.**
- **And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hand upon him, and the sons of Israel began to listen to him and they went doing just as Yehowah had commanded Moses. ([Deuteronomy 34:9](#))**
- **Leading military forces.**
- **And the sons of Israel began to call to Yehowah for aid. Then Yehowah raised a savior up for the sons of Israel that he might save them, Othniel the son of Kenaz, the younger brother of Caleb. ([Judges 3:9](#))**
- **The spirit of Yehowah now came upon him, and he became the judge of Israel. When he went out to battle, then Yehowah gave Cushan-rishathaim the king of Syria into his hand so that his hand overpowered Cushan-rishathaim. ([Judges 3:10](#))**
- **And all Midian and Amalek and the Easterners gathered together as one and proceeded to cross over and camp in the low plain of Jezreel. ([Judges 6:33](#))**
- **And Yehowah's spirit enveloped Gideon so that he went blowing the horn, and the Abi-ezrites got to be called together after him.**

(Judges 6:34)

- So it enabled men to **record the Scriptures**. By means of that spirit, they could be **given wisdom, understanding, knowledge, counsel, and power, beyond what was normal** and according to their particular need.
- And upon him the spirit of Yehowah must settle down, the spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the spirit of counsel and of mightiness, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of Yehowah. **(Isaiah 11:2)**
- And, on the other hand, I myself have become full of power, with the spirit of Yehowah, and of justice and mightiness, in order to tell to Jacob his revolt and to Israel his sin. **(Micah 3:8)**
- But the manifestation of the spirit is given to each one for a beneficial purpose. **(1 Corinthians 12:7)**
- For example, to one there is given through the spirit speech of wisdom, to another speech of knowledge according to the same spirit. **(1 Corinthians 12:8)**
- David is stated to have received the architectural plan of the temple by **inspiration**, literally, by the spirit.
- Even the architectural plan of everything that had come to be with him by **inspiration** for the courtyards of Yehowah's house and for all the dining rooms all around, for the treasures of the house of the true God and for the treasures of the things made holy. **(1 Chronicles 28:12)**
- Jesus assured his apostles that God's spirit would help them, **teaching, guiding, and recalling to their minds the things they had heard from him, as well as revealing to them future things.**
- But the helper, the Holy Spirit, which the Father will send in my name, that one will teach you all things and bring back to your minds all the things I told you. **(John 14:26)**
- However, when that one arrives, the spirit of the truth, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak of his own impulse, but what things he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things coming. **(John 16:13)**

- This assured the truthfulness and accuracy of their Gospel accounts, including many lengthy quotations of Jesus speeches, even though John's Gospel account, for example, was written scores of years after the death of Jesus.

• Controlled By The Hand Of Yehowah

- The Bible writers, therefore, came under Yehowah's **hand**, or **guiding and controlling power**.

- And now you men fetch me a string-instrument player. And it occurred that, as soon as the string-instrument player played, the hand of Yehowah came to be upon him. (**2 Kings 3:15**)

- And he went on to say; This is what Yehowah has said; Let there be a making of this torrent valley full of ditches. (**2 Kings 3:16**)

- And the spirit bore me along and proceeded to take me, so that I went bitterly in the rage of my spirit, and the hand of Yehowah upon me was strong. (**Ezekiel 3:14**)

- And the hand of Yehowah came to be upon me there and he proceeded to say to me; Get up, go forth to the valley plain, and there I shall speak with you. (**Ezekiel 3:22**)

- Even as Yehowah's **hand** could cause his servants to speak or to keep silent at appointed times.

- And he continued saying to me; Son of man, go, enter in among the house of Israel, and you must speak with my words to them. (**Ezekiel 3:4**)

- And your very tongue I will make stick to the roof of your mouth, and you will certainly become mute, and you will not become to them a man administering reproof, because they are a rebellious house. (**Ezekiel 3:26**)

- And when I speak with you I shall open your mouth, and you must say to them; This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said. Let the one hearing hear, and let the one refraining refrain, because they are a rebellious house. (**Ezekiel 3:27**)

- Now the very hand of Yehowah had come to be upon me in the

evening before the coming of the escaped one, and He proceeded to open my mouth prior to that one's coming to me in the morning, and my mouth was opened and I proved to be speechless no longer. ([Ezekiel 33:22](#))

- So it could stimulate writing or act as a restraining force, it could prompt the writer to deal with certain matters or restrict him from including other material. The end product would, in every case, be that which Yehowah desired.

•• How Writers Received Divine Direction

- As the apostle states, God spoke in many ways to his servants in pre-Christian times.
- God, who long ago spoke on many occasions and in many ways to our forefathers by means of the prophets. ([Hebrews 1:1](#))
- Has at the end of these days spoken to us by means of a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the systems of things. ([Hebrews 1:2](#))
- In at least one case, that of the Ten Commandments, or Decalogue, the information was divinely supplied in written form, merely requiring copying into the scrolls or other material used by Moses.
- Now as soon as he had finished speaking with him on Mount Sinai he proceeded to give Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone written on by God's finger. ([Exodus 31:18](#))
- At that particular time Yehowah said to me; Carve for yourself two tablets of stone like the first ones, and come up to me into the mountain, and you must make an ark of wood for yourself. ([Deuteronomy 10:1](#))
- And I shall write upon the tablets the words that appeared on the first tablets, which you shattered, and you must place them in the ark. ([Deuteronomy 10:2](#))
- So I made an ark of acacia wood and carved two tablets of stone like the first ones and went up into the mountain, and the two tablets were in my hand. ([Deuteronomy 10:3](#))

- **Then he wrote upon the tablets the same writing as the first, the Ten Words, which Yehowah had spoken to you in the mountain out of the middle of the fire in the day of the congregation, after which Yehowah gave them to me. (Deuteronomy 10:4)**
- **Then I turned and went down from the mountain and placed the tablets in the ark that I had made, that they might continue there, just as Yehowah had commanded me. (Deuteronomy 10:5)**
- **In other cases, information was transmitted by verbal dictation, word for word. When presenting the large body of Laws and statutes of God's covenant with Israel, Yehowah instructed Moses; Write down for yourself these words.**
- **And Yehowah went on to say to Moses; Write down for yourself these words, because it is in accordance with these words that I do conclude a covenant with you and Israel. (Exodus 34:27)**
- **The prophets also were often given specific messages to deliver, and these were then recorded, forming part of the Scriptures.**
- **But Micaiah said; As Yehowah is living, what Yehowah will say to me, that is what I shall speak. (1 Kings 22:14)**
- **And Yehowah went on to say to me; Do not say; I am but a boy. But to all those to whom I shall send you, you should go, and everything that I shall command you, you should speak. (Jeremiah 1:7)**
- **And the word of Yehowah proceeded to occur to me, saying; (Jeremiah 2:1)**
- **The word that occurred to Jeremiah from Yehowah, saying; (Jeremiah 11:1)**
- **Hear the words of this covenant, you men! And you must speak them to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. (Jeremiah 11:2)**
- **And you must say to them, This is what Yehowah the God of Israel has said; Cursed is the man that does not listen to the words of this covenant. (Jeremiah 11:3)**
- **Which I commanded your forefathers in the day of my bringing**

