

The Bible: From God to Us

Outline

# Inspiration

The Nature of Biblical Inspiration
Inspiration of the Old Testament
Inspiration of the New Testament
Evidence for Biblical Inspiration

### Definition of divine inspiration

"Verbal plenary" inspiration explained
The divine-human authorship
Inspiration vs. revelation vs. illumination
Authority and inerrancy of Scripture

"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. **All Scripture is breathed out by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work."

2 Timothy 3:14-17 ESV

"For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit."

2 Peter 1:21 ESV

"Everything that I command you, you shall be careful to do. You shall not add to it or take from it."

Deuteronomy 12:32 ESV

"I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: **if anyone adds** to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and **if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy**, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book."

Revelation 22:18–19 ESV

"Verbal plenary" inspiration explained

The divine-human authorship
Inspiration vs. revelation vs. illumination

Authority and inerrancy of Scripture

Definition of divine inspiration

"Verbal plenary" inspiration explained

The divine-human authorship

Inspiration vs. revelation vs. illumination

Authority and inerrancy of Scripture

Definition of divine inspiration

"Verbal plenary" inspiration explained

The divine-human authorship

Inspiration vs. revelation vs. illumination

Authority and inerrancy of Scripture

"Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

Hebrews 4:11-13 ESV

"I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places..."

Ephesians 1:16-20 ESV

Definition of divine inspiration

"Verbal plenary" inspiration explained

The divine-human authorship
Inspiration vs. revelation vs. illumination

Authority and inerrancy of Scripture

#### Internal claims of divine authorship

Prophetic declarations ("Thus says the Lord")

Moses and the Torah

The prophets' consciousness of inspiration

Psalms and Wisdom literature

Internal claims of divine authorship

Prophetic declarations ("Thus says the Lord")

Moses and the Torah

The prophets' consciousness of inspiration Psalms and Wisdom literature

Internal claims of divine authorship Prophetic declarations ("Thus says the Lord")

#### Moses and the Torah

The prophets' consciousness of inspiration Psalms and Wisdom literature

"Then the LORD said to Moses, 'Write this as a memorial in a book and recite it in the ears of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven."

Exodus 17:14 ESV

"And the LORD said to Moses, 'Write these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel."

Exodus 34:27 ESV

"When Moses had finished writing the words of this law in a book to the very end, Moses commanded the Levites who carried the ark of the covenant of the LORD, 'Take this Book of the Law and put it by the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against you.'"

Deuteronomy 31:24-26 ESV

Internal claims of divine authorship
Prophetic declarations ("Thus says the Lord")
Moses and the Torah
The prophets' consciousness of inspiration
Psalms and Wisdom literature

Internal claims of divine authorship
Prophetic declarations ("Thus says the Lord")
Moses and the Torah
The prophets' consciousness of inspiration
Psalms and Wisdom literature

Jesus' validation of Old Testament authority

Christ's promise of Spirit-guidance to apostles

Apostolic claims to divine authority

Self-attestation of NT books

Comparison of NT to OT Scripture

"Jesus answered them, 'Is it not written in your Law, "I said, you are gods"? If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and Scripture cannot be broken — do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?"

John 10:34-36 ESV

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished."

Matthew 5:17-18 ESV

Jesus' validation of Old Testament authority

Christ's promise of Spirit-guidance to apostles

Apostolic claims to divine authority

Self-attestation of NT books

Comparison of NT to OT Scripture

"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come."

John 10:34-36 ESV

"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 have said to you."

John 14:26 ESV

"And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you**. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'"

Matthew 28:18-20 ESV

Jesus' validation of Old Testament authority
Christ's promise of Spirit-guidance to apostles

Apostolic claims to divine authority

Self-attestation of NT books

Comparison of NT to OT Scripture

"In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen."

Acts 1:1-2 ESV

"Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught."

Luke 1:1-4 ESV

"And they devoted themselves to **the apostles' teaching** and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

Acts 2:42 ESV

"For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ."

Galatians 1:11-12 ESV

"So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, **built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets**, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone..."

Ephesians 2:19-20 ESV

Jesus' validation of Old Testament authority
Christ's promise of Spirit-guidance to apostles
Apostolic claims to divine authority
Self-attestation of NT books
Comparison of NT to OT Scripture

"I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers."

1 Thessalonians 5:27 ESV

"And when this letter has been read among you, **have it also read** in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you also read the letter from Laodicea."

Colossians 4:16 ESV

"If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord."

1 Corinthians 14:37 ESV

"...that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles..."

