

## The Wonder of the Word

by Dr. John Zoller

### Chapter 2 -

#### THE WONDER OF ITS INSPIRATION

In the last chapter I tried to bring to you, dear reader, some facts, showing you the wonder of the formation of GOD's Holy Word. We saw how the Bible came to us gradually. Little by little, part by part, century after century, it came out in unrelated portions, written by forty different men, covering a period of over 1500 years. Moses laid its foundation not knowing who would build after him. Writer after writer followed, each writing in his own way, setting down the message which was given to him by the HOLY SPIRIT. One man wrote in Arabia, another in Syria, a third wrote in Palestine, another in Greece and Italy. Some wrote hundreds of years both before and after the others. The first part was written hundreds of years before the man who wrote the last part was born. No man was ordered to write the Bible, nor was there any concerted plan followed by the writers; yet everything written is in perfect agreement with everything else, because the Bible was given to us under the inspiration and guidance of the HOLY SPIRIT. GOD is its author; the men the writers. Wonderful, indeed, is the fact of its formation. Yes, GOD wrote the Bible, every word of it. John 6:37.

I am not trying to defend the Bible, dear reader, no man needs to do so, FOR THE BIBLE IS ITS OWN DEFENSE. What I hope I can do is to strengthen your faith, this always happens when we realize how firm a foundation GOD has given to us in the Word of GOD.

So in this chapter I want to deal with the WONDER OF ITS INSPIRATION. I want, as best I can, to explain to you what is meant when we say, "The Bible is inspired". I hope that this will give you a greater love and reverence for GOD's Holy Word.

In II Timothy 3:16 we read, - **"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of GOD may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."**

Before we go farther, I want to explain to you, dear reader, what I mean by "INSPIRATION". The Word rendered "Scripture" in the passage you have just read is the word "*Graphe*". It refers to ANYTHING WRITTEN. And all writing is composed of words. The word "inspiration" comes from the Greek word "*Theopneustos*" which, when translated, literally means "God-breathed". That is, the written words which compose the Bible are "God-breathed".

Now go with me to the Book of Genesis where we read the story of the Creation. Consider these words, - **"The LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, AND BREATHED INTO HIS NOSTRILS THE BREATH OF LIFE, and man became a living soul"** (Genesis 2:7). Do you see that it was the breath of GOD that gave man life? Let us turn now to the Book of Job. Elihu speaks, saying, - **"The Spirit of GOD hath made me, and the BREATH OF THE ALMIGHTY hath given me life"** (Job 33:4).

There is yet one more verse at this time I would have you consider, it is found in Hebrews 4:12, **"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**

Do you see that the same GOD Who breathed into the nostrils of man giving him life, and Who has given life to every soul since man was first created, is the One Who gave the breath of life to the Bible? For the Bible is made up of writings that are composed of words, and the words are "God-breathed". This is what gives the Bible "life". This is why, when you examine the Bible, as I told you in the last chapter, **YOU FIND THE BIBLE EXAMINES YOU.** It is because the Bible is living, it is GOD-breathed, and it is alive. This is what I mean when I say to you, "The Bible is inspired".

### **THE MEN WHO WROTE THE BIBLE WERE NOT INSPIRED, IT WAS THEIR WRITINGS**

I hope you will give this statement some prayerful consideration, for I know that if you will do so it may clear up some of the difficulties you may have. For the Bible is either the inspired Word of GOD or it is the word of man. It is one of the two, you must agree with me in this. If the Bible is but the word of man as some Modernists teach, then man should write a Bible to-day that is just as good as the one we have. In fact, if this be true, **THEN MEN SHOULD WRITE A BETTER BIBLE THAN THE ONE WE HAVE;** for with all the added light men have to-day this should be possible if, as Modernist say, the Bible is but the word of man.

But the truth is, men have not done so, men cannot do so. Why? Because the Bible is **NOT THE WORD OF MAN BUT THE WORD OF GOD!** It is "God-breathed". Men wrote as they were commanded by GOD. Let me show you, dear reader, for the Word of GOD amply demonstrates this truth. We go, first of all, to the Old Testament, -

**"And Moses said unto the LORD, 'O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since Thou hast spoken unto Thy servant: for I am slow of speech and of a slow tongue.'**

**And the LORD said unto him, 'Who hath made man's mouth?... Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say'"** (Exodus 4:10-12).