- them out of the land of Egypt, out of the furnace of iron, saying; Obey my voice, and you must do things according to all that I command you, and you will certainly become my people and I myself shall become your God. (**Jeremiah 11:4**)
- For the purpose of carrying out the oath that I swore to your forefathers, to give them the land flowing with milk and honey, as in this day. And I proceeded to answer and say; Amen, O Yehowah. (**Jeremiah 11:5**)
 - And he continued saying to me; Son of man, go, enter in among the house of Israel, and you must speak with my words to them. (**Ezekiel 3:4**)
 - Then the spirit of Yehowah fell upon me, and he went on to say to me; say; This is what Yehowah has said; You people said the right thing, O house of Israel, and as regards the things that come up in your spirit, I myself have known it. (**Ezekiel 11:5**)
 - **Among still other methods used for conveying information to the Bible writers were dreams and visions. Dreams, or night visions as they were sometimes called, evidently superimposed a picture of God's message or purpose on the mind of the sleeping person.**
 - Then it was that to Daniel in a night vision the secret was revealed. Consequently Daniel himself blessed the God of heaven. (**Daniel 2:19**)
 - In the first year of Belshazzar the king of Babylon, Daniel himself beheld a dream and visions of his head upon his bed. At that time he wrote down the dream itself. The complete account of the matters he told. (**Daniel 7:1**)
 - **Visions given while the person was conscious were an even more frequently used vehicle of communication of God's thoughts to the mind of the writer, the revelation being impressed pictorially upon the conscious mind.**
 - Now it came about in the thirtieth year, in the fourth month, on the fifth day of the month, while I was in the midst of the exiled people by the river Chebar, that the heavens were opened and I began to see visions of God. (**Ezekiel 1:1**)
 - In the third year of the kingship of Belshazzar the king, there

- was a vision that appeared to me, even me, Daniel, after the one appearing to me at the start. ([Daniel 8:1](#))
- **And this is how I saw the horses in the vision, and those seated on them, they had fire-red and hyacinth-blue and sulphur-yellow breastplates, and the heads of the horses were as heads of lions, and out of their mouths fire and smoke and sulphur issued forth. ([Revelation 9:17](#))**
 - **Some visions were received when the person had fallen into a trance. Though conscious, the person apparently was so absorbed by the vision received during the trance as to be oblivious to all else around him.**
 - **The next day as they were pursuing their journey and were approaching the city, Peter went up to the housetop about the sixth hour to pray. ([Acts of Apostles 10:9](#))**
 - **But he became very hungry and wanted to eat. While they were preparing, he fell into a trance ([Acts of Apostles 10:10](#))**
 - **And beheld heaven opened and some sort of vessel descending like a great linen sheet being let down by its four extremities upon the earth. ([Acts of Apostles 10:11](#))**
 - **And in it there were all sorts of four-footed creatures and creeping things of the earth and birds of heaven. ([Acts of Apostles 10:12](#))**
 - **And a voice came to him; Rise, Peter, slaughter and eat! ([Acts of Apostles 10:13](#))**
 - **But Peter said; Not at all, Lord, because never have I eaten anything defiled and unclean. ([Acts of Apostles 10:14](#))**
 - **And the voice spoke again to him, the second time; You stop calling defiled the things God has cleansed. ([Acts of Apostles 10:15](#))**
 - **This occurred a third time, and immediately the vessel was taken up into heaven. ([Acts of Apostles 10:16](#))**
 - **Now while Peter was in great perplexity inwardly over what the vision he had seen might mean, look! The men dispatched by**

- Cornelius had made inquiries for Simon's house and stood there at the gate. ([Acts of Apostles 10:17](#))
- I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, some sort of vessel descending like a great linen sheet being let down by its four extremities from heaven, and it came clear to me. ([Acts of Apostles 11:5](#))
 - Gazing into it, I made observations and saw four-footed creatures of the earth and wild beasts and creeping things and birds of heaven. ([Acts of Apostles 11:6](#))
 - I also heard a voice say to me; Rise, Peter, slaughter and eat! ([Acts of Apostles 11:7](#))
 - But I said; Not at all, Lord, because a defiled or unclean thing has never entered into my mouth. ([Acts of Apostles 11:8](#))
 - The second time the voice from heaven answered; You stop calling defiled the things God has cleansed. ([Acts of Apostles 11:9](#))
 - This occurred for a third time, and everything was pulled up again into heaven. ([Acts of Apostles 11:10](#))
 - But when I had returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance. ([Acts of Apostles 22:17](#))
 - And saw him saying to me, Hurry up and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not agree to your witness concerning me. ([Acts of Apostles 22:18](#))
 - And I said; Lord, they themselves well know that I used to imprison and flog in one synagogue after another those believing upon you. ([Acts of Apostles 22:19](#))
 - And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being spilled, I myself was also standing by and approving and guarding the outer garments of those doing away with him. ([Acts of Apostles 22:20](#))
 - And yet he said to me, Get on your way, because I shall send you out to nations far off. ([Acts of Apostles 22:21](#))

See Also VISION

- **Angelic messengers were used on many occasions to transmit the divine messages.**
- **For if the word spoken through angels proved to be firm, and every transgression and disobedient act received a retribution in harmony with justice. ([Hebrews 2:2](#))**
- **Such messengers played a larger part in the transmission of information than is at times apparent. Thus, whereas the Law given to Moses is presented as spoken by God, both Stephen and Paul show that God used his angels in transmitting that legal code.**
- **You who received the Law as transmitted by angels but have not kept it. ([Acts of Apostles 7:53](#))**
- **Why, then, the Law? It was added to make transgressions manifest, until the seed should arrive to whom the promise had been made, and it was transmitted through angels by the hand of a mediator. ([Galatians 3:19](#))**
- **Since the angels spoke in Yehowah's name, the message they presented could therefore properly be called the word of Yehowah.**
- **But Yehowah's angel began calling to him out of the heavens and saying; Abraham, Abraham! To which he answered; Here I am! ([Genesis 22:11](#))**
- **And he went on to say; Do not put out your hand against the boy and do not do anything at all to him, for now I do know that you are God-fearing in that you have not withheld your son, your only one, from me. ([Genesis 22:12](#))**
- **And Yehowah's angel proceeded to call to Abraham the second time out of the heavens. ([Genesis 22:15](#))**
- **And to say; By myself I do swear, is the utterance of Yehowah, that by reason of the fact that you have done this thing and you have not withheld your son, your only one. ([Genesis 22:16](#))**
- **I shall surely bless you and I shall surely multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens and like the grains of sand that are on the seashore, and your seed will take possession of the gate of**

his enemies. (**Genesis 22:17**)

- And by means of your seed all nations of the earth will certainly bless themselves due to the fact that you have listened to my voice. (**Genesis 22:18**)
- On the twenty-fourth day of the eleventh month, that is, the month Shebat, in the second year of Darius, the word of Yehowah occurred to Zechariah the son of Berechiah the son of Iddo the prophet, saying; (**Zechariah 1:7**)
- And so I said; Who are these, my lord? At that the angel who was speaking with me said to me; I myself shall show you who these very ones are. (**Zechariah 1:9**)
- No matter what the particular means employed for the transmission of the messages, all parts of the Scriptures would be of the same quality, all of them being **inspired**, or **God-breathed**.

•• **Is Individuality Of Expression Consistent With Inspiration By God**

- The evidence indicates, however, that the men used by God to record the Scriptures were not merely automatons, simply recording dictated material.
- We read concerning the apostle John that the **God-breathed** Revelation was presented to him through God's angel **in signs** and that John then, bore witness to the word God gave and to the witness Jesus Christ gave, even to all the things he saw.
- A revelation by Jesus Christ, which God gave him, to show his slaves the things that must shortly take place. And he sent forth his angel and presented it in signs through him to his slave John. (**Revelation 1:1**)
- Who bore witness to the word God gave and to the witness Jesus Christ gave, even to all the things he saw. (**Revelation 1:2**)
- It was by **inspiration**, literally, **in spirit** that John came to be in the Lords day and he was told; What you see write in a scroll.
- By **inspiration** I came to be in the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a strong voice like that of a trumpet. (**Revelation 1:10**)

