

THE ORIGIN AND NATURE OF GOD'S WORD

1 How was the Bible written?

2 PETER 1:21 "For _____ never came by the will of man, but _____ men of God _____ as they were _____ by the Holy Spirit."

2 TIMOTHY 3:16 "_____ Scripture is given by _____ of God, and is profitable for _____, for _____, for _____, for _____ in righteousness."

The Bible is not a human invention; it is God inspired. God sent the Holy Spirit to work through holy men. The Bible's focus on the frailty of humanity and our need of Christ is the best evidence against the Bible being a human idea. By reading and following the Bible we discover doctrine, we receive reproof and instruction for godly living, and our incorrect ideas are corrected.

2 How is agreement possible within the Bible's many writers?

PSALM 119:160 "The _____ of Your word is _____, and every one of Your righteous judgments endures _____."

The Bible's accuracy has everything to do with its Author and less to do with its writers. God is the source of its cohesiveness. In 1 Corinthians 14:33, the apostle Paul wrote, "God is not the author of confusion."

3 How is the eternal nature of God's Word described?

MATTHEW 24:35 "Heaven and earth will _____, but My _____ will by _____ pass _____."

God's Word is as eternal as He is. Everything the Bible reveals is true and unchangeable. Psalm 89:34 tells us, "My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips." (NKJV).

4 How powerful is God's Word?

PSALM 33:6, 9 "By the _____ of the LORD the _____ were made, and all the host of them by the _____ of His mouth. (9) For He _____, and it was done; He _____, and it stood fast."

The God, whose spoken word transformed a dark planet into a creative masterpiece, is the same God whose written Word can transform us.

5 What was the apostle Paul's testimony respecting God's Word?

HEBREWS 4:12 "For the word of God is _____ and _____, and _____ than any two-edged sword, _____ even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a _____ of the _____ and _____ of the heart."

The Bible is not a common book. It is as alive as its Author. It is sharper than the intellect of the most learned. Properly applied, it will positively affect every area of our lives. Studying the Bible can guide our thoughts and expose the intentions of our heart.

6 How else can the Bible impact our walk with Christ?

2 TIMOTHY 3:15 "And that from childhood you have known the _____, which are able to make you _____ for _____ through _____ which is in Christ Jesus."

The Word of God also imparts wisdom. It prevents us from being wise in our own understanding and judgment. The Word contains wisdom from the mind of God if followed results in salvation.

7 What can God's Word do for those in darkness?

PSALM 119:105 "Your word is a _____ to my _____ and a _____ to my _____."

In Bible times lamps filled with oil illuminated the path of those in darkness. Similarly, when we ask for the Holy Spirit to guide us, He expands our intellect and illuminates our walk with Christ.

THE REVELATION OF GOD'S WORD

8 Who does the Bible reveal as its main theme and revelation?

JOHN 5:39 "You search the _____, for in them you think you have _____ life; and these are they which _____ of _____."

LUKE 24:27 "And beginning at _____ and all the _____, He expounded to them in _____ the _____ the things concerning _____."

Many study the Bible to gain knowledge, some to gain wisdom. Still others search it pages to unlock its prophetic significance. Little is lost however, even if your forget the knowledge, wisdom, and prophesies of the Bible, but everything is lost if the Christ of the Scriptures is forgotten. That is why Jesus testified to the necessity of knowing Him. In John 14:6 Jesus proclaimed, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

9 In order to avoid error, how does Jesus elevate His truth in Bible study?

JOHN 17:17 "Sanctify them by Your _____. Your _____ is truth."

There is no truth apart from God's Word. Many may advance spectacular sounding theories but without Bible support they are in error. All doctrines and beliefs must be based on the harmony and unity of the Word from the first book of the Bible to its last.

10 What should we use to discover Scriptural harmony?

ISAIAH 28:10 "For _____ must be upon precept, precept upon precept, _____ upon _____, line upon line, here a _____, there a _____."

When developing truth or doctrine, don't establish your beliefs on one verse. The Bible expressly forbids this practice. Searching the Scriptures carefully will protect the integrity of God's Word and prevent substitutions with humanity's words and teachings.

11 What practice did the Berean Christians use to guard against accepting man's teachings above God's Word?

ACTS 17:11 "These were more _____ than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the _____ with all _____, and _____ the _____ daily to find out _____ these things were _____."

2 TIMOTHY 2:15 "Be diligent to present yourself _____ to _____, a worker who does not need to be _____, _____ the Word of _____."

Remaining in harmony with His "Word" of Truth" as our first priority will please God, and correctly interpreting, understanding, and teaching the Word of God will become an antidote against disputes. Rightly dividing the Word is the product of diligent study.

12 Other than developing a right understanding of God's will, what personal benefits can the study of the Bible give?

ROMANS 15:4 "For whatever things were _____ before were written for our _____, that we through the _____ and _____ of the Scriptures might have _____."

One of the greatest needs of humanity is hope. God has designed His Word to impart learning, patience, comfort, and hope to its readers. No other book imparts such divine qualities like the Bible.

13 How does the Bible move us from understanding to transformation?

1 THESSALONIANS 2:13 "For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you _____ the word of God which you heard from us, you _____ it not as the word of _____, but as it is in _____, the word of _____, which also _____ works in you who _____."

God's Word is like a seed. When planted into the mind and heart it germinates, producing spiritual nourishment, character development, and stability of life not attainable by any other means.

THE POWER OF GOD'S WORD

14 What kind of power will accompany the study of the Bible?

HEBREWS 11:3 "By _____ we understand that the _____ were framed by the _____ of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible."

The same powerful God who framed the worlds will frame our understanding of His Word. If God can create the worlds, imagine what He can do if we expose our minds to His creative power.

