

# TRUTH & LIGHT

Published by the Wellsburg church of Christ

**WELLSBURG**  
CHURCH OF CHRIST



[www.wellsburgchurchofchrist.com](http://www.wellsburgchurchofchrist.com)

Volume 16 Issue 13

March 28, 2021

## HOW DID GOD PRODUCE SCRIPTURE?

"All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work," 2 Timothy 3:16-17. The Bible teaches that the written Word of God is divinely inspired. The question is often asked, "How did this occur? What was the process God used to convey His Word through human writers? What happened to the writers that caused them to compose the scriptures?" While the scriptures do not tell us exactly how this process worked, they do reveal certain things about how God communicated His truth to humanity. The bible teaches that the origin of the written word of God began in the mind and will of God. The authority to write scripture was

given under His direct control as He decided to reveal certain truths about Himself through the scriptures. "But we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God predestined before the ages to our glory," 1 Cor. 2:7. God supernaturally guided the writers of scripture to relay His truth and guided them to compose exactly what He wanted. "Now these are the last words of David. David the son of Jesse declares, the man who was raised on high declares, the anointed of the God of Jacob, and the sweet psalmist of Israel, 'The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, and His word was on my tongue. The God of Israel said, the rock of Israel spoke to me, He who rules over men righteously, who rules in the fear of God,'" 2 Sam. 23:1-3. While the

specifics remain essentially unexplained, the bible teaches that the Spirit of God guided the thoughts and words of the biblical writers so they would preach, teach and write God's truth. The Apostle Paul wrote something similar to this idea to the church in Corinth. "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words," 1 Cor. 2:12-13. Divine truth originates with God, but comes to us in human words. These human words, which were both spoken and written by the various authors of the books of scripture, were guided in some unexplained way by the Holy Spirit of God. The writers were specifically chosen by God and prepared by Him for use in revelation. Paul, for example, was described as God's chosen vessel. "But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name's

sake,'" Acts 9:15-16. The same is true concerning the prophet Jeremiah, who the bible says was chosen by God. "Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I have appointed you a prophet to the nations,'" Jer. 1:4-5. The ability to speak the truth of God and write holy scripture was given only to a few select individuals and was not something that was widespread. As God revealed His divine truth to mortal men, the prophets acknowledged that it was a divine God who was putting His word in their human minds to enable them to see and write God's will in scripture. "He took up his discourse and said, 'The oracle of Balaam the son of Beor, and the oracle of the man whose eye is opened, the oracle of him who hears the words of God, and knows the knowledge of the Most High, who sees the vision of the Almighty, falling down, yet having his eyes uncovered. I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near; a star shall come forth from Jacob, a scepter shall rise from Israel, and shall crush through the forehead of Moab, and tear down all the sons of Sheth.'"

Numbers 24:15-17. As further proof that the writings of scripture through the instrument of mortal men was not the product of their own ideas or personal thoughts, but rather directly inspired by God, is the fact that the writers often admitted they did not even understand fully what they were writing. "As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow," 1 Pet. 1:10-11. "As for me, I heard but could not understand; so I said, 'My lord, what will be the outcome of these events?' He said, 'Go your way, Daniel, for these words are concealed and sealed up until the end time,'" Dan. 12:8-9. "Then the angel who was speaking with me returned and roused me, as a man who is awakened from sleep. He said to me, 'What do you see?' And I said, 'I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold with its bowl on the top of it, and its seven lamps on it with seven spouts belonging to each of the lamps which are on the top of it; also two olive trees by it, one

on the right side of the bowl and the other on its left side.' Then I said to the angel who was speaking with me saying, 'What are these, my lord?' So the angel who was speaking with me answered and said to me, 'Do you not know what these are?' And I said, 'No, my lord,'" Zech. 4:1-5. "Also the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 'The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house...' Then I said to him, 'What are these two olive trees on the right of the lampstand and on its left?' And I answered the second time and said to him, 'What are the two olive branches which are beside the two golden pipes, which empty the golden oil from themselves?' So he answered me, saying, 'Do you not know what these things are?' And I said, 'No, my lord.' Then he said, 'These are the two anointed ones who are standing by the Lord of the whole earth,'" Zech. 4:8,11-14. "But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God," 2 Pet. 1:20-21. — Daniel Ruegg

# BIBLE TRIVIA

## C H A L L E N G E

**DIRECTIONS:** After searching through your Bible, circle which answer is correct.

1. **Better is a \_\_\_\_ man who walks in his integrity than he who is perverse in speech and is a fool.**

- a) Handsome
- b) Poor
- c) Tall
- d) Married

2. **A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who tells \_\_\_\_ will not escape.**

- a) Jokes
- b) Nightmares
- c) Tragedy
- d) Lies

3. **\_\_\_\_ is not fitting for a fool; much less for a slave to rule over princes.**

- a) Luxury
- b) Fanny Packs
- c) Goatee
- d) Handlebar Mustache

4. **House and wealth are an inheritance from fathers, but a \_\_\_\_ wife is from the LORD.**

- a) Rich
- b) Beautiful
- c) Trendy
- d) Prudent

5. **One who is \_\_\_\_ to a poor man lends to the LORD, and He will repay him for his good deed.**

- a) Gracious
- b) Dismissive
- c) Harsh
- d) Violent

6. **Discipline your son while there is hope, and do not desire his \_\_\_\_.**

- a) Toys
- b) Nightlight
- c) Lunch
- d) Death

7. **The fear of the LORD leads to life, so that one may sleep satisfied, untouched by \_\_\_\_.**

- a) Ninjas
- b) Sweatpants
- c) Evil
- d) Members Only Jackets

8. **The \_\_\_\_ buries his hand in the dish, but will not even bring it back to his mouth.**

- a) Hungry
- b) Sluggard
- c) Wise
- d) Expert

9. **Cease listening, my son, to \_\_\_\_\_, and you will stray from the words of knowledge.**

- a) Disco
- b) Hobbits
- c) Discipline
- d) Fortune Cookies

10. **A \_\_\_\_ witness makes a mockery of justice, and the mouth of the wicked spreads iniquity.**

- a) Confused
- b) Ridiculous
- c) Sheepish
- d) Rascally

- 7) C, Prov. 19:23  
 8) B, Prov. 19:24  
 9) C, Prov. 19:27  
 10) D, Prov. 19:28  
 1) B, Reference: Prov. 19:1  
 2) D, Reference: Prov. 19:5  
 3) A, Reference: Prov. 19:10  
 4) D, Reference: Prov. 19:14  
 5) A, Reference: Prov. 19:17  
 6) D, Reference: Prov. 19:18