- **Saying; What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven congregations, in Ephesus and in Smyrna and in Pergamum and in Thyatira and in Sardis and in Philadelphia and in Laodicea. (Revelation 1:11)**
- **So, God apparently saw good to allow Bible writers to use their mental faculties in selecting words and expressions to describe the visions they saw**
- **And Yehowah proceeded to answer me and to say; Write down the vision, and set it out plainly upon tablets, in order, that the one reading aloud from it may do so fluently. (Habakkuk 2:2)**
- **While always exercising sufficient control and guidance over them so that the end product would be not only accurate and true but also such as suited Yehowah's purpose.**
- **Every saying of God is refined. He is a shield to those taking refuge in him. (Proverbs 30:5)**
- **Add nothing to his words, that he may not reprove you, and that you may not have to be proved a liar. (Proverbs 30:6)**
- **That personal effort on the part of the writer was involved is shown by the statement at;**
- **And besides the fact that the congregator had become wise, he also taught the people knowledge continually, and he pondered and made a thorough search, that he might arrange many proverbs in order. (Ecclesiastes 12:9)**
- **The congregator sought to find the delightful words and the writing of correct words of truth. (Ecclesiastes 12:10)**
- **There being a pondering, searching, and arranging in order to present properly, delightful words and the writing of correct words of truth.**
- **Whereas many have undertaken to compile a statement of the facts that are given full credence among us. (Luke 1:1)**
- **Just as those who from the beginning became eyewitnesses and attendants of the message delivered these to us. (Luke 1:2)**

- I resolved also, because I have traced all things from the start with accuracy, to write them in logical order to you, most excellent Theophilus. (**Luke 1:3**)
- That you may know fully the certainty of the things that you have been taught orally. (**Luke 1:4**)
- This doubtless explains why there are different styles of writing as well as expressions that apparently reflect the background of the individual writers. The natural qualifications of the writers may have been a factor in God's selection of them for their particular assignment, he may also have prepared them prior thereto to serve his particular purpose.
- As evidence of this individuality of expression, Matthew, who had been a tax collector, makes numerous particularly specific references to numbers and money values.
- But that we do not cause them to stumble, you go to the sea, cast a fishhook, and take the first fish coming up and, when you open its mouth, you will find a stater coin. Take that and give it to them for me and you. (**Matthew 17:27**)
- And said; What will you give me to betray him to you? They stipulated to him thirty silver pieces. (**Matthew 26:15**)
- Then Judas, who betrayed him, seeing he had been condemned, felt remorse and turned the thirty silver pieces back to the chief priests and older men. (**Matthew 27:3**)
- Luke, the beloved physician.
- Luke the beloved physician sends you his greetings, and so does Demas. (**Colossians 4:14**)
- On the other hand, uses distinctive expressions that reflect his medical background.
- After getting up out of the synagogue he entered into Simon's home. Now Simon's mother-in-law was distressed with a high fever, and they made request of him for her. (**Luke 4:38**)
- On a further occasion while he was in one of the cities, look! A man full of leprosy! When he caught sight of Jesus he fell upon

his face and begged him, saying; Lord, if you just want to, you can make me clean. (Luke 5:12)

- But a certain beggar named Lazarus used to be put at his gate, full of ulcers. (Luke 16:20)
- Even where the writer speaks of receiving, the **word of Yehowah**, or a certain **pronouncement**, it may be that this was transmitted, not word for word, but by giving the writer a mental picture of God's purpose, one that the writer would thereafter express in words.
- This is perhaps indicated by the writers speaking at times of seeing, rather than hearing; the pronouncement or the word of Yehowah.
- The **pronouncement** against Babylon that Isaiah the son of Amoz **saw** in vision! (Isaiah 13:1)
- The word of Yehowah that occurred to Micah of Moresheth, in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah, kings of Judah, that he visioned concerning Samaria and Jerusalem. (Micah 1:1)
- The pronouncement that Habakkuk the prophet **visioned**. (Habakkuk 1:1)
- At my guard post I will keep standing, and I will keep myself stationed upon the bulwark, and I shall keep watch, to see what he will speak by me and what I shall reply at the reproof of me. (Habakkuk 2:1)
- And Yehowah proceeded to answer me and to say; Write down the **vision**, and set it out plainly upon tablets, in order, that the one reading aloud from it may do so fluently. (Habakkuk 2:2)
- The men used to write the Scriptures therefore cooperated with the operation of Yehowah's Holy Spirit. They were willing and submissive to God's guidance
- The Sovereign Lord Yehowah himself has given me the tongue of the taught ones, that I may know how to answer the tired one with a word. He awakens morning by morning, he awakens my ear to hear like the taught ones. (Isaiah 50:4)
- The Sovereign Lord Yehowah himself has opened my ear, and I,

- for my part, was not rebellious. I did not turn in the opposite direction. (**Isaiah 50:5**)
- **Eager to know God's will and leading.**
 - **With my soul I have desired you in the night, yes, with my spirit within me I keep looking for you, because, when there are judgments from you for the earth, righteousness is what the inhabitants of the productive land will certainly learn. (**Isaiah 26:9**)**
 - **In many cases they had certain goals in mind.**
 - **Whereas many have undertaken to compile a statement of the facts that are given full credence among us. (**Luke 1:1**)**
 - **Just as those who from the beginning became eyewitnesses and attendants of the message delivered these to us. (**Luke 1:2**)**
 - **I resolved also, because I have traced all things from the start with accuracy, to write them in logical order to you, most excellent Theophilus. (**Luke 1:3**)**
 - **That you may know fully the certainty of the things that you have been taught orally. (**Luke 1:4**)**
 - **Or were responding to an evident need.**
 - **Now I exhort you, brothers, through the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that you should all speak in agreement, and that there should not be divisions among you, but that you may be fitly united in the same mind and in the same line of thought. (**1 Corinthians 1:10**)**
 - **For the disclosure was made to me about you, my brothers, by those of the house of Chloe, that dissensions exist among you. (**1 Corinthians 1:11**)**
 - **Actually fornication is reported among you, and such fornication as is not even among the nations, that a wife a certain man has of his father. (**1 Corinthians 5:1**)**
 - **Now concerning the things about which you wrote, it is well for a man not to touch a woman. (**1 Corinthians 7:1**)**

- **And God directed them so that what they wrote coincided with and fulfilled his purpose.**
- **The heart of earthling man may think out his way, but Yehowah himself does the directing of his steps. ([Proverbs 16:9](#))**
- **As spiritual men, their hearts and minds were attuned to God's will, they had the mind of Christ and so were not setting down mere human wisdom nor a, vision of their own heart, as false prophets did.**
- **These things we also speak, not with words taught by human wisdom, but with those taught by the spirit, as we combine spiritual matters with spiritual words. ([1 Corinthians 2:13](#))**
- **But a physical man does not receive the things of the spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot get to know them, because they are examined spiritually. ([1 Corinthians 2:14](#))**
- **However, the spiritual man examines indeed all things, but he himself is not examined by any man. ([1 Corinthians 2:15](#))**
- **For, who has come to know the mind of Yehowah, that he may instruct him? But we do have the mind of Christ. ([1 Corinthians 2:16](#))**
- **This is what Yehowah of armies has said; Do not listen to the words of the prophets who are prophesying to you people. They are making you become vain. The **vision of their own heart** is what they speak, not from the mouth of Yehowah. ([Jeremiah 23:16](#))**
- **Son of man, prophesy concerning the prophets of Israel who are prophesying, and you must say to those prophesying out of their own heart; Hear the word of Yehowah. ([Ezekiel 13:2](#))**
- **This is what the Sovereign Lord Yehowah has said; Woe to the stupid prophets, who are walking after their own spirit, when there is nothing that they have seen! ([Ezekiel 13:3](#))**
- **And as for you, O son of man, set your face against the daughters of your people who are acting as prophetesses out of their own heart, and prophesy against them. ([Ezekiel 13:17](#))**