2 Peter 3:2 ESV

Jesus' validation of Old Testament authority
Christ's promise of Spirit-guidance to apostles
Apostolic claims to divine authority
Self-attestation of NT books
Comparison of NT to OT Scripture

"And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures."

2 Peter 3:15-16 ESV

"For **the Scripture says**, 'You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,' and, 'The laborer deserves his wages.'"

1 Timothy 5:18 ESV

"I warn everyone who hears the words of the **prophecy of this book**: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book."

Revelation 22:18-19 ESV

### Unity despite diversity of authorship

Fulfilled prophecy

(Historical and archaeological confirmation)

(Scientific foresight)

Indestructibility and preservation

Unity despite diversity of authorship

Fulfilled prophecy

(Historical and archaeological confirmation)

(Scientific foresight)

Indestructibility and preservation

Unity despite diversity of authorship
Fulfilled prophecy
(Historical and archaeological confirmation)
(Scientific foresight)
Indestructibility and preservation

"And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Hebrews 11:6 ESV

Unity despite diversity of authorship
Fulfilled prophecy
(Historical and archaeological confirmation)
(Scientific foresight)
Indestructibility and preservation

Unity despite diversity of authorship
Fulfilled prophecy
(Historical and archaeological confirmation)
(Scientific foresight)
Indestructibility and preservation

# Canonicity

The Meaning and Characteristics of Canonicity

Development & Extent of the Old Testament Canon

Development & Extent of the New Testament Canon



# The Meaning and Characteristics of Canonicity

Definition: "Canon" as measuring rod or standard

Discovery vs. determination of canon Five tests of canonicity



## The Meaning and Characteristics of Canonicity

Definition: "Canon" as measuring rod or standard

Discovery vs. determination of canon

Five tests of canonicity



## The Meaning and Characteristics of Canonicity

Definition: "Canon" as measuring rod or standard Discovery vs. determination of canon

Five tests of canonicity



Three divisions: Torah, Prophets, Writings Progressive recognition (1400-400 BCE)

The three-stage development
Jesus's confirmation of the Hebrew canon
Council of Jamnia (90 CE)



Three divisions: Torah, Prophets, Writings Progressive recognition (1400-400 BCE)

The three-stage development

Jesus's confirmation of the Hebrew canon Council of Jamnia (90 CE)



Three divisions: Torah, Prophets, Writings
Progressive recognition (1400-400 BCE)
The three-stage development

Jesus' confirmation of the Hebrew canon
Council of Jamnia (90 CE)

## Inspiration of the New Testament

"Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.'"

Luke 24:44 ESV

"Therefore also the Wisdom of God said, 'I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,' so that the blood of all the prophets, shed from the foundation of the world, may be charged against this generation, **from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah**, who perished between the altar and the sanctuary. Yes, I tell you, it will be required of this generation."

Luke 11:49-51 ESV



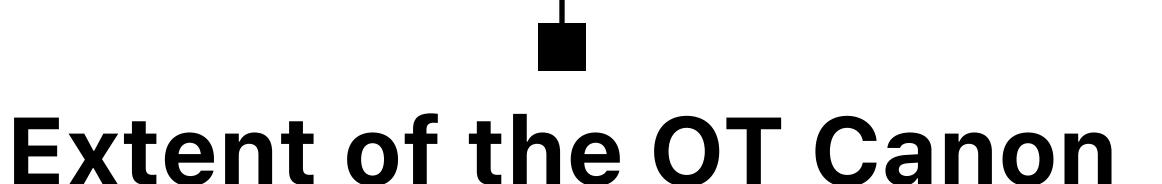
Three divisions: Torah, Prophets, Writings
Progressive recognition (1400-400 BCE)
The three-stage development
Jesus' confirmation of the Hebrew canon
Council of Jamnia (90 CE)



#### **Extent of the OT Canon**

# The Apocrypha: fourteen books written 400 BCE-100 CE Differences between Protestant and Catholic canons

Why the Apocrypha is rejected as canonical Historical evidence against Apocryphal inspiration



The Apocrypha: fourteen books written 400 BCE-100 CE Differences between Protestant and Catholic canons Why the Apocrypha is rejected as canonical

#### Extent of the OT Canon

The Apocrypha: fourteen books written 400 BCE-100 CE Differences between Protestant and Catholic canons Why the Apocrypha is rejected as canonical

- 1. Never claim divine inspiration
- 2. Historical/theological inaccuracies/inconsistencies
- 3. Jesus/Apostles never quoted
- 4. Jewish Authorities never recognized
- 5. Early church leaders rejected