15 How is God's Word able to take us on a journey through time?

ISAIAH 46:9-10 "Remember the _____ things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is _____ like Me, (10) _____ the _____ from the _____, And from _____ times _____ that are _____ yet done, Saying, 'My _____ shall stand, And I will do _____ My _____'"

Through God's Word we understand the past and prepare for the future.

PROPHECIES & FULFILLMENTS ABOUT JESUS

PROPHECY	OLD TESTAMENT	NEW TESTAMENT
1. Born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Matthew 2:1
2. Born of a Virgin	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:18-23
3. From David's Lineage	Jeremiah 23:5	Revelation 22:16
4. Betrayed by a friend	Psalms 41:9	John 13:18, 19, 26
5. Sold for 30 pieces of silver	Zechariah 11:12	Matthew 26:14-16
6. Crucified	Zechariah 12:10	John 19:16-18, 37
7. Lots cast for His clothes	Psalms 22:18	Matthew 27:35
8. No bones broken	Psalms 34:20	John 19:31-36
9. Buried in a rich man's tomb	Isaiah 53:9	Matthew 27:57-60
10. Prediction of His Death	Daniel 9:26, 27	Matthew 27:45-50
11. Raised on the third day	Hosea 6:2	Acts 10:38-40

There are more than 125 prophecies just relating to the Messiah that clearly reveal His divinity, His mission, His acts of redemption, His victory over death, and His soon return. God's Word merges the past and future.

16 How can the Word of God become a defense against evil?

EPHESIANS 6:17 "And take the helmet of _____, and the _____ of the Spirit, which is the _____ of God."

For us, the Bible is the sword in God's armor. This sword is an offensive weapon used for cutting away error and misconceptions to make room

for the truth. When Jesus faced Satan in the wilderness of temptation, He overcame by saying, "It is Written." (Matthew 4:7-11) Like Jesus we can use the written word for a defensive against Satan. As Revelation 19:13 reveals, Jesus not only used the written word, He is the living Word.

17 What triple blessings are held in the book of Revelation?

REVELATION 1:3 "Blessed is he who _____ and those who _____ the words of this prophecy, and _____ those things which are written in it; for the _____ is near."

The first blessing is to the one that shares the Word with others by "reading" it. The next blessing is to those that gather to "hear" the Word. The final blessing is to those willing to "keep" or heed the messages they heard from the Bible.

THE FORCE OF GOD'S WORD

18 What else must we do besides reading and hearing the Word?

2 THESSALONIANS 2:10 "And with all unrighteous deception among those who _____, because they did not receive the _____ of the _____, that they might be _____."

Developing a love for the truth is more beneficial than hearing, reading, and keeping the instruction found in the Bible.

19 How enduring is the Word of God as a seed in our hearts?

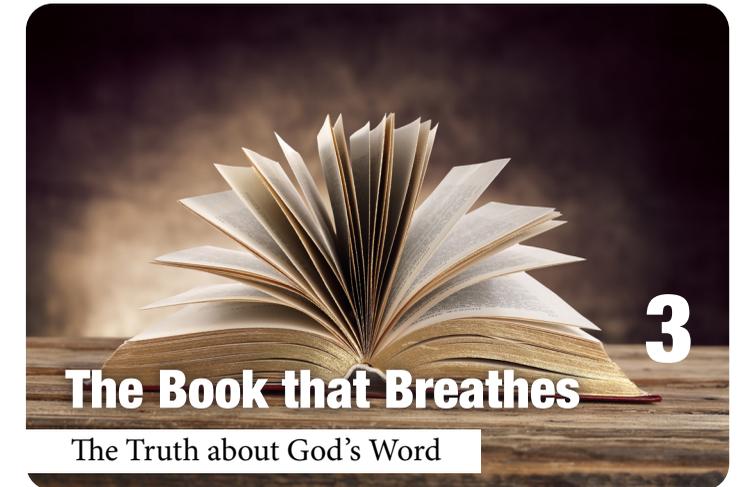
1 PETER 1:23 "Having been born _____, not of _____ seed but _____, through the _____ of _____ which lives and abides _____."

The Word of God introduces us to the incorruptible seed. Jesus sows His seed within us through the study of His eternal Word.

20 How does the study of God's Word affect our spiritual growth?

HEBREWS 5:13-14 "For everyone who partakes only of milk is _____ in the _____ of righteousness, for he is a babe. (14) But _____ food belongs to those who are of _____ age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses _____ to discern both _____ and _____."

Consistent study of the Word of God helps the Christian mature. The more we study the Bible, understanding the differences between good and evil will become clearer. Guiding us, strengthening us, and revealing Jesus continually makes the Bible the only Book that breathes.



The Book that Breathes

The Truth about God's Word

No other book in history has been translated into more languages than the Holy Bible. Its original languages include Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek. While it's sold as a single book it is in fact a volume of sixty-six books, thirty-nine books in the Old Testament and twenty-seven in the New Testament. Although written over a period of approximately 1500 years, its various writers share its stunning accuracy, cohesion, and unity. No other book traces the trek of human history with credibility and insight as found in its pages. When human skeptics sought to create doubt in its contents, archaeological discoveries such as the Moabite Stone, the Dead Sea Scrolls, and the Rosetta Stone continued to confirm its origin.

Thousands of references in the Bible declare its divine inspiration. Major world empires are predicted with bewildering credibility. The Bible was not written by men alone, it was written by holy men under the guiding influence of the Holy Spirit. Therefore, divine inspiration is the secret of its accuracy. Another proof of its origin is the Christ it reveals. Its answers to the questions of man's greatest need--deliverance from sin--is beyond comparison to any other book. However, the best evidence that the Bible is connected to a living God is the fact that Jesus is its central theme, His love its central message, and His salvation its most valued gift. Simply put, the Bible is the only Book that breathes.