- **It can be seen that the Holy Spirit would, indeed, have **varieties of operations** toward or upon these Bible writers.**
- **And there are **varieties of operations**, and yet it is the same God who performs all the operations in all persons. (**1 Corinthians 12:6**)**
- **A considerable portion of the information was humanly accessible to them, sometimes already existing in written form, as in the case of genealogies and certain historical accounts.**
- **I resolved also, because I have traced all things from the start with accuracy, to write them in logical order to you, most excellent Theophilus. (**Luke 1:3**)**
- **Furthermore, Jesus himself, when he commenced his work, was about thirty years old, being the son, as the opinion was, of Joseph, son of Heli. (**Luke 3:23**)**
- **Son of Matthat, son of Levi, son of Melchi, son of Jannai, son of Joseph. (**Luke 3:24**)**
- **Son of Mattathias, son of Amos, son of Nahum, son of Esli, son of Naggai. (**Luke 3:25**)**
- **Son of Maath, son of Mattathias, son of Semein, son of Josech, son of Joda. (**Luke 3:26**)**
- **Son of Joanan, son of Rhesa, son of Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, son of Neri. (**Luke 3:27**)**
- **Son of Melchi, son of Addi, son of Cosam, son of Elmadam, son of Er. (**Luke 3:28**)**
- **Son of Jesus, son of Eliezer, son of Jorim, son of Matthat, son of Levi. (**Luke 3:29**)**
- **Son of Symeon, son of Judas, son of Joseph, son of Jonam, son of Eliakim. (**Luke 3:30**)**
- **Son of Melea, son of Menna, son of Mattatha, son of Nathan, son of David. (**Luke 3:31**)**

- **Son of Jesse, son of Obed, son of Boaz, son of Salmon, son of Nahshon. (Luke 3:32)**
- **Son of Amminadab, son of Arni, son of Hezron, son of Perez, son of Judah. (Luke 3:33)**
- **Son of Jacob, son of Isaac, son of Abraham, son of Terah, son of Nahor. (Luke 3:34)**
- **Son of Serug, son of Reu, son of Peleg, son of Eber, son of Shelah. (Luke 3:35)**
- **Son of Cainan, son of Arpachshad, son of Shem, son of Noah, son of Lamech. (Luke 3:36)**
- **Son of Methuselah, son of Enoch, son of Jared, son of Mahalaleel, son of Cainan. (Luke 3:37)**
- **Son of Enosh, son of Seth, son of Adam, son of God. (Luke 3:38)**
- **That is why it is said in the book of the Wars of Yehowah; Vaheb in Suphah and the torrent valleys of Arnon. (Numbers 21:14)**
- **And the mouth of the torrent valleys, which has bent itself toward the seat of Ar and has leaned against the border of Moab. (Numbers 21:15)**
- **And the rest of the affairs of Jeroboam, how he warred and how he reigned, there they are written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Israel. (1 Kings 14:19)**
- **And the rest of the affairs of Rehoboam and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the affairs of the times of the kings of Judah? (1 Kings 14:29)**
- **As for the rest of the affairs of Pekah and all that he did, there they are written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Israel. (2 Kings 15:31)**
- **As for the rest of the affairs of Jehoiakim and all that he did, are they not written in the book of the affairs of the days of the kings of Judah? (2 Kings 24:5)**

- Here God's spirit would operate to **prevent inaccuracy** or error from intruding into the Divine Record and also to guide in the selection of material to be included.
- Obviously, not everything stated by other persons and thereafter included in the Bible was inspired of God, but the **selection** of the material to be part of the Holy Scriptures and the **accurate recording** of it were under the direction of Holy Spirit.
- At this the serpent said to the woman; You positively will not die. (**Genesis 3:4**)
- For God knows that in the very day of your eating from it your eyes are bound to be opened and you are bound to be like God, knowing good and bad. (**Genesis 3:5**)
- Who is this that is obscuring counsel without knowledge? Therefore I talked, but I was not understanding things too wonderful for me, which I do not know. (**Job 42:3**)
- From that time forward Jesus Christ commenced showing his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the older men and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised up. (**Matthew 16:21**)
- At this Peter took him aside and commenced rebuking him, saying; Be kind to yourself, Lord; You will not have this destiny at all. (**Matthew 16:22**)
- But, turning his back, he said to Peter; Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me, because you think, not God's thoughts, but those of men. (**Matthew 16:23**)
- In this way God has preserved in his inspired Word a record demonstrating what happens when people listen to him and work in harmony with his purpose, as well as the outcome when they think, speak, and act in ways that show disregard for God or ignorance of his righteous ways. On the other hand, the information concerning the pre-human history of the earth
- In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (**Genesis 1:1**)
- Now the earth proved to be formless and waste and there was

darkness upon the surface of the watery deep, and God's active force was moving to and fro over the surface of the waters. **(Genesis 1:2)**

- **And God proceeded to say; Let light come to be. Then there came to be light. (Genesis 1:3)**
- **After that God saw that the light was good, and God brought about a division between the light and the darkness. (Genesis 1:4)**
- **And God began calling the light Day, but the darkness he called Night. And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a first day. (Genesis 1:5)**
- **And God went on to say; Let an expanse come to be in between the waters and let a dividing occur between the waters and the waters. (Genesis 1:6)**
- **Then God proceeded to make the expanse and to make a division between the waters that should be beneath the expanse and the waters that should be above the expanse. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:7)**
- **And God began to call the expanse Heaven. And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a second day. (Genesis 1:8)**
- **And God went on to say; Let the waters under the heavens be brought together into one place and let the dry land appear. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:9)**
- **And God began calling the dry land Earth, but the bringing together of the waters he called Seas. Further, God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:10)**
- **And God went on to say; Let the earth cause grass to shoot forth, vegetation bearing seed, fruit trees yielding fruit according to their kinds, the seed of which is in it, upon the earth. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:11)**
- **And the earth began to put forth grass, vegetation bearing seed according to its kind and trees yielding fruit, the seed of which is in it according to its kind. Then God saw that it was good.**

(Genesis 1:12)

- **And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a third day. (Genesis 1:13)**
- **And God went on to say; Let luminaries come to be in the expanse of the heavens to make a division between the day and the night, and they must serve as signs and for seasons and for days and years. (Genesis 1:14)**
- **And they must serve as luminaries in the expanse of the heavens to shine upon the earth. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:15)**
- **And God proceeded to make the two great luminaries, the greater luminary for dominating the day and the lesser luminary for dominating the night, and also the stars. (Genesis 1:16)**
- **Thus God put them in the expanse of the heavens to shine upon the earth. (Genesis 1:17)**
- **And to dominate by day and by night and to make a division between the light and the darkness. Then God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:18)**
- **And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a fourth day. (Genesis 1:19)**
- **And God went on to say; Let the waters swarm forth a swarm of living souls and let flying creatures fly over the earth upon the face of the expanse of the heavens. (Genesis 1:20)**
- **And God proceeded to create the great sea monsters and every living soul that moves about, which the waters swarmed forth according to their kinds, and every winged flying creature according to its kind. And God got to see that it was good. (Genesis 1:21)**
- **With that God blessed them, saying; Be fruitful and become many and fill the waters in the sea basins, and let the flying creatures become many in the earth. (Genesis 1:22)**
- **And there came to be evening and there came to be morning, a fifth day. (Genesis 1:23)**

- **And God went on to say; Let the earth put forth living souls according to their kinds, domestic animal and moving animal and wild beast of the earth according to its kind. And it came to be so. (Genesis 1:24)**
- **And God proceeded to make the wild beast of the earth according to its kind and the domestic animal according to its kind and every moving animal of the ground according to its kind. And God got to see that it was good. (Genesis 1:25)**
- **And God went on to say; Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have in subjection the fish of the sea and the flying creatures of the heavens and the domestic animals and all the earth and every moving animal that is moving upon the earth. (Genesis 1:26)**

