

## How To Interpret Scripture

### Lesson - 2 — The Origin and Nature of the Bible

TEXT “ONLINE” to 40544

#### Memory Verse

**1 Thessalonians 2:13** (NKJV) *For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectually works in you who believe.*

#### The Divine Revelation of the Bible

**2 Peter 1:19–21** (NKJV) *And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; <sup>20</sup> knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, <sup>21</sup> for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.*

**2 Peter 1:16** (NKJV) *For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.*

**138 Times it says; "The Lord Spoke"**

**140 Times; "Thus Says The Lord"**

Direct verbal communication between God and particular human beings is an inescapable fact of the Scriptures. This is why the Bible has special, divine authority, and we need to take the divine element into consideration in our interpretation of the Scriptures. Having our holy God as their ultimate author, the biblical books are aptly called “holy Scriptures” (Rom. 1:2, 2 Tim. 3:15).

**1 Corinthians 2:14** (NKJV) *But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

**2 Timothy 3:16–17** (NKJV) *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

**It’s hard enough for Christians to obey the Bible even when we believe in its divine origin. What would happen if we come to distrust or even question that divine origin?**

**Were far better off believing too much then to start doubting its accuracy and picking and choosing what versus to believe.**

#### The Process of Inspiration

**Genesis 3:14–15** (NKJV) *So the Lord God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”*

**Revelation 12:17** (NKJV) *And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.*

#### Luke investigated and interviewed

**Luke 1:1–4** (NKJV) *Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us, <sup>2</sup> just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us, <sup>3</sup> it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an orderly account, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed.*

**Joshua 10:13** (NKJV) *So the sun stood still, And the moon stopped, Till the people had revenge Upon their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day.*

**Romans 15:3–4** *For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, The reproaches of those who reproached You fell on Me.” For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.*

“The Bible points to God as its author; yet it was written by human hands; and in the varied style of its different books it presents the characteristics of the several writers. The truths revealed are all ‘given by inspiration of God’ (2 Tim. 3:16); yet they are expressed in the words of men.”—Ellen G. White, *The Great Controversy*, p. 7.

**Today there are some biblical scholars who deny divine authorship of many parts of the Bible, even to the point where many crucial teachings—Creation, the Exodus, the resurrection—are denied. Why is it so essential that we not open that door, even a bit? After all, are we to pass judgment upon the Word of God?**

## The Written Word of God

**Exodus 34:27** (NKJV) *Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write these words, for according to the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel."*

People's minds were much stronger when they lived over 100.

The danger of the oral repetition of the word is over time it might appear to change once it was written it was codified.

**Exodus 17:14** (NKJV) *Then the Lord said to Moses, "Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven."*

**Joshua 24:26** (NKJV) *Then Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. And he took a large stone, and set it up there under the oak that was by the sanctuary of the Lord.*

**Jeremiah 30:2** (NKJV) *"Thus speaks the Lord God of Israel, saying: 'Write in a book for yourself all the words that I have spoken to you.*

**Revelation 1:11** (NKJV) *saying, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last," and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."*

**Revelation 1:19** (NKJV) *Write the things which you have seen, and the things which are, and the things which will take place after this.*

**Revelation 21:5** (NKJV) *Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."*

**Revelation 22:18–19** (NKJV) *For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book;<sup>19</sup> and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*

## TRANSMISSION OF TRUTH.

**Revelation 1:1–3** (NKJV) *The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John,<sup>2</sup> who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that he saw.<sup>3</sup> Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written in it; for the time is near.*

The message goes from God the Father, to Jesus, to the angel, to the apostle, John to the churches

## The Parallel Between Christ and Scripture

### Can A Person Be Like A Book?

Jesus Is Called The Light

The Bible Is Called The Light

Jesus Is Called The Truth

The Bible Is Called The Truth

Jesus Is Called The Bread

The Bible Is Called The Bread

Jesus Is Called The Word

The Bible Is Called The Word

Jesus Is Called The Eternal

The Bible Is Called The Eternal

"The Bible, with its God-given truths expressed in the language of men, presents a union of the divine and the human. Such a union existed in the nature of Christ, who was the Son of God and the Son of man. Thus it is true of the Bible, as it was of Christ, that 'the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.' John 1:14." –GC p. 8.

### Understanding the Bible in Faith

**Hebrews 11:3** (NKJV) *By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.*

**Hebrews 11:6** (NKJV) *But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.*

**Romans 10:17** (NKJV) *So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*