

Introduction

- ➔ The Bible is often said to be “**inspired** of God,” but many people may not know what that means.
 - Simply put, the Bible is not a book invented by man, but its Author is ultimately God, Himself!
- ➔ In fact, the Bible is rightly referred to as the **verbally inspired** word of God.
 - This means that the very **words** and **grammar** that the Bible writers employed were guided by the Holy Spirit, and are thus of great significance and importance!
- ➔ The Bible was written by about **40 different men** over about **1,600 years** (1500 B.C. - A.D. 100)!
 - In fact, it was written by almost every conceivable **variety** of man: **fishermen, shepherds, priests, prophets, kings, herdsmen, tax collectors, doctors, rabbis.**
 - And, amazingly—despite the above—**100%** of the Bible (**Gen. - Rev.**) is in absolute, **perfect harmony.**
- ➔ While this, alone, is proof of the Bible’s inspiration to any **honest** soul, there is much, much more.

Discussion

I. TESTIMONY

- A. *Do the Scriptures even claim divine inspiration?*
 - 1. Yes—over **3,000 times!**
- B. 2 SAM. 23:2—“**His** word was upon **my** tongue.”
- C. 2 PET. 1:21—“...for prophecy never came by the will of *man*, but holy men of God spoke as they were **moved by the Holy Spirit.**”
- D. 1 COR. 2:11-13—“...not in words which man’s wisdom teaches, but which **the Spirit** teaches...”
- E. 2 TIM. 3:16,17—“All Scripture is **given by inspiration of God**, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness...”
 - 1. θεόπνευστος
 - a) θεός—“**God**”
 - b) πνεύστος—“to **breathe**”
 - (1) “**God-breathed**” (“breathed out by God”—ESV)

II. PROPHECY

- A. There are about **1,000** prophecies in the Bible.
 - 1. 800 in OT; 200 in NT
- B. ISA. 44:28-45:1—King Cyrus will rebuild the temple.
 - 1. Written **100+ years** before Cyrus was even *born!*
- C. There are about **300** Messianic prophecies in the OT.
 - 1. GEN. 3:15—He will come as a **human**.
 - 2. GEN. 22:18,19—He will come from the line of **Abraham**.
 - 3. GEN. 49:10—He will come from the tribe of **Judah**.
 - 4. ISA. 7:14—He will be born of a **virgin**.
 - 5. MIC. 5:2—He will be born in **Bethlehem, Judæa**.
 - 6. ISA. 53—He would be **rejected** and **executed!**

D. PROPHECY VS. PROBABILITY

1. Mathematician Peter Stoner, after applying properties of mathematical probability to Bible prophecy, gave the following analogy:
 - a) Go to **Texas** and cover the *entire state* with silver dollars, *deep enough to reach the moon*.
 - b) Color **one** silver dollar red and **mix it in** with all the others.
 - c) Grab a friend, **blindfold** him, send him to Texas, and tell him to pick **one** coin.
 - (1) The odds of him picking the red silver dollar are about equal to the odds of just **one** single Bible prophecy being fulfilled by chance!

III. ACCURACY

A. HISTORICAL ACCURACY

1. While there are a few *copyist* errors, no one can *honestly* deny the fact that **the Bible contains zero historical mistakes—No** man-made history book can boast that!
2. Some people dedicate their very *lives* to proving this fact wrong—For Example:
 - a) ISA. 20:1—“**Sargon**, king of Assyria”
 - (1) In 1843, the palace of Sargon was discovered!
 - b) GEN. 40:11—**Grapes in Egypt**
 - (1) **Pre-Moses** artwork discovered with **grapes** depicted!
 - c) JOSH.–EZRA—The **Hittite** People

B. SCIENTIFIC ACCURACY

1. No scientific **fact** has ever or will ever conflict with Biblical **fact**.
 - a) THE LAW OF BIOGENESIS—*Life comes only from preexisting life, after its kind*.
 - (1) GEN. 1:24—“Let the earth bring forth the living creature **according to its kind**: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each **according to its kind**...”
 - b) 1ST LAW OF THERMODYNAMICS—*Nothing New is Being “Made”*
 - (1) GEN. 2:1—“...the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were **finished**.”
 - c) 2ND LAW OF THERMODYNAMICS—*The Universe is Wearing Down*
 - (1) ISA. 51:6—“...For **the heavens will vanish away** like smoke, **the earth will grow old** like a garment, and **those who dwell in it will die in like manner**...”
 - (2) PSA. 102:25,26—“Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. **They will perish**, but You will endure; Yes, **they will all grow old like a garment**...”
 - (3) ISA. 40:8—“The **grass withers**, the **flower fades**, but **the word of our God stands FOREVER**.”

Conclusion

➔ SO WHAT?

- If this Book was “breathed out” by God, *Himself*, then **it has ALL AUTHORITY in my life**, and my life depends on my **diligent study** of it and **pursuit of obeying its commands!**
- As proven, the Bible is *the direct revelation from heaven*—the **verbally inspired WORD OF GOD**.
- The question I must ask myself is: **Do I treat it as such by uncompromisingly doing as it says?**