·· **Heavenly Events And Activities**

- **Other texts, and prophecies, as well as revelations of God's purposes and of doctrines, was not humanly obtainable and would need to be transmitted supernaturally by God's spirit.**
- **As to wise sayings and counsel, even though the writer may have learned much from his personal experience in life and even more from his own study and application of those parts of the Scriptures already recorded, the operation of God's spirit would still be required to ensure the information's qualifying as part of the Word of God that is alive and exerts power and is able to discern thoughts and intentions of the heart.**
- **For the word of God is alive and exerts power and is sharper than any two-edged sword and pierces even to the dividing of soul and spirit, and of joints and their marrow, and is able to discern thoughts and intentions of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)**

See Also BOOK

- **This may be seen by the expressions the apostle Paul makes in his first letter to the Corinthians. In giving counsel on marriage and singleness he says at one point;**
- **But to the others I say, yes, I, not the Lord; If any brother has an unbelieving wife, and yet she is agreeable to dwelling with him, let him not leave her. (1 Corinthians 7:12)**

- **Now concerning virgins I have no command from the Lord, but I give my opinion as one who had mercy shown him by the Lord to be faithful. (1 Corinthians 7:25)**
- **But she is happier if she remains as she is, according to my opinion. I certainly think I also have God's spirit. (1 Corinthians 7:40)**
- **The evident meaning of Paul's statements is that he could quote no direct teaching by the Lord Jesus on certain points. Hence Paul gave his personal opinion as a spirit-filled apostle.**
- **His counsel, however, was God-breathed and so came to form part of the Sacred Scriptures, having equal authority with the rest of those Scriptures.**
- **There is clearly a distinction between the inspired writings of the Bible and other writings that, while manifesting a measure of the spirit's direction and guidance, are not properly classed with the Sacred Scriptures.**
- **As has been shown, in addition to the canonical books of the Hebrew Scriptures, there were other writings, such as official records concerning the kings of Judah and Israel, and these, in many cases, may have been drawn up by men devoted to God.**
- **They were even used in research done by those writers who were inspired to write part of the Sacred Scriptures. So, too, in apostolic times.**
- **In addition to the letters included in the Bible canon, there were doubtless many other letters written by the apostles and older men to the numerous congregations during the course of the years. While the writers were spirit-guided men, still God did not place his seal of guarantee distinguishing any such additional writings as part of the inerrant Word of God.**
- **The Hebrew noncanonical writings may have contained some error, and even the noncanonical writings of the apostles may have reflected to some degree the incomplete understanding that existed in the early years of the Christian congregation.**
- **And certain men came down from Judea and began to teach the**

brothers; Unless you get circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved. ([Acts of Apostles 15:1](#))

- But when there had occurred no little dissension and disputing by Paul and Barnabas with them, they arranged for Paul and Barnabas and some others of them to go up to the apostles and older men in Jerusalem regarding this dispute. ([Acts of Apostles 15:2](#))
- Accordingly, after being conducted partway by the congregation, these men continued on their way through both Phoenicia and Samaria, relating in detail the conversion of people of the nations, and they were causing great joy to all the brothers. ([Acts of Apostles 15:3](#))
- On arriving in Jerusalem they were kindly received by the congregation and the apostles and the older men, and they recounted the many things God had done by means of them. ([Acts of Apostles 15:4](#))
- Yet, some of those of the sect of the Pharisees that had believed rose up from their seats and said; It is necessary to circumcise them and charge them to observe the Law of Moses. ([Acts of Apostles 15:5](#))
- And the apostles and the older men gathered together to see about this affair. ([Acts of Apostles 15:6](#))
- Now when much disputing had taken place, Peter rose and said to them; Men, brothers, you well know that from early days God made the choice among you that through my mouth people of the nations should hear the word of the Good News and believe. ([Acts of Apostles 15:7](#))
- And God, who knows the heart, bore witness by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as he did to us also. ([Acts of Apostles 15:8](#))
- And he made no distinction at all between us and them, but purified their hearts by faith. ([Acts of Apostles 15:9](#))
- Now, therefore, why are you making a test of God by imposing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke that neither our forefathers nor we were capable of bearing? ([Acts of Apostles 15:10](#))

- **On the contrary, we trust to get saved through the undeserved kindness of the Lord Jesus in the same way as those people also. (Acts of Apostles 15:11)**
- **At that the entire multitude became silent, and they began to listen to Barnabas and Paul relate the many signs and portents that God did through them among the nations. (Acts of Apostles 15:12)**
- **After they quit speaking, James answered, saying; Men, brothers, hear me. (Acts of Apostles 15:13)**
- **Symeon has related thoroughly how God for the first time turned his attention to the nations to take out of them a people for his name. (Acts of Apostles 15:14)**
- **And with this the words of the Prophets agree, just as it is written. (Acts of Apostles 15:15)**
- **After these things I shall return and rebuild the booth of David that is fallen down, and I shall rebuild its ruins and erect it again. (Acts of Apostles 15:16)**
- **In order, that those who remain of the men may earnestly seek Yehowah, together with people of all the nations, people who are called by my name, says Yehowah, who is doing these things. (Acts of Apostles 15:17)**
- **Known from of old. (Acts of Apostles 15:18)**
- **Hence my decision is not to trouble those from the nations who are turning to God. (Acts of Apostles 15:19)**
- **But to write them to abstain from things polluted by idols and from fornication and from what is strangled and from blood. (Acts of Apostles 15:20)**
- **For from ancient times Moses has had in city after city those who preach him, because he is read aloud in the synagogues on every Sabbath. (Acts of Apostles 15:21)**
- **Then the apostles and the older men together with the whole congregation favored sending chosen men from among them to Antioch along with Paul and Barnabas, namely, Judas who was**

called Barsabbas and Silas, leading men among the brothers.
([Acts of Apostles 15:22](#))

- And by their hand they wrote. The apostles and the older men, brothers, to those brothers in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia who are from the nations. Greetings! ([Acts of Apostles 15:23](#))
- Since we have heard that some from among us have caused you trouble with speeches, trying to subvert your souls, although we did not give them any instructions. ([Acts of Apostles 15:24](#))
- We have come to a unanimous accord and have favored choosing men to send to you together with our loved ones, Barnabas and Paul. ([Acts of Apostles 15:25](#))
- Men that have delivered up their souls for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ([Acts of Apostles 15:26](#))
- We are therefore dispatching Judas and Silas, that they also may report the same things by word. ([Acts of Apostles 15:27](#))
- For the Holy Spirit and we ourselves have favored adding no further burden to you, except these necessary things. ([Acts of Apostles 15:28](#))
- To keep abstaining from things sacrificed to idols and from blood and from things strangled and from fornication. If you carefully keep yourselves from these things, you will prosper. Good health to you! ([Acts of Apostles 15:29](#))
- Accordingly, when these men were let go, they went down to Antioch, and they gathered the multitude together and handed them the letter. ([Acts of Apostles 15:30](#))
- After reading it, they rejoiced over the encouragement. ([Acts of Apostles 15:31](#))
- And Judas and Silas, since they themselves were also prophets, encouraged the brothers with many a discourse and strengthened them. ([Acts of Apostles 15:32](#))
- However, when Cephas came to Antioch, I resisted him face to face, because he stood condemned. ([Galatians 2:11](#))

- **For before the arrival of certain men from James, he used to eat with people of the nations, but when they arrived, he went withdrawing and separating himself, in fear of those of the circumcised class. ([Galatians 2:12](#))**
- **The rest of the Jews also joined him in putting on this pretense, so that even Barnabas was led along with them in their pretense. ([Galatians 2:13](#))**
- **But when I saw they were not walking straight according to the truth of the Good News, I said to Cephas before them all; If you, though you are a Jew, live as the nations do, and not as Jews do, how is it that you are compelling people of the nations to live according to Jewish practice? ([Galatians 2:14](#))**
- **And he gave some as apostles, some as prophets, some as evangelizers, some as shepherds and teachers. ([Ephesians 4:11](#))**
- **With a view to the readjustment of the holy ones, for ministerial work, for the building up of the body of the Christ. ([Ephesians 4:12](#))**
- **Until we all attain to the oneness in the faith and in the accurate knowledge of the Son of God, to a full-grown man, to the measure of stature that belongs to the fullness of the Christ. ([Ephesians 4:13](#))**
- **In order, that we should no longer be babes, tossed about as by waves and carried hither and thither by every wind of teaching by means of the trickery of men, by means of cunning in contriving error. ([Ephesians 4:14](#))**
- **But speaking the truth, let us by love grow up in all things into him who is the head, Christ. ([Ephesians 4:15](#))**
- **From him all the body, by being harmoniously joined together and being made to cooperate through every joint that gives what is needed, according to the functioning of each respective member in due measure, makes for the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love. ([Ephesians 4:16](#))**
- **However, even as God by his spirit, or active force, granted to certain Christians the, discernment of inspired utterances, he could also guide the older men of the Christian congregation in discerning**

which inspired writings were to be included in the canon of the Sacred Scriptures.

