

Chapter 3 “The Holy Spirit and The Bible” The Holy Spirit – Graham

“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness” (2 Tim 3:16).

“inspired” – Greek word – “God-breathed”

The Holy Spirit Was the Inspirer of Scripture

Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible – 2 Peter 1:21

He designed the Bible to meet the needs of all people in all ages – 1 Peter 1:10,11

Spirit of God inspired the men of God who would write the Scriptures

2 Sam 23:21; Jer 31:33,34; Ezek 3:24; Acts 3:21;

Heb 9:6-8; Heb 10:15-17; Heb 3:7-10

Jesus assured the disciples in advance that the Holy Spirit would inspire the writers of the New Testament: John 14:26; John 16:13

Canonization of the Bible: “The Holy Spirit in His work did not bypass the human processes, but instead, He worked through them.”

“Inspiration by the Spirit” Defined

Holy Spirit used living human minds and guided their thoughts according to His divine purposes...we cannot have inspired ideas without inspired words

Total (plenary) inspiration of the Bible (all of the Bible, not just some parts)

Inspired – theopneustos – “God-breathed, or God-inspired”

Jesus – “Not one jot or tittle of that law shall ever fail” Matt 5:18

“jot” – smallest letter in the Hebrew Bible

“tittle” – a small turn or projection of a Hebrew letter

Scriptures cannot be broken

Inspiration by the Holy Spirit does not refer to the many English translations, but to the original languages. No modern language, whether English, French, or Spanish, has in it the exact equivalent for every Greek or Hebrew word.

The Greek word for “baptism” had no English equivalent,
so it came to be the English word

Authoritative – God’s binding revelation to us

Bible should be the source of our religious knowledge

God has given us all of it, and we should be obedient to all of it

The same Holy Spirit who was the author of the Scriptures through the use of human personalities also works in each of us to convince us the Bible is the Word of God to be trusted in all its parts.

Refer to John Calvin’s *Institutes of the Christian Religion* (p. 43)

The Illumination of the Spirit

Holy Spirit illumines the minds and opens the hearts of its readers

Spiritual response to the Word of God

Jer 15:16; Isa 40:8; Matt 22:29; John 10:35; John 15:3

Word of God speaks to the heart

1 Cor 2:9,10; 1 Cor 2:12; Ps 119:18

The Unity of the Spirit and the Word

Pentecost – Paul quoted from OT – “This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel” (Acts 2:16 KJV).

“This” refers to the promised Spirit

“That” refers to the written Word

Eccl 8:4; 2 Cor 3:17; Isa 55:11

The Word of God changes our lives

2 Tim 3:16,17; John 17:17; Heb 4:12,13; Job 23:12

Effective preaching must be biblical preaching

The Spirit Is Using the Word Today

Examples of the Word transforming and inspiring today (pp. 48-49)

Those who suffered and were rescued by the Word

Those who receive daily nourishment and reinforcement of faith

Those prepared for future persecution