The Authority and the Inerrancy of God's Word Bible Study – Pastor Charles A. Hall – April 11, 2024

Since God resides physically in Heaven, yet we are told to hear and obey Him, we must have faith in His written communication to all of humanity.

<u>Authority</u> means: The power or right to give orders or make decisions because of rank or office, to issue commands.

<u>Prophecy</u> means: An inspired word of a prophet: The function or vocation of a prophet, the inspired declaration of divine will and purpose. A prediction of something to come.

Inerrancy means: Freedom from error or untruths.

<u>Breathed</u> means: Breath in the bible is far more than the physical exchange of air in and out of the lungs. It is one of the most profound symbols in scripture. Breath in both the new testament Greek and old testament Hebrew means God's Spirit.

<u>Inspiration of scripture</u> means: Refers to God's direction to human authors of the bible who compose and record His message to humanity in their original writing. Sometimes God spoke directly to the authors, other times the Holy Spirit was the divine agent who communicated directly with the authors.

- <u>2Timothy 3:16-17</u> All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: (17) That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
- <u>2 Peter 1:20-21</u> Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. (21) For the prophecy came not in the old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

The bible was written by men whom God gave a special prophecy revealing those things that were not known to humanity, without the revealing from God to His chosen prophets.

- **Amos 3:7** Surely, the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth His secret unto his servants the prophets.
- <u>Luke 1:70</u> As he spake by the mouth of his holy prophets, which have been since the world began:

What is meant by the statement the authority and the inerrancy of God's word? It means that all scripture found in the holy bible is God-breathed, directly from God's mouth, His breath, sometimes referred to as His spirit. Which means it is directly from God, and it is completely true in everything that has been declared in the original manuscript.

- **Proverb 30:5** Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.
- <u>1Peter 1:23-25</u> Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. (24) For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: (25) But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

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The doctrine of the authority and inerrancy of bible scripture is the foundation of our relationship with God. It implies that everything God has told us in His word is true, and **trustworthy, both in the old and in the new testament. Since the original manuscript is God's** spoken word, it is for that reason that we do not change, add to, or take away from anything that God has spoken to His creation. If we fail to trust the inerrancy of God's breathed word then it would destroy our relationship with God, because there would be no life and no hope. Without our religious system our entire Christine life would be of no value at all.

• Revelation 22:18-19 For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: (19) And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

Certainly, we may sometimes doubt, or even have reason to question preachers. However, we must accept and stand steadfast on the word of God, and not waver or give in to doubt or confusion, as a result of comparing God's word to anything other than God Himself. Hearing the true word of God should move the hearer toward obedience.

 James 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.