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Question 55 - What is the correct, orthodox view concerning inspiration?

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101 MOST ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE BIBLE

55. What is the correct, orthodox view concerning inspiration?

Five key concepts clearly and briefly overview the orthodox position of God's Word.

- A. The plenary concept, meaning *all* the scriptures are inspired.
- B. The verbal concept, meaning each *word* in every verse is inspired.
- C. The authoritative concept, meaning it is backed up by, and carries all the divine weight of, God Himself.
- D. The inerrant concept, meaning it is flawless, perfect, and without the slightest error.
- E. The infallible concept, meaning it is totally trustworthy, completely reliable, and absolutely dependable.

In fact, the scriptures themselves claim to be inspired as a whole, in parts, in words, and in the very letters. Note the following examples:

- A. Inspiration of the whole – *“Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil”* (Mt. 5:17).
“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (2 Tim. 3:16).
- B. Inspiration of the parts – *“And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt. These things understood not his disciples at the first: but when Jesus was glorified, then remembered they that these things were written of him, and that they had done these things unto him”* (Jn. 12:14-16).
- C. Inspiration of the words – *“But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God”* (Mt. 4:4).
- D. Inspiration of the very letters – *“For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled”* (Mt. 5:18).