- To yet another operations of powerful works, to another prophesying, to another discernment of inspired utterances, to another different tongues, and to another interpretation of tongues. (**1 Corinthians 12:10**)

See Also CANON

·· Recognition Of Scriptures As Inspired

- The evidence is clear that all the Sacred Scriptures, as progressively added to the Bible canon, were consistently recognized by God's servants, including Jesus and his apostles, as inspired. By **inspiration** is meant, not a mere heightening of the intellect and emotions to a higher degree of accomplishment or sensitivity, as is often said of secular artists or poets, but the **production of writings that are inerrant, and that have the same authority as if written by God himself.**
- For this reason the prophets who contributed to the writing of the Hebrew Scriptures ceaselessly credited their messages to God, with the pronouncement; **This is what Yehowah has said; Doing so over 300 times.**
- Therefore this is what Yehowah has said concerning the king of Assyria; He will not come into this city, nor will he shoot an arrow there, nor confront it with a shield, nor cast up a siege rampart against it. (**Isaiah 37:33**)
- Go, and you must call out in the ears of Jerusalem, saying; This is what Yehowah has said; I well remember, on your part, the loving-kindness of your youth, the love during your being engaged to marry, your walking after me in the wilderness, in a land not sown with seed. (**Jeremiah 2:2**)
- This is what Yehowah has said; Although they were in complete form and there were many in that state, even in that state they must be cut down, and one must pass through. And I shall certainly afflict you, so that I shall not afflict you anymore. (**Nahum 1:12**)

- **Jesus and his apostles confidently quoted the Hebrew Scriptures as God's own word spoken through the assigned writers, hence as certain of fulfillment and as the final authority in any controversy.**
- **But in reply he said; It is written: Man must live, not on bread alone, but on every utterance coming forth through Yehowah's mouth. (Matthew 4:4)**
- **Then the Devil took him along into the holy city, and he stationed him upon the battlement of the temple. (Matthew 4:5)**
- **And said to him; If you are a son of God, hurl yourself down, for it is written: He will give his angels a charge concerning you, and they will carry you on their hands, that you may at no time strike your foot against a stone. (Matthew 4:6)**
- **Jesus said to him; Again it is written: You must not put Yehowah your God to the test. (Matthew 4:7)**
- **Again the Devil took him along to an unusually high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. (Matthew 4:8)**
- **And he said to him; All these things I will give you if you fall down and do an act of worship to me. (Matthew 4:9)**
- **Then Jesus said to him; Go away, Satan! For it is written: It is Yehowah your God you must worship, and it is to him alone you must render sacred service. (Matthew 4:10)**
- **And Pharisees came up to him, intent on tempting him and saying; Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife on every sort of ground? (Matthew 19:3)**
- **In reply he said; Did you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female (Matthew 19:4)**
- **And said; For this reason a man will leave his father and his mother and will stick to his wife, and the two will be one flesh? (Matthew 19:5)**
- **So that they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has yoked together let no man put apart. (Matthew 19:6)**

- He now said to them; These are my words which I spoke to you while I was yet with you, that all the things written in the Law of Moses and in the Prophets and Psalms about me must be fulfilled. ([Luke 24:44](#))
- Then he opened up their minds fully to grasp the meaning of the Scriptures. ([Luke 24:45](#))
- And he said to them; In this way it is written that the Christ would suffer and rise from among the dead on the third day. ([Luke 24:46](#))
- And on the basis of his name repentance for forgiveness of sins would be preached in all the nations, starting out from Jerusalem. ([Luke 24:47](#))
- You are to be witnesses of these things. ([Luke 24:48](#))
- I am not talking about all of you. I know the ones I have chosen. But it is in order, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, He that used to feed on my bread has lifted up his heel against me. ([John 13:18](#))
- That God has entirely fulfilled it to us their children in that he resurrected Jesus, even as it is written in the second psalm; You are my son. I have become your Father this day. ([Acts of Apostles 13:33](#))
- And that fact that he resurrected him from the dead destined no more to return to corruption, he has stated in this way, I will give you people the loving-kindnesses to David that are faithful. ([Acts of Apostles 13:34](#))
- Hence he also says in another psalm; You will not allow your loyal one to see corruption. ([Acts of Apostles 13:35](#))
- For I handed on to you, among the first things, that which I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. ([1 Corinthians 15:3](#))
- And that he was buried, yes, that he has been raised up the third day according to the Scriptures. ([1 Corinthians 15:4](#))
- Because it is written: You must be holy, because I am holy. ([1](#)

Peter 1:16)

- **For it is contained in Scripture; Look! I am laying in Zion a stone, chosen, a foundation cornerstone, precious, and no one exercising faith in it will by any means come to disappointment. (1 Peter 2:6)**
- **It is to you, therefore, that he is precious, because you are believers, but to those not believing, the identical stone that the builders rejected has become the head of the corner. (1 Peter 2:7)**
- **And, a stone of stumbling and a rock-mass of offense. These are stumbling because they are disobedient to the word. To this very end they were also appointed. (1 Peter 2:8)**
- **But you are, a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for special possession, that you should declare abroad the excellencies, of the one that called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. (1 Peter 2:9)**
- **They contained, the sacred pronouncements of God.**
- **What, then, is the superiority of the Jew, or what is the benefit of the circumcision? (Romans 3:1)**
- **A great deal in every way. First of all, because they were entrusted with the sacred pronouncements of God. (Romans 3:2)**
- **For, indeed, although you ought to be teachers in view of the time, you again need someone to teach you from the beginning the elementary things of the sacred pronouncements of God and you have become such as need milk, not solid food. (Hebrews 5:12)**
- **After explaining in;**
- **God, who long ago spoke on many occasions and in many ways to our forefathers by means of the prophets. (Hebrews 1:1)**
- **That God spoke to Israel through the prophets, Paul goes on to quote from several books of the Hebrew Scriptures, presenting the texts as though spoken personally by Yehowah God himself.**

- For example, to which one of the angels did he ever say; You are my son. I, today, I have become your father? And again; I myself shall become his father, and he himself will become my son? (**Hebrews 1:5**)
- But when he again brings his Firstborn into the inhabited earth, he says; And let all God's angels do obeisance to him. (**Hebrews 1:6**)
- Also, with reference to the angels he says; And he makes his angels spirits, and his public servants a flame of fire. (**Hebrews 1:7**)
- But with reference to the Son; God is your throne forever and ever, and the scepter of your kingdom is the scepter of uprightness. (**Hebrews 1:8**)
- You loved righteousness, and you hated lawlessness. That is why God, your God, anointed you with the oil of exultation more than your partners. (**Hebrews 1:9**)
- And; You at the beginning, O Lord, laid the foundations of the earth itself, and the heavens are the works of your hands. (**Hebrews 1:10**)
- They themselves will perish, but you yourself are to remain continually, and just like an outer garment they will all grow old. (**Hebrews 1:11**)
- And you will wrap them up just as a cloak, as an outer garment, and they will be changed, but you are the same, and your years will never run out. (**Hebrews 1:12**)
- But with reference to which one of the angels has he ever said; Sit at my right hand, until I place your enemies as a stool for your feet? (**Hebrews 1:13**)
- **Compare similar references to the Holy Spirit at;**
- Men, brothers, it was necessary for the scripture to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by David's mouth about Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. (**Acts of Apostles 1:16**)

