

**THINKING ABOUT THE BIBLE**  
**PART 1: INSPIRED OR JUST INSPIRING?**  
**February 5, 2017**

“The grass withers and the flowers fade, but the word of God stands forever.”  
Isaiah 40:8 (NLT)

**INSPIRED**

God- \_\_\_\_\_; all Scripture is the product of the Divine breath;  
God inspired forty different authors over a period of approximately 1,500 years who,  
being \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_,  
wrote what God wanted them to write. The writers used their own minds, talents,  
language and style from their own personal, historical and cultural contexts. But  
\_\_\_\_\_ of what was written.

“All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to prepare and equip His people to do every good work.”  
II Timothy 3:16-17 (NLT)

“And God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light.”  
Genesis 1:3 (NIV)

“By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of His mouth.”  
Psalms 33:6 (NIV)

“... the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into His nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.”  
Genesis 2:7 (NIV)

“The Spirit of the LORD spoke through me; His word was on my tongue.” II Samuel 23:2 (NIV)

“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.”  
II Peter 1:21 (NIV)

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God ... The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”  
John 1:1,14 (NIV)

**HOW INSPIRED IS THE BIBLE?**

“That same day the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Him with a question. ‘Teacher,’ they said, ‘Moses told us that if a man dies without having children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for him. Now there were seven brothers among us. The first one married and died, and

since he had no children, he left his wife to his brother. The same thing happened to the second and third brother, right on down to the seventh. Finally, the woman died. Now then, at the resurrection, whose wife will she be of the seven, since all of them were married to her?" [Matthew 22:23-28 \(NIV\)](#)

"Jesus replied, 'You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God. At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.'" [Matthew 22:29-30 \(NIV\)](#)

"But about the resurrection of the dead—have you not read what God said to you, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not the God of the dead but of the living. When the crowds heard this, they were astonished at His teaching." [Matthew 22:31-33 \(NIV\)](#)

## WHY SHOULD I BELIEVE THE BIBLE IS INSPIRED?

### 1. HISTORICAL \_\_\_\_\_

"Canaan was the father of Sidon his firstborn, and of the Hittites ...." [Genesis 10:15 \(NIV\)](#)

"... King David went in and sat before the Lord, and he said: "Who am I, O Sovereign Lord, that you have brought me this far? ... the house of your servant David will be established before You." [II Samuel 7:18, 26 \(NIV\)](#)

### 2. INTERNAL \_\_\_\_\_

"Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?" Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself." [Luke 24:25-27 \(NLT\)](#)

### 3. PROPHETIC \_\_\_\_\_

"This is what the Lord says ... of Cyrus, "He is my shepherd and will accomplish all that I please; he will say of Jerusalem, "Let it be rebuilt," and of the temple, "Let it's foundations be laid." [Isaiah 44:24, 28 \(NIV\)](#)

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for Me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." [Micah 5:2 \(NIV\)](#)

### 4. UNCOMMON \_\_\_\_\_

"The he began to call down curses on himself and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown Me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly." [Matthew 26:74-75 \(NIV\)](#)

### 5. ASPIRATIONAL \_\_\_\_\_

"... the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such there is no law." [Galatian 5:22-23 \(NIV\)](#)