A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a silver pen over a spiral-bound notebook. The person is wearing a brown suit jacket. The background is plain white. A blue rounded rectangle is overlaid on the top left of the image, containing the text 'Theology: The Study of God'.

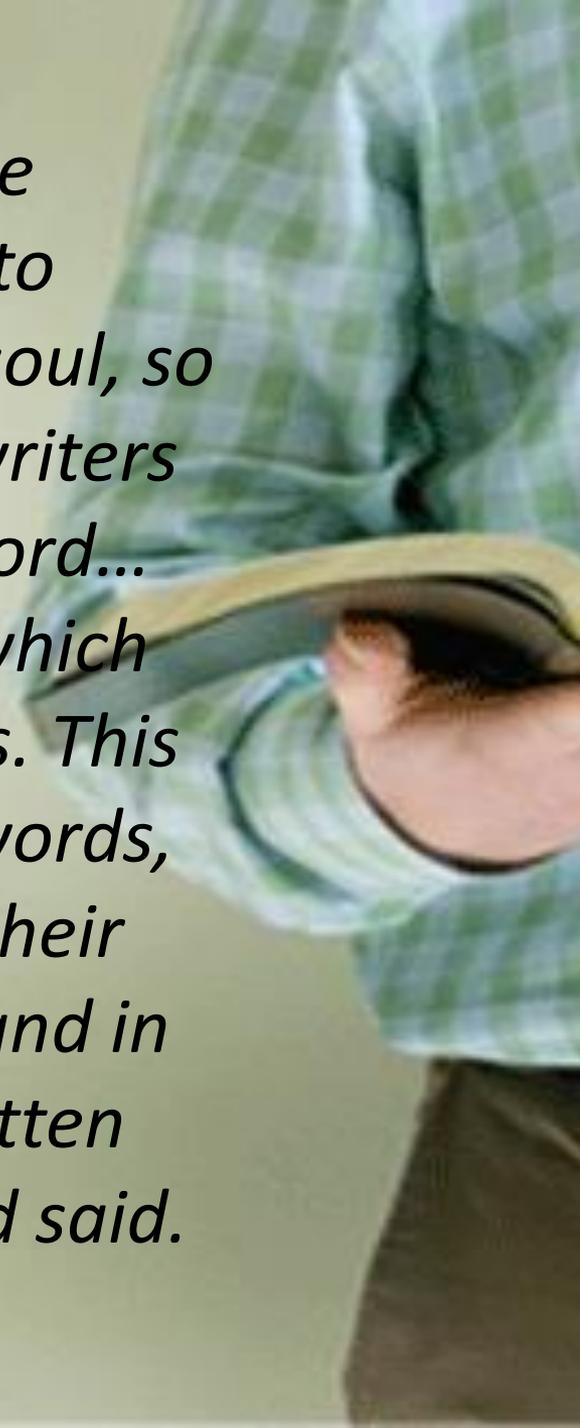
Theology: The Study of God

The Bible:
Inspiration &
Inerrancy

Inspiration

- Describes the source, or origin, of Scripture
- Key Passage: 2 Timothy 3:16
- More than just an “inspiring” book
- Greek *theopneustos* = “God breathed”
- Given by divine authority
- The human authors were guided by Holy Spirit
- Extends to every part of the Bible
- Does not merely contain, but is God’s Word



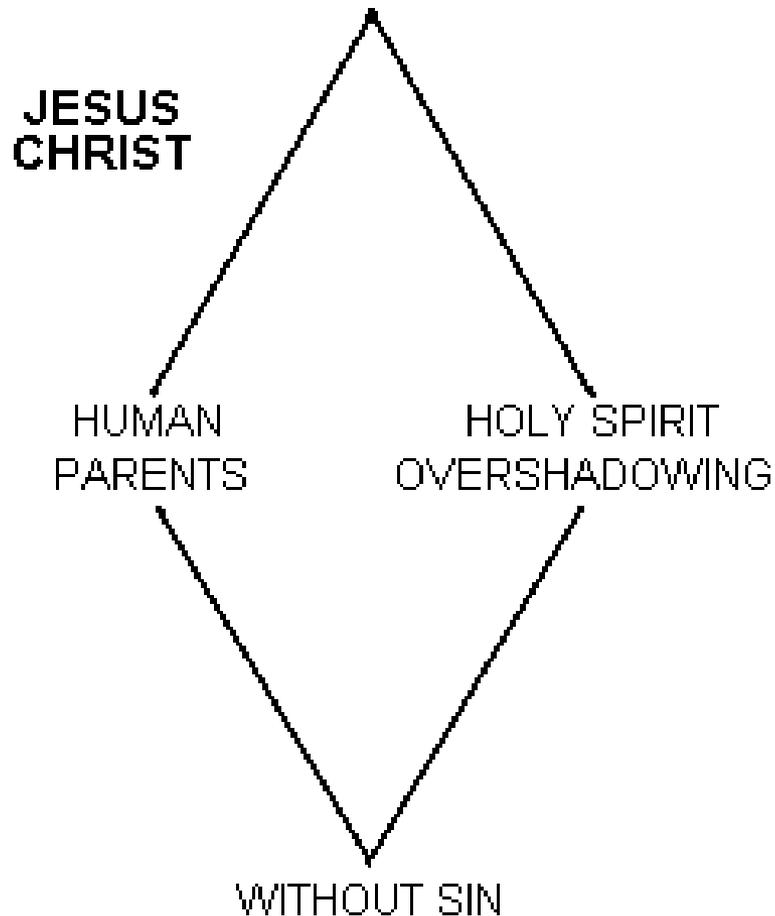
A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a person's face and hands as they read an open book. The person is wearing a green and white plaid shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

