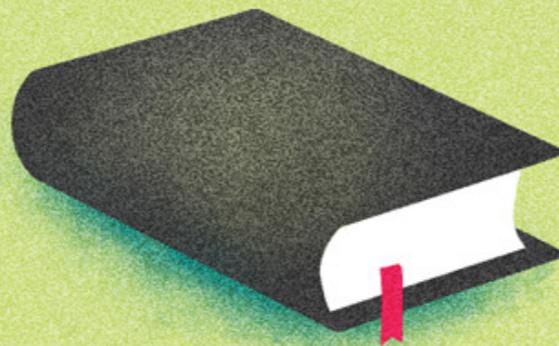


INTEGRITY OF SCRIPTURE



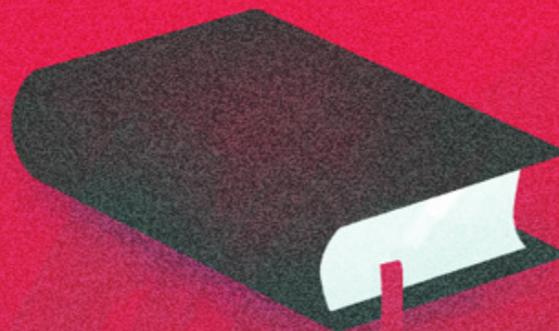
“Is it Reasonable to Believe in God?”

Lecture #1 - 9:30a

INTEGRITY

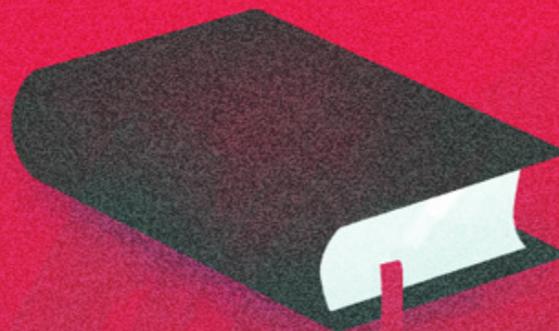
“The quality or condition of being whole or undivided; completeness”

Collins English Dictionary
Complete and Unabridged 12th Edition, 2014



“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”

**2 Timothy 3.16-17
NASBU95**



➤ What is meant by the inspiration of Scripture?

- Θεόπνευστος = theopneustos = God breathed

“The word tells us nothing of the peculiar character or limits of inspiration beyond the fact that it proceeds from God.” (VWS)

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⇒ Scripture's claim of inspiration by God is important:

- Consider the notable attributes of God:

 - ↳ Omniscience; Omnipotence; Omnipresence; Holiness; Righteousness

- Any document that proceeds forth from such a God will be:

 - ↳ Historically Accurate

 - ↳ Scientifically Accurate

 - ↳ Whole from a Literary Perspective

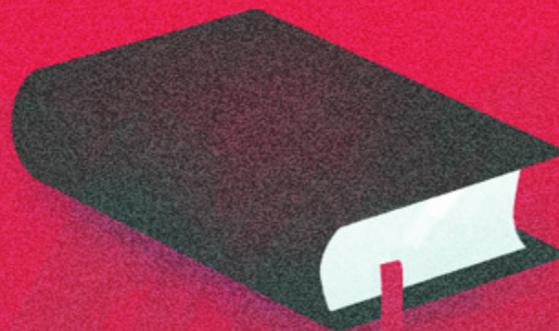
 - ↳ Logically Consistent

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How did God inspire the various authors of Scripture?



Views on Inspiration

Illumination View

“Scripture contains the noble insights of great people of faith... [but they] are not viewed as being divinely [guided].”

Can't reconcile 2 Timothy 3.16

Dynamic View

God the Father inspired the authors of Scripture “thought by thought, rather than word by word.”

Inconsistencies Abound

1 Corinthians 2.12ff

Genesis 2.23ff (Mt. 19)

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Views on Inspiration

Plenary Verbal View

“Plenary means ‘fully,’ and verbal emphasizes that inspiration extends to the very words themselves, so that every word of the Bible is inspired.”

Consistent with 2 Timothy 3.16; 1 Corinthians 2.12ff

This is how Paul viewed Scripture – Galatians 3.16

This is how Jesus viewed Scripture – Matthew 22.32

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➤ The Authors' Testimony of Inspiration

- Claims of inspiration by the authors

- ↳ 2 Peter 1.20-21; John 14-16

- ↳ Note the degree of inspiration claimed by the authors:

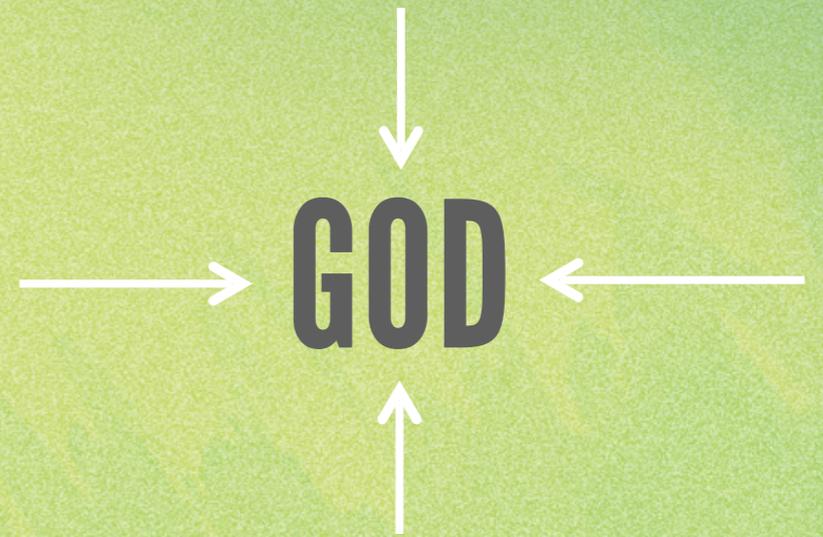
- ↳ John 16.13ff; 1 Corinthians 2.12ff

- The authors were inspired to the very words they recorded:

- ↳ Note that Jesus argued from a single word in the OT – John 10.34-35

- ↳ Jesus argued from the specific tense of a word – Matthew 22.32

- ↳ Paul argued regarding the singular nature of a word – Galatians 3.16



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➤ From Depth to Evidence – Is Scripture Inspired?

- Consistency in Scripture is key to establishing Scripture's inspiration.
- Scripture claims to be inspired by God, but we need more than claims.
- If Scripture is inspired by God, it will:
 - ↳ Reflect internal accuracy
 - ↳ Be historically reliable
 - ↳ Demonstrate scientific consistency

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⇒ Testing the Internal Accuracy of Scripture:

- Written over 1600 years by approximately 40 individuals
- No contradictions, even with the disparity of authorship.

⇒ Testing the Historical Reliability of Scripture:

- An accurate detail of world history, even before events occurred.
- Daniel's accounts of then-impending world empires (Daniel 2,5,8).

⇒ Testing the Scientific Consistency of Scripture:

- Hebrew circumcision practices; foolishness of bloodletting.



Honest, intensive, and extensive investigation reveals:

- 1) Scripture claims to be the product of an omniscient God.
- 2) The claims of Scripture are demonstrated through consistency and accuracy not seen in other literary works.
- 3) Scripture is the product of God carefully guiding the various authors through the Holy Spirit.

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