

## How We Got the Bible?

Based on the book: “A General introduction to the Bible” written by Norman Geisler and William Nix

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Wednesday January 3, 2024

### Introduction

The Word **Bible** comes from the Greek word “Biblos (s) Biblia (pl)”: A name given to the outer coat of a papyrus reed.

The word **Testament** comes from the Hebrew word “berith” which means covenant: An agreement made between two parties.

**Saint Augustine** once said, “The Old Testament is revealed in the New Testament and The New Testament is veiled in The Old Testament.

The original languages of the Bible: Old Testament-**Hebrew** and New Testament -**Greek**.

### Inspiration

#### **Part 1: Understanding Inspiration**

##### **A. Biblical definitions:**

2 Timothy 3:16-17 – All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in

righteous that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 1:21 – For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

### **B. Theological definition of Inspiration...**

- i. God's causality-
- ii. Prophetic agency-
- iii. Scriptural authority-

### **C. Inspiration distinguished from Revelation and Illumination**

- i. .... – the fact of divine communication
- ii. .... – the means of divine communication
- iii. .... – the gift of understanding that divine communication

### **D. Inspiration Discussed**

- i. What is inspired, the writer or his writings?
- ii. What is inspired, the autographs or the copies?
- iii. How much of the autographs are inspired?
- iv. How does inspiration operate?

Some suggestions-

- a. God dictated the Words .....
- b. God produced much of the truth of scripture by his providential control over .....
- c. Inspiration is a theological .....

## E. Various Theories of Inspiration

- i. **Some Liberal views:** The Bible contains the word of God
  - a. **Illumination view** – Revelation can be found from ..... to ..... in the Bible.
  - b. **Intuition view** – Biblical writers' insight was deepened from ..... to ..... to help them recognize ..... ..
- ii. **Some Neo-orthodox views:** The Bible becomes the word of God
  - a. **Existential view**- Accepts there are human errors ..... ..
    - Main proponents are Carl ----- and Emil.....
  - b. **Demythologizing view**- Says the Bible must be stripped of
  - c. ....and .....
    - **Problem- Neo-orthodox view is too subjective**
- iii. **Some Conservative views** – The Bible is God's Word
  - a. **Verbal dictation view**- Every word in the Bible was given to the Writer
  - b. **Inspired concept view**- Thoughts and ideas were inspired but words were up to the writer
    - **The problem with these views is that the dictation view excludes the ..... while the inspired concept excludes the .....**

**The Basic Biblical view found in 2 Timothy 3:16: All the words written are God -breathed (pasa graphe). The Bible is the ..... while being .....**