

1 Peter Series

Lesson #039

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Dean Bible Ministries

[www.deanbibleministries.org](http://www.deanbibleministries.org)

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**THE EXTENT OF  
DIVINE INSPIRATION**

**PART 5**

**1 PETER 1:10–11**

A photograph of a church steeple silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky with orange and yellow clouds. The steeple is the central focus, rising above a line of trees. The overall scene is peaceful and evocative of a church service.

**1<sup>ST</sup> PETER**

**LIVING IN LIGHT  
OF ETERNITY**

**1 Pet. 1:10, “Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you,**

**1 Pet. 1:11, “searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.**

**1 Pet. 1:12, “To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.”**

# **The Doctrine of Inspiration and Inerrancy of Scripture**

**inspiration [Greek, θεόπνευστος  
(*theopneustos*) literally “God-breathed”]  
God the Holy Spirit so supernaturally  
directed the human writers of Scripture, that  
without waiving their human intelligence,  
vocabulary, individuality, literary style,  
personality, personal feelings, or any other  
human factor, His complete and coherent  
message to mankind was recorded with  
perfect accuracy in the original languages of  
Scripture, the very words bearing the  
authority of divine authorship. (John 10:35;  
Matthew 5:18; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:21;  
1 Corinthians 2:14–16)**

**2 Tim. 3:15, “and that from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.**

**2 Tim. 3:16, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,**

**2 Tim. 3:17, “that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”**

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**θεόπνευστος**  
*theopneustos*

**nom fem sing**  
**(verbal)**

**God-breathed**

**inspiration [Greek, θεόπνευστος  
(*theopneustos*) literally “God-breathed”]  
God the Holy Spirit so supernaturally  
directed the human writers of Scripture,**

**The Holy Spirit is the author of both Old  
Testament and New Testament: 2 Sam. 23:2–  
3; Mark 12:36; Acts 1:16; 28:25; John 14:26;  
1 Thess. 4:2; 2 Thess. 3:6, 12, 14.**



**2 Pet. 1:20, “knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation,**

**2 Pet. 1:21, “for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”**

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## **Views of Inspiration**

- 6. Much of the contemporary debate is between the orthodox or evangelical Christians and the “Neo-evangelicals” who believe the Bible is infallible but not inerrant; that is, the Bible speaks with divine authority and complete truthfulness on salvation matters but is not inerrant (without error) in historical or scientific matters.**

## From our Doctrinal Statement

- 1. Plenary verbal inspiration: We believe the Scripture in the original languages of Hebrew and Greek, both Old and New Testaments, to be the plenary verbally inspired Word of God. “Plenary” means that the entirety of Scripture is equally and fully revealed and inspired by God. “Verbal” refers to the principle of inerrancy, that inspiration extends to each and every word. Inspiration means “God-breathed” (2 Timothy 3:16) and means that the Bible is God's complete and connected thought to mankind (2 Peter 1:20–21; 2 Timothy 3:16–17; Matthew 5:18; John 16:12–13).**

# Biblical/Divine Authority

**Christian Belief**

**INSPIRATION**

**INFALLIBILITY**

**INERRANCY**

**Inspiration means “God-breathed” (2 Timothy 3:16) and means that the Bible is God's complete and connected thought to mankind (2 Peter 1:20–21; 2 Timothy 3:16–17; Matthew 5:18; John 16:12–13).**

**Infallible – Every word is equally authoritative.**

**Inerrancy – No error existed in the original autographs of Scripture. Some have seen the necessity to insert the word “unlimited” to describe inerrancy, but this is redundant.**

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**Infallible – Every word is equally authoritative. The Scripture is incapable of failing, cannot be wrong or broken, and its authority is permanent and eternal. Addresses the AUTHORITY and ENDURING NATURE of the Bible (John 10:34–35; Matt. 5:18).**



**Inerrancy – No error existed in the original autographs of Scripture. Some have seen the necessity to insert the word “unlimited” to describe inerrancy, but this is redundant. Addresses the ACCURACY of God’s Word (John 17:17).**

**Perhaps the tension would be erased if we defined inerrancy positively—the inerrancy of the Bible means simply that the Bible tells the truth. Truth can and does include approximations, free quotations, language of appearances, and different accounts of the same event as long as these do not contradict.**

**~Charles C. Ryrie, *Basic Theology***

## **2. The Mechanics of Inspiration: How did it take place?**

**2 Tim. 3:16, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,**

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*theopneustos*

**nom fem sing**  
**(verbal)**

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**πᾶς *pas***

**all, every; the**

**whole**

**1 Tim. 5:18 Paul links Old Testament and New Testament verses and calls both Scripture**

**1 Tim. 5:18, “For the Scripture says, ‘You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,’ (Deut. 25:4) and ‘The laborer is worthy of his wages (quoted as Scripture from Luke 10:7).’ ”**

**Peter recognized Paul's writings as Scripture:**

**2 Pet. 3:16, “as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.”**



**2 Tim. 3:16, “All Scripture IS given by inspiration of God, and [*καί*] IS profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,**

**2 Tim. 3:17, “that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”**

**θεόπνευστος**

*theopneustos*

**Adjective**

**nom fem sing  
(verbal)**

**God-breathed**

**ὠφέλιμος**

*ōphelimos*

**Adjective nom**

**fem sing**

**beneficial**

**1 Tim. 4:4, “For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving;”**

**πᾶς *pas***

**all, every; the whole**

**καλός *kalos***

**Adjective**

**nom neut sing**

**good, beautiful**

**ἀπόβλητος**

***apoblētos***

**Adjective**

**nom neut sing**

**rejected, refused**

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**ἄρτιος *artios*  
nom masc sing  
fully qualified**

**ἐξαρτίζω *exartizō*  
pass part masc  
sing nom to be  
completed, equip**

## Inspiration was in *WORDS*

1 Cor. 2:13, “These things we also speak, not *in words* which man’s wisdom teaches but *[in words]* which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”

Josh. 23:14, “Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; *not one word of them has failed.*”

**Deut. 9:10, “Then the LORD delivered to me two tablets of stone written with the finger of God, and on them were all the words which the LORD had spoken to you on the mountain from the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly.”**

**Luke 1:1, “Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us,  
Luke 1:2, “just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us,  
Luke 1:3, “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,  
Luke 1:4, “that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed.”**