

Thinking “Biblically”

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16)

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All Scripture is inspired by God (NASB)

The word “inspired” literally means “God-breathed.”

. . . no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 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 1:20-21)

“What Peter is telling us is that the Holy Spirit so moved upon and influenced the minds of these men as to render them the instruments of God for the infallible communication of His mind and will to us.

“This means that within the framework of each man’s vocabulary and writing style, the Holy Spirit so guided them that they chose exactly the words and not just the thoughts that He intended them to use.”

- Jerry Bridges.

1. Peter referred to Paul's writings as
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)

2. Paul quotes the words of Jesus in
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Luke 10:7 and calls them Scripture:

*For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,” [Deut. 24:15] and, “The laborer deserves his wages.” [Luke 10:7]
(1 Tim.5:18)*

3. Paul understood that he was writing
Scripture:

*... the things I am writing to you are a
command of the Lord. (1 Cor.14:37)*

And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God (1 Thess.2:13).

Jesus prepared His apostles for the task writing Scripture by telling them that the Holy Spirit would enable them to accurately remember and record what He had taught:

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. (Jn.14:26).

*When the Spirit of truth comes, he
will guide you into all the truth (Jn.16:13a)*

II. The Bible is God's Profitable Word.

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All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness (v.16)

The word *profitable* is sometimes translated *useful*.

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2. The Bible is *profitable for . . . reproof or rebuking.*

The Bible teaches that there is only one way to God:

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Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (Jn.14:6).

The Bible teaches that there is only one way to God:

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.(Acts 4:12).

The Bible *rebukes* anyone who teaches
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But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed.!
(Gal.1:8-9).

3. The Bible is *profitable for . . . correction.*

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4. The Bible is *profitable for training in righteousness.*

The Bible *corrects* this erroneous and sinful behavior by pointing out how God condemns such relationships and behaviors:

For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. (Rom.1:26-27).

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. (1 Cor.6:9-11).

The Bible also *trains us in righteousness* concerning this subject by teaching us how God designed men and women to live together in a proper marriage relationship:

Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. (Gen.2:24).

And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, “Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?” He answered, “Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, ‘Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?”

So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.” (Mt.19:3-6)

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1. Decide on a time and place.
2. Develop a plan for what you will read.
3. Commit yourself to obeying God's Word.

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says (James 1:22).

Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law (Ps.119:18).