#### First-century circulation of apostolic writings

Second-century church fathers' citations
Third-century debates and disputed books
Fourth-century councils and formal recognition

Tests applied to determine canonicity



First-century circulation of apostolic writings

Second-century church leaders' citations

Third-century debates and disputed books

Fourth-century councils and formal recognition

Tests applied to determine canonicity



First-century circulation of apostolic writings
Second-century church fathers' citations

Third-century debates and disputed books

Fourth-century councils and formal recognition

Tests applied to determine canonicity



First-century circulation of apostolic writings
Second-century church fathers' citations
Third-century debates and disputed books

Fourth-century councils and formal recognition

Tests applied to determine canonicity



First-century circulation of apostolic writings
Second-century church fathers' citations
Third-century debates and disputed books
Fourth-century councils and formal recognition
Tests applied to determine canonicity



#### **Extent of the NT Canon**

#### The twenty-seven accepted books

Antilegomena: Disputed books eventually accepted

Pseudepigrapha: Rejected writings

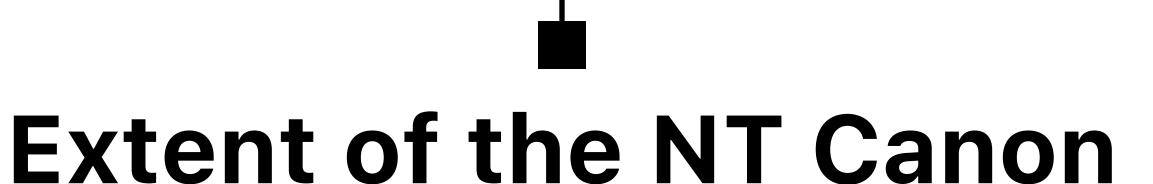


#### **Extent of the NT Canon**

The twenty-seven accepted books

Antilegomena: Disputed books eventually accepted

Pseudepigrapha: Rejected writings



The twenty-seven accepted books
Antilegomena: Disputed books eventually accepted
Pseudepigrapha & other rejected writings

### Transmission

Languages and Materials of Scripture

Major Old Testament Manuscripts

Major New Testament Manuscripts

Textual Criticism and Restoration



#### Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek languages

Writing materials: Papyrus, parchment, vellum

Writing implements: Reeds, ink, styluses

Book forms: Scrolls and codices



Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek languages

Writing materials: Papyrus, parchment, vellum

Writing implements: Reeds, ink, styluses

Book forms: Scrolls and codices



Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek languages Writing materials: Papyrus, parchment, vellum

Writing implements: Reeds, ink, styluses

Book forms: Scrolls and codices



Hebrew, Aramaic, and Greek languages Writing materials: Papyrus, parchment, vellum

Writing implements: Reeds, ink, styluses

**Book forms: Scrolls and codices** 

#### Aleppo Codex (920 CE) & Leningrad Codex (1008 CE)

Masoretic Text and its development

Dead Sea Scrolls (250 BCE - 68 CE)

Samaritan Pentateuch

Aleppo Codex (920 CE) & Leningrad Codex (1008 CE)

Masoretic Text and its development

Dead Sea Scrolls (250 BCE - 68 CE)

Samaritan Pentateuch

Aleppo Codex (920 CE) & Leningrad Codex (1008 CE)

Masoretic Text and its development

Dead Sea Scrolls (250 BCE - 68 CE)

Samaritan Pentateuch

Aleppo Codex (920 CE) & Leningrad Codex (1008 CE)

Masoretic Text and its development

Dead Sea Scrolls (250 BCE - 68 CE)

Samaritan Pentateuch (400-500 BCE)



#### Papyri (earliest fragments, 1st-2nd century)

Uncials (capital letter manuscripts, 4th-10th century)

Codex Sinaiticus and Vaticanus (4th century)

Codex Alexandrinus (5th century)

Minuscules (cursive manuscripts, 9th-15th century)



Papyri (earliest fragments, 1st-2nd century)

Uncials (capital letter manuscripts, 4th-10th century)

Codex Sinaiticus and Vaticanus (4th century)

Codex Alexandrinus (5th century)

Minuscules (cursive manuscripts, 9th-15th century)



Papyri (earliest fragments, 1st-2nd century)
Uncials (capital letter manuscripts, 4th-10th century)
Codex Sinaiticus and Vaticanus (4th century)
Codex Alexandrinus (5th century)

Minuscules (cursive manuscripts, 9th-15th century)