Seven times Moses tells us that the tables of stone containing the commandments, were the work of GOD, and the writing was the writing of GOD, given upon the tables of stone. (Exodus 31:18).

**"And the LORD said unto Moses, 'WRITE THOU THESE WORDS'"** (Exodus 34:27).

**"And He said, 'WITH HIM (that is, Moses) WILL I SPEAK MOUTH TO MOUTH'"** (Numbers 12:8).

Here is yet another command that GOD gave to Moses,

**"Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shalt ye diminish ought**

**from it"** (Deuteronomy 4:2).

It was David who said, - **"The Spirit of the LORD spake by me, and His Word was in my tongue"** (II Samuel 23:2).

Jeremiah puts it in these words, -

**"Ah! LORD GOD! Behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.' But the LORD said unto me, 'Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee,' saith the LORD.**

**Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, 'Behold, I have put My words in thy mouth'"** (Jeremiah 1:6-9).

Nearly 100 times the prophet Jeremiah says he is giving **"The Word of the LORD."** In the five books written by Moses and in the Psalm the words, **"Thus saith the LORD," "The LORD said," "The Lord spake," "The LORD hath spoken," "The saying of the LORD", and "The Word of the LORD"** are used hundreds of times. If there is any question in your mind, dear reader, as to whether what I have just told you is true, I suggest you take Your Bible Concordance and look this up for yourself. Then you will be convinced in your heart that the writers of the Bible WR0TE THE VERY WORDS THAT GOD GAVE TO THEM.

Turn now to the Book of Isaiah. Do you know that over twenty times the Prophet Isaiah states that he is writing **"the words of the LORD"**? Every one of the prophets knew that their message was the Word of the LORD. Here are a few more examples,

**"Son of man, all My words that I shall speak unto thee receive in thine heart, and hear with thine ears. And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people, and speak unto them, and tell them, 'THUS SAITH THE LORD GOD'"** (Ezekiel 3:10-11).

Dear reader, do you question the Prophet Ezekiel's knowledge that GOD was speaking through him?

Daniel said, - **"When I heard the voice of His Words"** (Daniel 10:9).

Hosea said, - **"The Word of the LORD"** (Hosea 1:1).

Joel said, - **"The Word of The LORD that came to Joel"** (Joel 1:1).

Amos said, - **"Hear this Word that the LORD hath spoken"** (Amos 3:1.).

Obadiah said, - **"Thus saith the LORD GOD"** (Obadiah 1:1).

Jonah said, - **"The Word of the LORD came unto Jonah"** (Jonah I:I).

Micah said, - **"The Word of the LORD that came to Micah"** (Micah 1:1).

I could go on in this way to the end of the Old Testament; for every writer, without a single exception, states that he is giving **"THE WORD OF THE LORD."** In the Book of Malachi, the last book in the Old Testament, the words, **"Thus saith the LORD,"** is used 24 times.

Let us turn now to the New Testament. Here, too, in an even greater way, we see the hand of

GOD - guiding, directing, and empowering those who wrote. Each had a work to do, each wrote presenting the message from a different point of view. Thus the writers of the four Gospels reveal to us the CHRIST of GOD - wonderful, Divine, the Saviour and Redeemer of men!

Matthew wrote for the Jews, showing JESUS as the KING of the Jews, the Royal lawgiver.  
Mark wrote for the Romans, showing JESUS as the miracle worker, the mighty power of GOD.  
Luke wrote for the Greeks, showing JESUS as the Friend of sinners, human and understanding, yet the Wisdom of GOD.  
John shows JESUS as the Son of GOD, as well as the Son of man, HAVING AND GIVING ETERNAL LIFE.

Each man wrote under the guidance and leadership of the HOLY SPIRIT.

Matthew stresses CHRIST's genealogy;  
Mark His majesty;  
Luke His humanity;  
and John His Divinity.

At the close of the Book they wrote Matthew stresses His resurrection; Mark His ascension; Luke His parting benediction and promise of power, and John His coming again. This same wonderful leading, showing the hand of GOD, continues all through the Epistles, and is likewise shown in the Book of the Revelation.

Each writer knew that he was but the channel, the means by which GOD's message was given to man. Of course each wrote expressing his personality through his writings, but it was GOD's message that was given.

