

Bible Q and A

Question # 4; “Is the Bible God’s Inspired Word?”

Answer: Many believe the Bible to be a fictional literary work. God and the Bible are simply myths to these skeptics. The Bible, on the other hand, claims to be the inspired word of God. The apostle Paul wrote, “*All scripture is inspired of God...*” (cf. II Tim. 3:16-17). Who then is correct, the skeptic or the Bible itself? If the Bible is correct, then man is faced with bearing the responsibility for his or her sinful actions. If the Bible is incorrect, then mankind has the liberty to do as he or she pleases in this life without worry of eternal condemnation for a life of sin.

The Bible tells us that “*no prophecy ever came by the will of man: but men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit*” (II Pet. 1:21). The Holy Spirit thereby “*entered into*” (Ezek. 2:1-2), “*fell upon*” (Ezek. 11:5), “*guided*” (Jn. 16:8ff), and “*testified*” through people such as prophets (Ezra 5:1), Jesus (Heb. 1:1-2), apostles and inspired men (I Cor. 12:6-8; Eph. 3:1ff). The message of the Holy Spirit came to man in “*diverse manners*” (Heb. 1:1). Some inspired people saw visions and others experienced divine dreams (cf. Dan. 7:1; Obed. 1:1; Joel 2:28ff; Amos 1:1; Zechariah 1:7ff). Once the “*Spirit*” of God was given to these inspired men they were able to speak and preach God’s divine message (cf. Numb. 11:26-30). The apostle Paul said, “*For I make known to you, brethren, as touching the gospel which was preached by me, that it is not after man. For neither did I receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came to me through revelation of Jesus Christ*” (Gal. 1:11-12).

The Holy Spirit’s divine message to man was confirmed to be true by the signs and wonders that the inspired men were able to perform (Mk. 16:20; Jn. 20:30-31; Acts 2:22; 8:4-8; Heb. 2:2-4). These revealed truths were designed to instruct mankind in the ways of righteousness (II Tim. 3:16-17). Said instructions would not only reveal the identity of sin (cf. Rom. 7:7) but help man avoid its eternal consequences (Rom. 1:16).

The same prophets that revealed the mind of God also foretold of a day when divine inspiration would end. The Prophet Zechariah tells us that prophecy would eventually cease once the kingdom of God was established with Christ reigning as king (Zech. 13:3ff). The apostle Paul told the Corinthians that inspired knowledge would be discontinued when all revelation had been made known (I Cor. 13:8ff). Man now has the complete revelation of God (Jude 3). There is no need for modern day apostles or prophets. God has divinely distributed all that man needs to know to be saved from the consequences of their sin.

To the skeptic revelation means nothing because they question the very existence of God. Mankind has ever had God’s creation to look upon and thereby determine that God is (Rom. 1:18-21). David wrote, “*The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork*” (Ps. 19:1). Who can look at our solar system, the earth, oceans, rivers, mountains, and animal life and say, “there is no God?” Again, who can possibly look at our complex human bodies and claim, “there is no God?” The Psalmist said, “*The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God*” (Ps. 14:1). Engines, ships, skyscrapers, and bridges do not just happen. Engineers design these things with careful thought. Surely the skeptic understands that it would take greater faith to believe that the complex universe and our human bodies just happened rather than being divinely designed. The evidence is clear to question at hand. Yes, the Word of God is divinely inspired.

If you would like to discuss this subject further please do write an e-mail to John Robertson at jrobertson1@juno.com

We certainly welcome questions, disagreements, and comments... that is why we have set this forum up (we want to hear from you).