The Scripture came into being by the breath of God. Just as God breathed into man's nostrils and he became a living soul, so in like manner God breathed into the writers and brought into being His infallible Word... inspiration extends to the very words which the writers used in the original writings. This does not mean that God dictated the words, but that He so guided men to write in their own language, with their own words, and in their own style that when they had written they had said exactly what God wanted said.

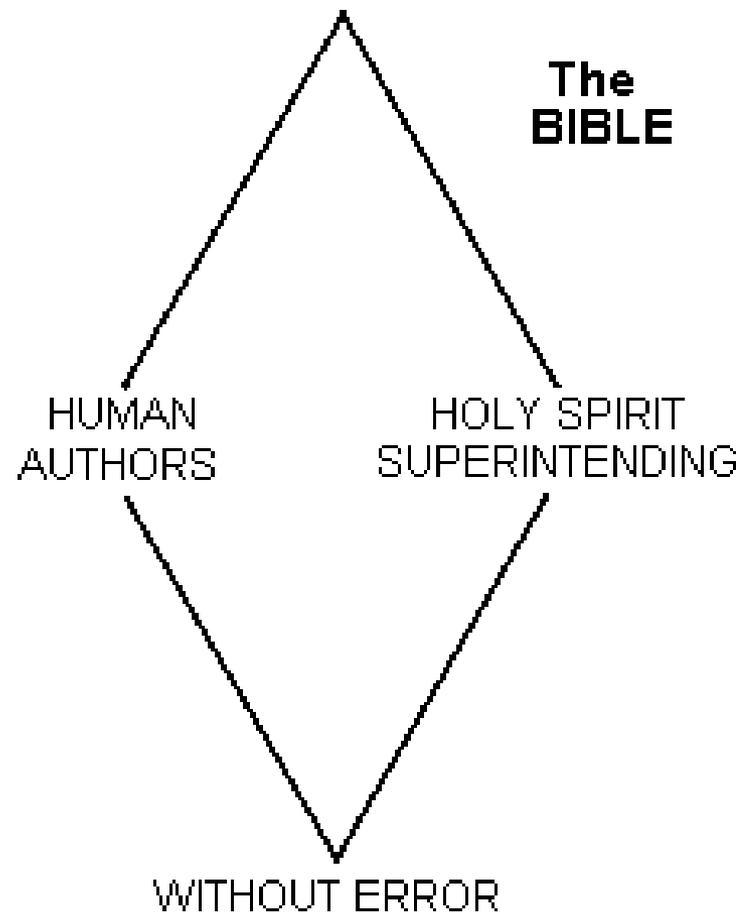
(Charles Baker, A Dispensational Theology, p.45, 49)