#### History and development of textual criticism

Principles and methods

External evidence: Manuscript age, geo, textual family

Internal evidence: Harder reading, shorter reading

Manuscript 'family' identification

Confidence in textual accuracy (99%+)

History and development of textual criticism **Principles and methods** 

External evidence: Manuscript age, geo, textual family Internal evidence: Harder reading, shorter reading Manuscript 'family' identification Confidence in textual accuracy (99%+)

History and development of textual criticism Principles and methods

External evidence: Manuscript age, geo, textual family Internal evidence: Harder reading, shorter reading

Manuscript 'family' identification

Confidence in textual accuracy (99%+)

History and development of textual criticism Principles and methods

External evidence: Manuscript age, geo, textual family

Internal evidence: Harder reading, shorter reading

Manuscript 'family' identification

Confidence in textual accuracy (99%+)

History and development of textual criticism Principles and methods

External evidence: Manuscript age, geo, textual family

Internal evidence: Harder reading, shorter reading

Manuscript 'family' identification

Confidence in textual accuracy (99%+)

## Translation

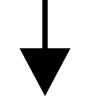
Ancient Translations

Medieval Bible Translation

Reformation Era English Bibles

The King James Version Era

Modern English Translations



### The Septuagint/LXX (250-150 BCE)

Aramaic Targums (interpretive paraphrases, 1st-7th century CE)

Syriac Peshitta and Eastern versions

Coptic, Gothic, and other early translations

Old Latin versions (circa 200 CE)

Jerome's Latin Vulgate (405 CE)

The Septuagint/LXX (250-150 BCE)

Aramaic Targums (interpretive paraphrases, 1st-7th century CE)

Syriac Peshitta and Eastern versions

Coptic, Gothic, and other early translations

Old Latin versions (circa 200 CE)

Jerome's Latin Vulgate (405 CE)

The Septuagint/LXX (250-150 BCE)

Aramaic Targums (interpretive paraphrases, 1st-7th century CE)

Syriac Peshitta and Eastern versions (2nd century CE)

Coptic, Gothic, and other early translations (2nd-4th century CE)

Old Latin versions (circa 200 CE)

Jerome's Latin Vulgate (405 CE)

The Septuagint/LXX (250-150 BCE)

Aramaic Targums (interpretive paraphrases, 1st-7th century CE)

Syriac Peshitta and Eastern versions (2nd century CE)

Coptic, Gothic, and other early translations (2nd-4th century CE)

Old Latin versions (circa 200 CE)

Jerome's Latin Vulgate (405 CE)



Partial Old English translations (6th-9th century)

Partial Middle English translations (11th-14th century)

John Wycliffe's Bible (1382)



Partial Old English translations (6th-9th century)
Partial Middle English translations (11th-14th century)

John Wycliffe's Bible (1382)

## Reformation Era Translations

William Tyndale (1494-1536): Pioneer translator Tyndale's New Testament (1526) and Pentateuch (1530)

Miles Coverdale's complete Bible (1535)

Matthew's Bible (1537)

The Great Bible (1539)

Geneva Bible (1560)

# Reformation Era Translations

William Tyndale (1494-1536): Pioneer translator

Tyndale's New Testament (1526) and Pentateuch (1530)

Miles Coverdale's complete Bible (1535)

Matthew's Bible (1537)

The Great Bible (1539)

Geneva Bible (1560)

# **Reformation Era Translations**

William Tyndale (1494-1536): Pioneer translator

Tyndale's New Testament (1526) and Pentateuch (1530)

Miles Coverdale's complete Bible (1535)

Matthew's Bible (1537)

The Great Bible (1539)

Geneva Bible (1560)



The Bishops' Bible (1568)

KJV commission and translation (1604-1611)

# The King James Version Era

The Bishops' Bible (1568)

KJV commission and translation (1604-1611)



#### Revised versions (RV 1881, ASV 1901)

Translation philosophies: Formal, dynamic equivalence, paraphrase 20th-21st century translations

The ongoing translation task

# Modern Translations

Revised versions (RV 1881, ASV 1901)

Translation philosophies: Formal, dynamic equivalence, paraphrase

20th-21st century translations

The ongoing translation task



Revised versions (RV 1881, ASV 1901)

Translation philosophies: Formal, dynamic equivalence, paraphrase

20th-21st century translations

The ongoing translation task



Revised versions (RV 1881, ASV 1901)

Translation philosophies: Formal, dynamic equivalence, paraphrase

20th-21st century translations

The ongoing translation task

