



# SURVEY OF THEOLOGY

## *Bibliology*

Grace Institute - Pastor Jim C. Davis

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### Lecture Three: Inspiration

#### 1A. Definitions

- 1B. Inspiration is the process by which \**“God superintended the human authors of the Bible so that they composed and recorded without error His message to mankind in the words of their original writings.”* (Ryrie, p71)
- 2B. Inspiration is *“that controlling influence which God exerted over the human authors by whom the Old and New Testaments were written. It has to do with the reception of the divine message and the accuracy with which it is transcribed.”* (L.S. Chafer, *Systematic Theology*, I:61)
- 3B. Inspiration is *“that inexplicable power which the Divine Spirit put forth of old on the authors of Holy Scripture, in order to their guidance even in the employment of the words they used, and to preserve them alike from all error and from all omission.”* Louis Gaussen, *Theopneustia*, p25

#### 2A. Scripture

##### 1B. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 -- The extent of Inspiration

##### 1C. The Scope – “All Scripture”

- all Scripture came from God to show us how to live.
- Both Old & New Testaments are designated Scripture.
  - 1 Timothy 5:18 (OT - Deut 25:4; NT - Luke 10:7)
  - 2 Peter 3:15-16 (Paul’s writings called Scripture by Peter)
  - Titus 2:7-8

##### 2C. The Source – “...by inspiration of God” (God-breathed) - entire Bible

##### 3C. The Purpose – to equip for good works

##### 2B. 2 Peter 1:2 -- The Means of Inspiration

##### 1C. The Means – Holy Spirit used men (human writers).

##### 2C. The Process – The Holy Spirit carried them along. (the will of God)

##### 3B. 1 Corinthians 2:6-13 -- The words and thoughts of Inspiration

The Record – words recorded in the Bible (actual words are inspired)

#### 3A. Observations

##### 1B. Inspiration involves:

##### 1C. Dual Authorship

- 2C. The full content of the Bible
  - 3C. Only the original manuscripts
  - 4C. Ultimately a process that is unexplainable
  - 5C. A product that is confirmed as inerrant
  - 6C. Infallibility for human authors only to the extent of their writings in Scripture
- 2B. Inspiration is not
- 1C. Revelation
  - 2C. Illumination
  - 3C. Superior or special insight into truth

**Important Note:** Our understanding of the nature of the inspiration of the Scriptures is often expressed as the following: verbal (words, grammar, etc.), plenary (complete in all aspects) inspiration.\*