

# Overview of the Bible Inspiration and Authority of Scripture

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Lesson 3

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# **Inspiration and Authority of Scripture**

The Bible is the Inspired Word of God.

The Holy Spirit guided men in writing the Bible.

The Bible is the authority of God.

1. What did the Israelites say after they heard the reading of the “book of the covenant”? Ex. 24: 7

# 1. Recognition of a body of sacred writings

## a. In the OT

### Exodus 24:7

7 Then he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!”

2. Who heard all the words written in the book of the law in Joshua 8: 34?

## Joshua 8: 34

34 Then afterward he read all the words of the law, the blessing and the curse, according to all that is written in the book of the law.

35 There was not a word of all that Moses had commanded which Joshua did not read before all the assembly of Israel with the women and the little ones and the strangers who were living among them.

3. What did the people do at the square in front of the Water Gate? Neh. 8: 1,8

## **Nehemiah 8: 1**

**1** And all the people gathered as one man at the square which was in front of the Water Gate, and they asked Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses which the LORD had given to Israel.

## **Nehemiah 8: 8**

**8** They read from the book, from the law of God, translating to give the sense so that they understood the reading.

## 4. Who are the messengers in Malachi 3.1?

### Malachi 3: 1

1 “Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is coming,” says the LORD of hosts.

My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me –  
**John the Baptist**

the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight,  
behold, He is coming – **Jesus Christ**

5. How did the Israelites understand the Scriptures in Luke 24: 45?

**Luke 24: 45**

**45 Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,**

**He opened their minds**

**John 7: 38**

**38 “He who believes in Me, as the **Scripture said**, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’ ”**

# Recognition of a body of sacred writings

## b. Jesus' View of the Bible

### I. Divine Inspiration:

#### **Matthew 22: 42-45**

**42** “What do you think about the Christ, whose son is He?” They said to Him, “*The son of David.*”

**43** He said to them, “Then how does David in the Spirit call Him ‘Lord,’ saying, **44** ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Until I put Your enemies beneath Your feet” ’?”

**45** “If David then calls Him ‘Lord,’ how is He his son?”

#### **John 7: 38**

**38** “He who believes in Me, as the **Scripture said**, **‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’”**

Recognition of a body of sacred writings

## b. Jesus' View of the Bible

### II. Indestructible:

#### Matthew 5: 17-18

17 “Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.

18 “For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.

# Recognition of a body of sacred writings

## b. Jesus' View of the Bible

### III. Infallible:

#### John 10:33-38

**33** The Jews answered Him, “For a good work we do not stone You, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out *to be* God.”

**34** Jesus answered them, “Has it not been written in your Law, ‘I said, you are gods’?”

**35** “If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture cannot be broken),

**36** do you say of Him, whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’?”

**37** “If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;

**38** but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father.”

# Recognition of a body of sacred writings

## b. Jesus' View of the Bible

### IV. Final Authority:

#### **Matthew 4:4**

**4** But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.’ ” (Deut. 8:3)

#### **Matthew 4:7**

**7** Jesus said to him, “On the other hand, it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” (Deut. 6:16)

#### **Matthew 4:10**

**10** Then Jesus \*said to him, “Go, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.’ ” (Deut. 6:13; 10: 20)

Recognition of a body of sacred writings

## **b. Jesus' View of the Bible**

### **V. Foreshadowing:**

#### **Matthew 12:40**

**40** for just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

#### **Matthew 24:37**

**37** “For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.

Recognition of a body of sacred writings

## **b. Jesus' View of the Bible**

### **VI. Factual:**

**John 17:17**

**17** “Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

### **Christ-Centered Unity:**

**Luke 24: 27**

**27** Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

# Recognition of a body of sacred writings

## b. Jesus' View of the Bible

### VII. Spiritually Clear:

#### **Luke 24: 24-27**

**24** “Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just exactly as the women also had said; but Him they did not see.”

**25** And He said to them, “**O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!**”

**26** “Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?”

**27** **Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.**

Recognition of a body of sacred writings

## **b. Jesus' View of the Bible**

### **VIII. For those who have Faith:**

#### **Luke 16: 31**

**31** “But he said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

6. What was the purpose of the writings of the Old Testament? Rom. 1: 1-2; 15:4

## c. Delivered by the apostles

### Romans 1: 1–2

1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,  
2 which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures,

### Romans 15: 4

4 For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Recognition of a body of sacred writings

Paul's statement to the saints at Corinth

1 Cor 2: 12-13

12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God,

13 which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

7. What did Paul share with the saints at Corinth in 1 Cor 15: 3-4?

## **1 Corinthians 15: 3–4**

**3** For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that **Christ died for our sins** **according to the Scriptures**,

**4** and that **He was buried**, and that **He was raised on the third day** **according to the Scriptures**,

OT Scriptures show that the Messiah was ordained to die, to be buried and then to be raised from the dead.

Gen. 22: 8, 14; Ps. 16: 8-11; Ps. 22; Is. 53; Hosea 6:2

8. What were the results of the writings of the Old Testament in 2 Tim. 14-15?

## 2 Timothy 3: 14–15

**14** You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them,

**15** and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

9. What was the attitude of the saints at Berea towards the Scriptures in Acts 17: 10-11?

## d. Examined by the early church

### Acts 17: 10-11

**10** The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews.

**11** Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.

10. By what means did the Holy Spirit admonish the Israelites? What were the results?

Neh. 9:30

## 2. The Inspiration of Scripture

**Nehemiah 9: 30**

**30 “However, You bore with them for many years, And admonished them by Your Spirit through Your prophets, Yet they would not give ear. Therefore You gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands.”**

# The Inspiration of Scripture

1 Corinthians 2: 13

13 which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

Hebrews 1: 1–2

1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,  
2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

# The Inspiration of Scripture

2 Timothy 3: 16

16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;

All Scripture is inspired by God

- a. profitable for teaching
- b. for reproof
- c. for correction
- d. for training in righteousness

# Authority of Scripture in the Old Testament

## a. The authority of Scripture recognized in the OT

Joshua 1: 8

8 “This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.”

# Authority of Scripture in the Old Testament

## Joshua 23: 6

6 “Be very firm, then, to keep and do all that is written in the book of the law of Moses, so that you may not turn aside from it to the right hand or to the left,

## Isaiah 40: 8

8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.

# Authority of Scripture in the New Testament

## b. The authority of Scripture recognized in the NT

**Gal. 3: 24**

**24** Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.

# Authority of Scripture in the New Testament

## b. The authority of Scripture recognized in the NT

### 1 Thessalonians 2: 13

13 For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.

# Authority of Scripture in the New Testament

## 3. Jesus Christ claims scriptural authority for His own Words

### Matthew 24: 34–35

34 “Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.

35 “Heaven and earth will pass away, but **My words will not pass away.**”

# Authority of Scripture in the New Testament

## John 14: 10

**10** “Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works.

## John 14: 23–24

**23** Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.

**24** “He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine, but the Father’s who sent Me.