- **So, because they were at disagreement with one another, they began to depart, while Paul made this one comment; The Holy Spirit aptly spoke through Isaiah the prophet to your forefathers. (Acts of Apostles 28:25)**
- **For this reason, just as the Holy Spirit says; Today if you people listen to his own voice. (Hebrews 3:7)**
- **Moreover, the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us, for after it has said. (Hebrews 10:15)**
- **This is the covenant that I shall covenant toward them after those days, says Yehowah. I will put my Laws in their hearts, and in their minds I shall write them. (Hebrews 10:16)**
- **It says afterwards; And I shall by no means call their sins and their lawless deeds to mind anymore. (Hebrews 10:17)**
- **Showing his full faith in the inerrancy of the Sacred Writings, Jesus said that, the Scripture cannot be nullified.**
- **Jesus answered them; Is it not written in your Law: I said; You are gods? (John 10:34)**
- **If he called gods those against whom the word of God came, and yet the Scripture cannot be nullified. (John 10:35)**
- **And that, sooner would heaven and earth pass away than for one smallest letter or one particle of a letter to pass away from the Law by any means and not all things take place.**
- **For truly I say to you that sooner would heaven and earth pass away than for one smallest letter or one particle of a letter to pass away from the Law by any means and not all things take place. (Matthew 5:18)**
- **He told the Sadducees that they were in error regarding the resurrection because, you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God.**
- **In reply Jesus said to them; You are mistaken, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. (Matthew 22:29)**

- For in the resurrection neither do men marry nor are women given in marriage, but are as angels in heaven. (**Matthew 22:30**)
- As regards the resurrection of the dead, did you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying; (**Matthew 22:31**)
- I am the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob? He is the God, not of the dead, but of the living. (**Matthew 22:32**)
- Jesus said to them; Is not this why you are mistaken, you're not knowing either the Scriptures or the power of God? (**Mark 12:24**)
- He was willing to submit to arrest and death itself because of knowing that this was in fulfillment of the written Word of God, the Sacred Scriptures.
- In that case, how would the Scriptures be fulfilled that it must take place this way? (**Matthew 26:54**)
- And Jesus said to them; You will all be stumbled, because it is written, I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered about. (**Mark 14:27**)
- Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and yet you did not take me into custody. Nevertheless, it is in order, that the Scriptures may be fulfilled. (**Mark 14:49**)
- These statements, of course, apply to the pre-Christian Hebrew Scriptures. That the **Christian Greek Scriptures** were likewise presented and accepted as inspired is also clear.
- If anyone thinks he is a prophet or gifted with the spirit, let him acknowledge the things I am writing to you, because they are the Lords commandment. (**1 Corinthians 14:37**)
- However, even if we or an angel out of heaven were to declare to you as Good News something beyond what we declared to you as Good News, let him be accursed. (**Galatians 1:8**)
- For I put you on notice, brothers, that the Good News which was declared by me as Good News is not something human. (**Galatians 1:11**)

- For neither did I receive it from man, nor was I taught it, except through revelation by Jesus Christ. (**Galatians 1:12**)
- Indeed, that is why we also thank God incessantly, because when you received God's word, which you heard from us, you accepted it, not as the word of men, but, just as it truthfully is, as the word of God, which is also at work in you believers. (**1 Thessalonians 2:13**)
- The apostle Peter in one statement including Paul's letters with the rest of the Scriptures.
- Furthermore, consider the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul according to the wisdom given him also wrote you. (**2 Peter 3:15**)
- Speaking about these things as he does also in all his letters. In them, however, are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unsteady are twisting, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction. (**2 Peter 3:16**)
- Thus the entire body of the Scriptures comprise the unified and harmonious written Word of God.
- Also, accept the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the spirit, that is, God's word. (**Ephesians 6:17**)

· Authority Of Copies And Translations

- Absolute inerrancy is therefore to be attributed to the written Word of God. This is true of the original writings, none of which are known to exist today.
- The copies of those original writings and the translations made in many languages cannot lay claim to absolute accuracy. There is solid evidence and sound reason for believing, however, that the available manuscripts of the Sacred Scriptures do provide copies of the written Word of God in nearly exact form, the points in question having little bearing on the sense of the message conveyed.
- God's own purpose in preparing the Sacred Scriptures and the inspired declaration that, the saying of Yehowah endures forever, give assurance that Yehowah God has preserved the internal integrity of the Scriptures through the centuries.

- But the saying of Yehowah endures forever. Well, this is the saying; this which has been declared to you as Good News. (**1 Peter 1:25**)

· Why Are There Differences In Wording Of Quotations

- In a number of cases the writers of the **Christian Greek Scriptures** evidently made use of the **Greek Septuagint** translation when quoting from the Hebrew Scriptures.
- At times the rendering of the **Septuagint**, as quoted by them, differs somewhat from the reading of the Hebrew Scriptures as now known, most translations today being based on the Hebrew **Masoretic** text dating back to about the **Tenth Century C.E.**
- As an example, Paul's quotation of;
 - Sacrifice and offering you did not delight in, these ears of mine you opened up. Burnt offering and sin offering you did not ask for. (**Psalms 40:6**)
 - Contains the expression, **but you prepared a body for me**, an expression found in the **Septuagint**.
 - Hence when he comes into the world he says; Sacrifice and offering you did not want, but you prepared a body for me. (**Hebrews 10:5**)
 - The available **Hebrew** manuscripts of;
 - Sacrifice and offering you did not delight in, these ears of mine you opened up. Burnt offering and sin offering you did not ask for. (**Psalms 40:6**)
 - Have, in place of that expression, the words, these ears of mine you opened up. Whether the **original** Hebrew text contained the phrase found in the **Septuagint** cannot be stated with certainty. Whatever the case, God's spirit guided Paul in his quotation, and therefore these words have divine authorization.

- This does not mean that the entire **Septuagint** translation is to be viewed as **inspired**, but those portions quoted by the **inspired** Christian writers did become an integral part of God's Word.
- In a few cases the quotations made by Paul and others differ from both the Hebrew and Greek texts as found in available manuscripts.
- The differences are minor, however, and upon examination are seen to be the result of paraphrasing, epitomizing, the use of synonymous terms, or the addition of explanatory words or phrases.
- And Yehowah God proceeded to form the man out of dust from the ground and to blow into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man came to be a living soul. (**Genesis 2:7**)
- For instance, says, the man came to be a living soul, whereas Paul in quoting this portion said; It is even so written; The **first** man **Adam** became a living soul.
- It is even so written; The first man Adam became a living soul. The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. (**1 Corinthians 15:45**)
- His addition of the words **first** and **Adam** served to emphasize the contrast he was making between Adam and Christ. The insertion was fully in accord with the facts recorded in the Scriptures and in no way perverted the sense or content of the text quoted.
- Those to whom Paul wrote had copies, or translations, of the Hebrew Scriptures older than those we have today and could investigate his quotations, in a way similar to that of the people of Beroea.
- Immediately by night the brothers sent both Paul and Silas out to Beroea, and these, upon arriving, went into the synagogue of the Jews. (**Acts of Apostles 17:10**)
- Now the latter were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with the greatest eagerness of mind, carefully examining the Scriptures daily as to whether these things were so. (**Acts of Apostles 17:11**)
- The inclusion of these writings in the canon of the Sacred Scriptures by the Christian congregation of the **First Century** gives

evidence of their acceptance of such quotations as part of the inspired Word of God.

