

Divine Authorship

INSPIRATION

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Inspiration

- How does the Bible talk about its divine authorship?

* 2 Tim 3:16-17

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Inspiration

2 Timothy 3:16-17

"All Scripture is God-breathed [*theopneustos*] and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work." (NIV)

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Inspiration

"Scripture is a product of God's creative and communicative work in human authors, which is so effective that what they wrote under divine influence is considered to be divinely authored. Because of this God-given origin, Scripture is useful for teaching the truth, pointing out error, correcting wrong behavior, and instructing in the disciplines of godliness and holiness."

-- Michael F. Bird

Seven Things I Wish Christians Knew about the Bible

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Inspiration

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* 2 Peter 1:20-21

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Inspiration

2 Peter 1:20-21

"Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit." (NIV)

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Inspiration

"It seems that Scripture itself claims that biblical authors were divinely moved and spiritually endowed to receive a word from God and write it into human words....God's word consists of divine testimony to truth which was infused into people and then inscribed onto pages."

-- M. F. Bird

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Inspiration

- How does the Bible talk about its divine authorship?

* 2 Tim 3:16-17

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- The Spirit produced the Bible through the full authorship of the human writers ("superintendence").

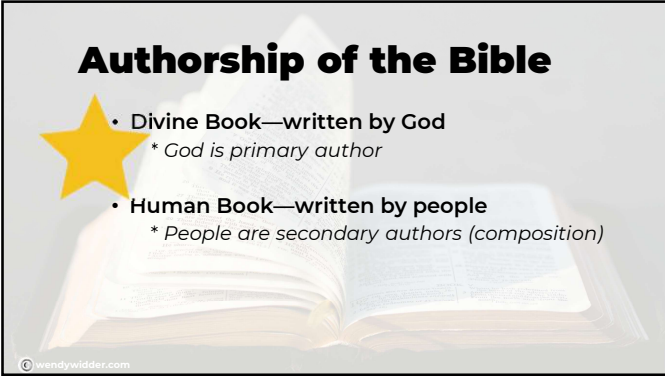
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Inspiration

God used circumstances, cultures, language, and gifts of human authors, who wrote using various tools:

- Exact words
- Summaries
- Oral traditions
- Official records
- Human observations
- Research


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Authorship of the Bible

- Divine Book—written by God
 - * *God is primary author*
- Human Book—written by people
 - * *People are secondary authors (composition)*

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Reflection

- Explain what it means to say the Bible is "inspired" by God.
- Have you ever thought about *how* God wrote the Bible?
- How might the Bible's inspiration affect how you read it?

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NEXT UP...

What Is the Bible?

Lesson 5
Divine Authorship: Why It Matters

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