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| <p>What is Inspiration?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspired (Gr. <i>Theopneustos</i>) = “divinely inspired (“to affect, guide, or arouse by divine influence... to be the cause or source of... to breath upon” [AHD 666]) (Moulton 193). • Revelation (Gr. <i>Apokalupsis</i>) (Gal. 1:11-12) = “uncovered” (LS 99). “Uncover, to reveal... announced” (Moulton 42). | <p>INSPIRATION</p> <p><i>“All scripture is <u>inspired</u> of God and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness: that the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work”</i> II Timothy 3:16-17</p> | <p>Who Spoke words of Inspiration?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prophets (Ezra 5:1; Eph. 3:1ff). • Jesus (Heb. 1:1-2). • The NT apostles, prophets, and inspired men (I Cor. 12:6-8; Eph. 3:1ff). |
| <p>How did God “guide” these men to Speak Revealed Truths?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God “<i>moved</i>” (II Pet. 1:21) these men to speak divine truths by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit “<i>entered into</i>” (Ezek. 2:1-2) and “<i>fell upon</i>” (Ezek. 11:5) the apostles and prophets in times past. Jesus said to his apostles, “<i>when the Spirit of truth is come, he shall <u>guide</u> you into all the truth: for he shall not speak from himself; but what things soever he shall hear, these shall he speak: and he shall declare unto ou the things that are to come</i>” (Jn. 16:8ff). Nehemiah records, “<i>yet many years didst thou bear with them, and testified against them <u>by thy Spirit</u> through thy prophets</i>” (Neh. 9:30 / cf. also Ezek. 1:3; 11:4-7). • These men that were moved by God to speak, by the work of the Holy Spirit, confirmed their words as being of divine origin by the signs and wonders they performed (cf. Mk. 16:20; Jn. 20:30-31; Acts 2:22; Heb. 2:2-4). | | |
| <p>Why did God, through the Holy Spirit, reveal His message to the apostles, prophets, and Jesus?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul tells us that inspiration was delivered so that the man of God may be instructed in righteousness and made complete unto every good work (II Tim. 3:16-17). • Again, the apostle Paul tells us that it is through the divine revelation of the gospel that men are saved from the consequences of sin (Rom. 1:16). • Through revelation, we may distinguish between true and false doctrines (cf. Matt. 7:15-16; II Pet. 2:1-3). This would be important due to the fact that false doctrine is of the devil (I Tim. 4:1) and has a leavening power (cf. Matt. 16:11-12) to “<i>overthrow the faith of some</i>” (II Tim. 2:17-18). | | |
| <p>When did Divine Revelation cease to be communicated to the Apostles and Prophets?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul told the Corinthians that all inspired knowledge would be discontinued when the completed revelation had been revealed (I Cor. 13:8ff). • The complete revelation to man was fulfilled during the life of the apostles and thereby we have no need for new revelations (cf. Jude 3). | | |