

How We Got the Bible Series

Lesson 1 * Sunday Morning Bible Class * March 2, 2025

The Claim for Inspiration * Sam Jones, Teacher

1. One purpose or objective in studying “**How We Got the Bible**” is to help us to develop an _____ and an assurance of _____ that we have an accurate copy of what was _____ given by God.
2. Hopefully, after the study, you will agree that the Bible is the _____ ever written.
3. The Bible makes a big _____; it claims to be _____. In claiming to be inspired, it means that it has a divine origin, i.e., it is from God Almighty.
4. This lesson will do the following: (1) explain inspiration, (2) distinguish between the types of inspiration, (3) identify several examples of internal evidence of Biblical inspiration, and (4) provide examples of inspiration in the Old and New Testaments.

What is Inspiration?

1. The term “**inspiration**” is found in **2 Timothy** _____; Paul writes, “**All _____ is given by the _____ of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.**” Inspiration literally means “**God-_____.**” Thus, inspiration may be defined as a “**supernatural influence exerted on the writers of the various books of the Bible that guided them to _____ or _____ exactly what God wants us to teach or to know.**”
2. Consequently, each inspired writer of the books of the Bible couldn’t write _____, and the things which they wrote are completely _____.
3. The Bible includes quotations from _____ people and even the _____ himself. God doesn’t endorse their sayings, but they were included for a purpose and writers were guided by inspiration to accurately record what they said.
4. The Bible has been given to us by God to do the following: (1) to instruct what is _____, (2) to instruct what is _____, (3) to instruct what to do to get back right, and (4) to instruct what to do to remain right with God.

5. In the Old and New Testaments, there are over 4,000 _____ of inspiration using such expressions as “**thus saith the Lord,**” “**God said,**” “**the word of God,**” and many others.

Theories or Types of Inspiration.

1. **Verbal Inspiration** - states that every word of the Bible, whether spoken _____ or _____, is inspired or from God. It advocates that the Holy Spirit guided the writers in such a precise manner that even the specific words they chose were divinely selected. This perspective helps to lead to a view of scriptural inerrancy suggesting that the original manuscripts of the Bible are totally free from error.

2. **Plenary Inspiration** - the word plenary means “_____ or _____;” it asserts all parts of the Bible are equally of divine origin and equally authoritative.

3. **Dynamic Inspiration** - according to this view, God inspired the biblical writers by imparting divine truths and insights, which they then expressed in their own _____.

4. When we speak of “**inspiration,**” we are referring only to the process by which the _____ books or _____ were composed. After this process, the doctrine of preservation of the Bible has taken over.

5. From a logical perspective, if God went to such great lengths to give us His Word, surely He would also take steps to preserve the Word over the years. The doctrine of _____ and the accuracy of _____ will be discussed later in other lessons.

Internal Evidence of Biblical Inspiration.

1. The Bible contains several examples of _____ evidence supporting its claim to be inspired. They are:

1. **Prophetic Fulfillment in the Bible** - there are numerous prophecies in the Bible; prophecies are _____ statements made of an event that was to happen years later. Only God can be this precise concerning these predictions. In **Isaiah 44:28** and **45:1ff**, God - one hundred and fifty years before this man was born - said the future king of Persia would be _____, and that he would release the

children of Israel from Babylonian captivity. There are more than 800 such prophecies in the Old Testament like these, and each one is valuable in proving the inspiration of the Bible.

2. **Scientific Accuracy of the Bible** – two of several examples in the Bible of scientific accuracy proves the inspiration of the Bible, such as (1) the Bible describes the shape of the earth about _____ years before the birth of Jesus in **Proverbs 8:27**, and _____ years before the Jesus in **Isaiah 40:22**. It wasn't until around 1520 A.D. that scientists in the world accepted the fact that the earth is round, not flat, and (2) the Psalmist tells us in **Psalms 19:4-6** that the sun is stationary, and the earth is revolving around it.
3. **The Unity of the Bible** – The writing of Bible spans almost _____ years from 1500 B.C. to about A. D. 70. The Bible was written by approximately _____ different writers who were diverse in their background, and the unity of the content is the result of divine guidance. In comparison, both the Book of Mormon and the Qu'ran were written each by a single individual in a relatively short duration of time.

Examples of Inspiration in the Old Testament.

1. **Genesis 1:___** – “Then God said...”
2. **Genesis 1:_____** – “Then God said...”
3. **Genesis 3:_____** – “And the Lord God said to the woman...”
4. **Exodus 34:_____** – “Then the Lord said to Moses, Write these words...”
5. **2 Samuel 23:___** – David said, “The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me, and His word was on my tongue.”
6. **Exodus 4:_____** – Moses said God said to him, “Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say.”
7. **Jeremiah 1:_____** – “Then the Lord put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me; ‘Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.’”
8. **Jeremiah 30:_____** – “Thus speaks the Lord God of Israel, saying: “Write in a book for yourself all the words that I have spoken to you.”

9. Exodus 20:____ - “And God spoke all these words, saying.”
10. Joel 1:____ - “The word of the Lord that came to Joel the son of Pethuel.”

Examples of Inspiration in the New Testament.

1. Matthew 10:____ - “For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.”
2. John 14:____ - “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”
3. John 16:____ - “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”
4. 1 Corinthians 2:____ - “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.”
5. 1 Corinthians 14:____ - “If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord.”
6. Ephesians 3:____ - “How that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already.”
7. 2 Peter 1:____ - “For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”
8. Galatians 2:____ - “For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.”
9. 1 Thessalonians 2:____ - “For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God...”
10. 2 Timothy 3:____ - “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God...”