- O sword, awake against my shepherd, even against the able-bodied man who is my associate, is the utterance of Yehowah of armies. Strike the shepherd, and let those of the flock be scattered, and I shall certainly turn my hand back upon those who are insignificant. (**Zechariah 13:7**)
- Then Jesus said to them; All of you will be stumbled in connection with me on this night, for it is written, I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered about. (**Matthew 26:31**)

• Inspired Expressions, True And False

- The **Greek** word *pneu'ma*, **spirit** is used in a special manner in some apostolic writings.
- Not to be quickly shaken from your reason nor to be excited either through an inspired expression or through a verbal message or through a letter as though from us, to the effect that the day of Yehowah is here. (**2 Thessalonians 2:2**)
- For example, the apostle Paul urges his Thessalonian brothers not to get excited or shaken from their reason either through an **inspired expression**, literally, **spirit**, or through a verbal message or through a letter as though from us, to the effect that the day of Yehowah is here.
- It is clear that Paul uses the word *pneu'ma* , **spirit**, in connection with means of communication, such as the **verbal message** or **letter**. For this reason **Lange's Commentary on the Holy Scriptures [p. 126]** says on this text:
 - **By this the Apostle intends a spiritual suggestion, pretended prediction, utterance of a prophet. [Translated and edited by P. Schaff, 1976]**
 - **Vincent's Word Studies in the New Testament states: By spirit. By prophetic utterances of individuals in Christian assemblies, claiming the authority of divine revelations. [1957, Vol. IV, p. 63]**
- Thus, while some translations simply render *pneu'ma* in this and similar cases as **spirit**, other translations read, **message of the Spirit**,

AT, prediction, JB, inspiration [Dostervald, Segond French], inspired expression. NW

- Paul's words make it clear that there are true **inspired expressions** and false ones. He refers to both kinds at;
- However, the inspired utterance says definitely that in later periods of time some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to **misleading inspired utterances** and teachings of demons. (**1 Timothy 4:1**)
- This identifies the source of the **false inspired utterances** as the demons. This is supported by the vision given the apostle John in which he saw, three unclean inspired expressions, froglike in appearance, proceeding from the mouths of the dragon, the wild beast, and the false prophet, and which expressions he specifically states are **inspired by demons**, serving to gather earth's kings to the war at Har-Magedon.
- And I saw three unclean inspired expressions that looked like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the wild beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. (**Revelation 16:13**)
- They are, in fact, expressions inspired by demons and perform signs, and they go forth to the kings of the entire inhabited earth, to gather them together to the war of the great day of God the Almighty. (**Revelation 16:14**)
- Look! I am coming as a thief. Happy is the one that stays awake and keeps his outer garments, that he may not walk naked and people look upon his shamefulness. (**Revelation 16:15**)
- And they gathered them together to the place that is called in Hebrew Har-Magedon. (**Revelation 16:16**)
- With good reason, then, John urged Christians to, test the **inspired expressions** to see whether they originate with God.
- Beloved ones, do not believe every **inspired expression**, but **test** the **inspired expressions** to see whether they originate with God, because many false prophets have gone forth into the world. (**1 John 4:1**)

- You gain the knowledge of the **inspired expression** from God by this. Every **inspired expression** that confesses Jesus Christ as having come in the flesh originates with God. (**1 John 4:2**)
- But every **inspired expression** that does not confess Jesus does not originate with God. Furthermore, this is the antichrists inspired expression which you have heard was coming, and now it is already in the world. (**1 John 4:3**)
- And he said to me; These words are faithful and true, yes, Yehowah the God of the inspired expressions of the prophets sent his angel forth to show his slaves the things that must shortly take place. (**Revelation 22:6**)
- He then went on to show that God's **true inspired expressions** were coming through the genuine Christian congregation, not through unchristian worldly sources.
- John's statement was, of course, inspired by Yehowah God, but even aside from this, John's letter had laid a solid foundation for making the straightforward statement.
- We originate with God. He that gains the knowledge of God listens to us, he that does not originate with God does not listen to us. This is how we take note of the inspired expression of truth and the **inspired expression** of error. (**1 John 4:6**)
- Far from being mere dogmatism, John had shown that he and other true Christians were manifesting the fruits of God's spirit, primarily love, and were proving by their right conduct and truthful speech that they were indeed, walking in the light, in union with God.
- And this is the message which we have heard from him and are announcing to you, that God is light and there is no darkness at all in union with him. (**1 John 1:5**)
- If we make the statement; We are having a sharing with him. Yet we go on walking in the darkness, we are lying and are not practicing the truth. (**1 John 1:6**)
- However, if we are walking in the light as he himself is in the light, we do have a sharing with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. (**1 John 1:7**)

- **And by this we have the knowledge that we have come to know him, namely, if we continue observing his commandments. (1 John 2:3)**
- **He that says; I have come to know him. Yet **who** is not observing his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in this person. (1 John 2:4)**
- **But whoever does observe his word, truthfully in this person the love of God has been made perfect. By this we have the knowledge that we are in union with him. (1 John 2:5)**
- **He that says he remains in union with him is under obligation himself also to go on walking just as that one walked. (1 John 2:6)**
- **He that says he is in the light and yet hates his brother is in the darkness up to right now. (1 John 2:9)**
- **He that loves his brother remains in the light, and there is no cause for stumbling in his case. (1 John 2:10)**
- **But he that hates his brother is in the darkness and is walking in the darkness, and he does not know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes. (1 John 2:11)**
- **Do not be loving either the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. (1 John 2:15)**
- **Because everything in the world, the desire of the flesh and the desire of the eyes and the showy display of one's means of life, does not originate with the Father, but originates with the world. (1 John 2:16)**
- **Furthermore, the world is passing away and so is its desire, but he that does the will of God remains forever. (1 John 2:17)**
- **If you know that he is righteous, you gain the knowledge that everyone who practices righteousness has been born from him. (1 John 2:29)**
- **See what sort of love the Father has given us, so that we should be called children of God, and such we are. That is why the world**

does not have a knowledge of us, because it has not come to know him. (1 John 3:1)

- Beloved ones, now we are children of God, but as yet it has not been made manifest what we shall be. We do know that whenever he is made manifest we shall be like him, because we shall see him just as he is. (1 John 3:2)
- Everyone remaining in union with him does not practice sin, no one that practices sin has either seen him or come to know him. (1 John 3:6)
- Everyone who has been born from God does not carry on sin, because His reproductive seed remains in such one, and he cannot practice sin, because he has been born from God. (1 John 3:9)
- The children of God and the children of the Devil are evident by this fact. Everyone who does not carry on righteousness does not originate with God, neither does he who does not love his brother. (1 John 3:10)
- For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should have love for one another. (1 John 3:11)
- Not like Cain, who originated with the wicked one and slaughtered his brother. And for the sake of what did he slaughter him? Because his own works were wicked, but those of his brother were righteous. (1 John 3:12)
- Do not marvel, brothers, that the world hates you. (1 John 3:13)
- We know we have passed over from death to life, because we love the brothers. He who does not love remains in death. (1 John 3:14)
- Everyone who hates his brother is a manslayer, and you know that no manslayer has everlasting life remaining in him. (1 John 3:15)
- By this we have come to know love, because that one surrendered his soul for us, and we are under obligation to surrender our souls for our brothers. (1 John 3:16)

- **But whoever has this world's means for supporting life and beholds his brother having need and yet shuts the door of his tender compassions upon him, in what way does the love of God remain in him? (1 John 3:17)**
- **Little children, let us love, neither in word nor with the tongue, but in deed and truth. (1 John 3:18)**
- **Indeed, this is his commandment, that we have faith in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and be loving one another, just as he gave us commandment. (1 John 3:23)**
- **Moreover, he who observes his commandments remains in union with him, and he in union with such one, and by this we gain the knowledge that he is remaining in union with us, owing to the spirit which he gave us. (1 John 3:24)**
- **They publicly declare they know God, but they disown him by their works, because they are detestable and disobedient and not approved for good work of any sort. (Titus 1:16)**