THE WORLD OF GOD: TWO LIVING REVELATIONS

LIVING INCARNATE WORD

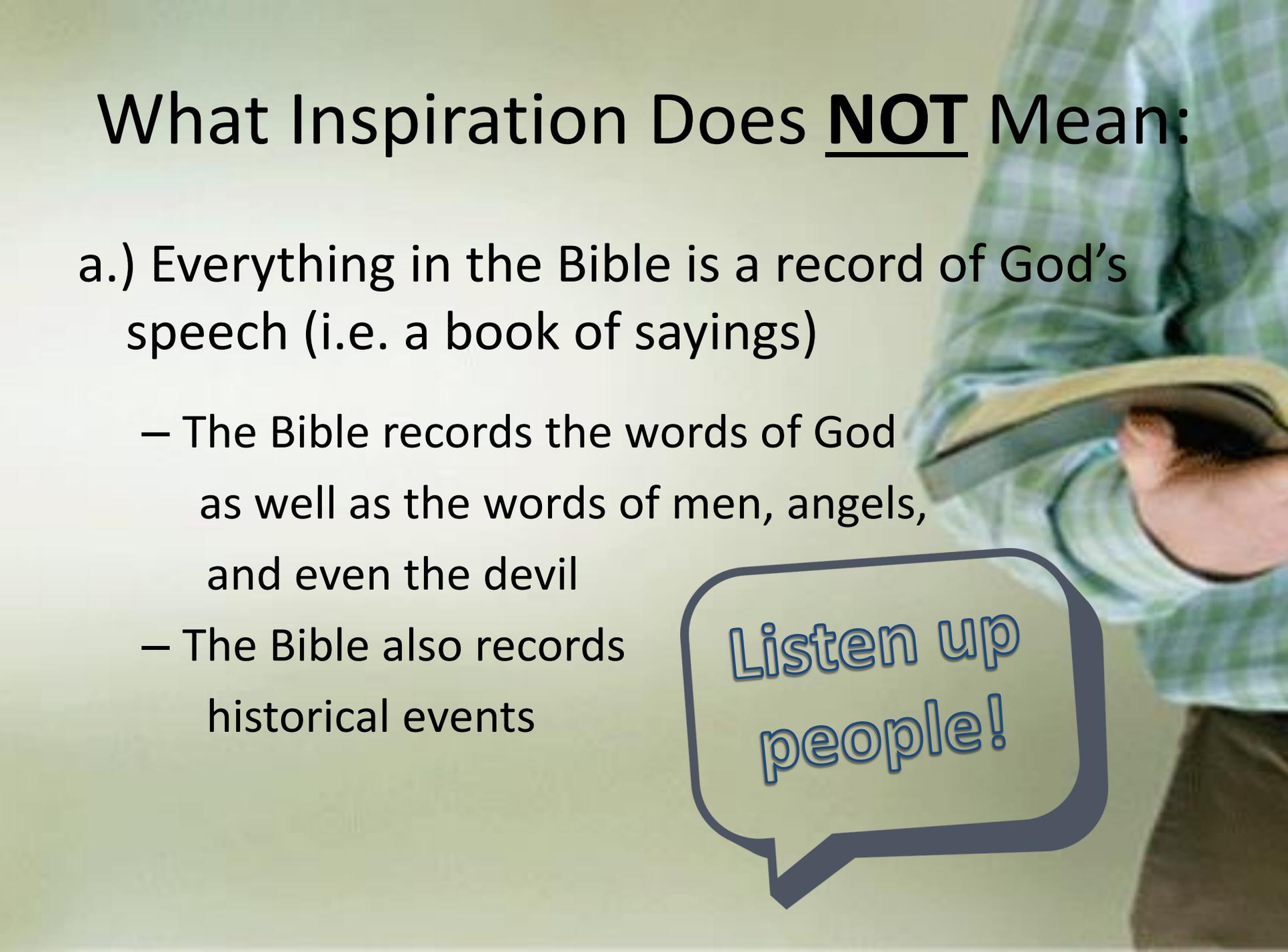


LIVING WRITTEN WORD



What Inspiration Does **NOT** Mean:

- a.) Everything in the Bible is a record of God's speech (i.e. a book of sayings)
 - The Bible records the words of God as well as the words of men, angels, and even the devil
 - The Bible also records historical events

A person wearing a green and white plaid shirt is reading a book. A blue speech bubble with a white border is overlaid on the image, containing the text "Listen up people!".

Listen up
people!

What Inspiration Does **NOT** Mean:

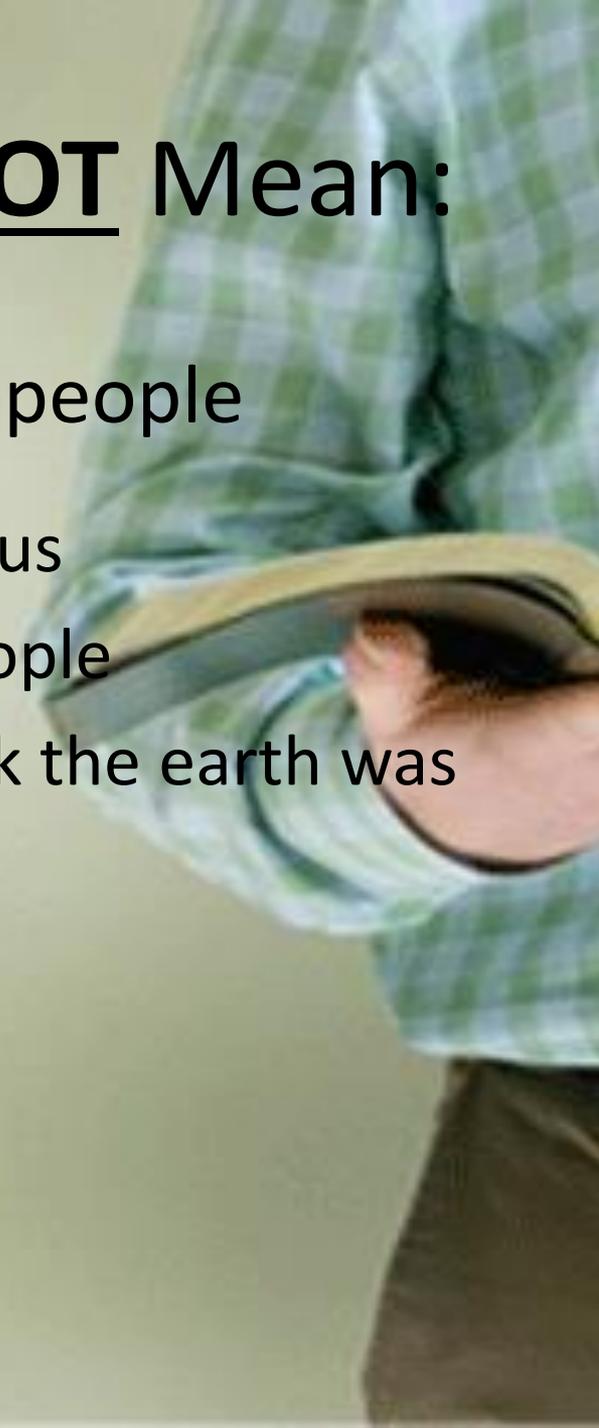
b.) The biblical authors were only secretaries

- Most of the time, God did not say, “go grab a paper and pen and write down what I’m to say”
- The human authors addressed real issues
- Their unique style and personality was involved



What Inspiration Does **NOT** Mean:

- c.) The biblical authors were perfect people
- They were ordinary people, just like us
 - God can work through imperfect people
 - The only perfect person, to ever walk the earth was Jesus Christ



What Inspiration Does NOT Mean:

d.) The biblical authors were all-knowing

- The biblical authors did not always understand everything that was revealed to them
- The Holy Spirit ensured that what they wrote was completely accurate and true



What Inspiration Does NOT Mean:

- a.) The biblical authors entered a trance
- It was not some kind of “X-Files” event
 - God did not take over their body to make them write, apart from their volition
 - Their minds were engaged as they wrote



What Inspiration Means: (2 Peter 1:19-21)

“...men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God...”

- God carried them along as they wrote
- Not simply their own ideas or opinions
- How should we respond?



What Did Jesus Say About Scripture?

- The whole of the Bible is inspired

Now He said to them, “These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” (Luke 24:44)



What Did Jesus Say About Scripture?

- The parts of the Bible are inspired

Jesus said to them, “Did you never read in the Scriptures, ‘THE STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNER stone; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES’? (Matthew 21:42)



What Did Jesus Say About Scripture?

- The words of the Bible are inspired
- Entire arguments rested on a single word (see Matthew 22:41-46)

“Then how does David in the Spirit call Him ‘Lord’... (Matthew 22:43)



What Did Jesus Say About Scripture?

- The letters of the Bible are inspired

“For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished. (Matt. 5:18)

Smallest letter:

יזהרה

Smallest stroke: (כ / ב; ר / ד; ך / ד)

What Did Jesus Say About Scripture?

- The **New Testament** is inspired

“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)



What Did Jesus Say About Scripture?

- It is obvious He held a very **high** view of God's Word!



Inerrancy

God is true

+ The Bible is God's Word

= The Bible must be true

(2 Sam. 7:28)

"...You are God and Your words are truth..."

(John 17:17)

"Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth."

Enns, P. P. (1989). The Moody handbook of theology (p. 167). Chicago, IL: Moody Press.



“BEING WHOLLY AND VERBALLY GOD-GIVEN,
SCRIPTURE IS WITHOUT ERROR OR FAULT IN ALL
ITS TEACHING, NO LESS IN WHAT IT STATES
ABOUT GOD’S ACTS IN CREATION, ABOUT THE
EVENTS OF WORLD HISTORY, AND ABOUT ITS
OWN LITERARY ORIGINS UNDER GOD, THAN IN
ITS WITNESS TO GOD’S SAVING GRACE IN
INDIVIDUAL LIVES.”

PAUL P. ENNS



Problems of Denying Inerrancy

1. How could we trust anything it says?
2. We call into question the character of God
3. We make human reason a higher authority than God's Word
4. Why should we always tell the truth?



For Next Week:

Chapters 9-10 “Bible Evidences”

p.57-69

A Dispensational Theology,

Charles Baker

