

The Holy Spirit Revealed and Inspired the Word of God

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Observation—*The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me, and His word was on my tongue* (2 Samuel 23:2; see also 23:1-3; Psalm 110:1 with Mark 12:36; Psalm 41:9 with Acts 1:16; Psalm 2 with Acts 4:24-25; Matthew 5:18; 15:4; Isaiah 6:9-10 with Acts 28:25; Hebrews 3:7; 10:15-16; 2 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16; John 14:26; 16:14; 1 Corinthians 14:37; 2 Peter 3:15-16).

Interpretation—David was the godliest king Israel ever knew. He was also a writer of many Psalms. Near the end of his life, he declared those Psalms to be a revelation and an inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Revelation is God **disclosing** something not previously known.

Inspiration is God **directing** human authors to use their own personality to compose and record without error God's revelation to man in the words of their original writings.

David declared that the Spirit of God moved him to write the Psalms. In Mark 12:36, Jesus confirmed that specifically about David concerning Psalm 110:1, declaring, *David himself said [it] in the Holy Spirit*. Peter also stated this concerning Psalm 41:9 when he wrote, ... *the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David* (see also Acts 4:25).

This was not just declared of David but of other writers of the Scripture as well. In Matthew 15:4, Jesus quoted what Moses wrote and called it what God said. He also declared, *for truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished*.

In Acts 28:25, Paul said, *The Holy Spirit ... spoke through Isaiah the prophet ...* Then he quoted Isaiah 6:9. The author of Hebrews attributed the Old Testament to the work of the Holy Spirit (Hebrews 3:7; 10:15-16).

Possibly the best verse describing **revelation** is 2 Peter 1:21. There Peter described revelation by saying, *men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God*.

Possibly the best verses for **inspiration** are 2 Timothy 3:16 and 17. There Paul told us, *All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work*.

We can also apply this to the New Testament because Christ and the apostles declared it. In the Upper Room Discourse, Jesus told the apostles, *But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you* (John 14:26) and *He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose {it} to you* (John 16:14). Peter also confirmed this when he equated Paul's letter with *the rest of the Scripture* (2 Peter 3:15-16).

Application—Choose only the best answer.

- A. The Holy Spirit revealed the Word of God to the authors of the Bible.
- B. The Holy Spirit revealed the mind of God to certain men and inspired their writings according to their own personalities.
- C. The Holy Spirit revealed the words the authors of the Bible wrote down, so those words were without error.

B is correct. The Holy Spirit revealed the mind of God to the Biblical authors, then inspired them to write it down without error, using their own personalities and methods of composition. A and C are incorrect because the work of the Holy Spirit, whereby men wrote words without error, is inspiration not just revelation.