Dr. James Brooks is authority for the statement, "The phrase 'Thus saith the LORD' or its equivalent, is used by the writers of the Bible over 2,000 times." If we were to take from the Bible this phrase and all that its context implies, I wonder how much of the Bible would be left?

John Wesley, founder of the Methodist church, has this to say about it, -

"I beg leave to give a short, clear argument for the Divine inspiration of the Holy Scriptures. The Bible must be the invention of good men or angels, bad men or devils, or of GOD.

It could not be the invention of good men or angels for they neither could nor would make a book and tell lies all the time they were writing it, saying, "**Thus saith the LORD**", when it was their own invention.

It could not be the invention of bad men or devils, for they could not make a book which commands all duty, forbids all sins, and condemns their own souls to Hell for all eternity.

Therefore, I draw the conclusion that the Bible must be given by Divine inspiration."

**THE LORD JESUS REALIZED THE WONDER OF THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE AND REGARDED IT AS THE WORD OF GOD**

Do you know that the precious name of JESUS occurs nearly 700 times in the New Testament? It is mentioned over 600 times in the Gospels alone. In the Gospels of Mark and Luke the name of JESUS occurs about 100 times in each book; in the Gospel of Matthew it occurs about 170 times; in John's Gospel 250 times; in the Book of the Acts 25 times and in the Epistles about 30 times.

### **THE NAME OF JESUS AND CHRIST**

JESUS is the personal name given to our LORD, it is identical with Joshua (Ezra 3:2). It means JEHOVAH, our Saviour. Hence the name "JESUS" fulfils the prophecy that His name should be called "Immanuel" GOD with us.

CHRIST, MESSIAH, and The Anointed one are synonymous names. The word "CHRIST" comes from the Greek; the word "MESSIAH" from the Hebrew; and the word "The Anointed One" comes from the French. This title is official. He is the "Sent One", anointed with the Holy Ghost and with power. The writers of the Old Testament wrote of the CHRIST who was to come, Just as a red cord runs through every piece of rope in the British navy, so a red cord runs all through the Old Testament, telling of the CHRIST who was to come.

CHRIST's virgin birth was told in Genesis 3:15 and in Isaiah 7:14, it was fulfilled in Matthew 1:23. His call out of Egypt was told in Hosea 11:1, it was fulfilled in Matthew 2:15. The time of His birth was told in Daniel 9:25, it was fulfilled in Galatians 4:4. His place of birth was told in Micah 5:2, it was fulfilled in Matthew 2:6. His name, "Immanuel" was given Him in Isaiah 7:14, it was fulfilled in Matthew 1:23. His appearance in the Temple was told in Haggai 2:7-9, it was fulfilled in John 2:13-16. His betrayal for thirty pieces of silver was told in Zechariah 11:12, it was fulfilled in Matthew 26:15. The parting of His garments was told in Psalm 22:18, it was fulfilled in John 19:23. His resurrection was foretold in Psalm 16:9-11, it was fulfilled in Acts 2:27-31. His ascension was foretold in Psalm 68:18, it was fulfilled in Acts 1:9. His coming again is stated in I Thessalonians 4:13-17, IT COULD BE FULFILLED TO-DAY, EVEN AS YOU READ.

The LORD JESUS referred to the Old Testament over 400 times. He never questioned the inspiration of its writing. Whenever He made a reference to the Old Testament He did it without any hesitation whatever. He accepted the Old Testament narratives and records as authentic and historically true. He did not give or even suggest a mythical or an allegorical interpretation, not once; He accepted these narratives as true. Let me give you a few examples,

When the Pharisees asked JESUS if it were lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause, He said, -

**"Have ye not read, that He which made them at the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they twain shall be one flesh?'"** (Matthew 19:4-5)

Modernists deny the story of creation as given in the Bible. They tell us life began with a primordial cell, that man is constantly improving. JESUS set His seal upon the creation story as

given in GOD's Word. He knew that man was created by GOD. How did He know this? He knew it because He was there when it happened, for He had a vital part in it. Remember, dear reader, Our LORD JESUS existed long before He was born in Bethlehem.

Does this statement shock you? Perhaps it does, many believers think His wonderful life began with His birth but this was not the case. Let me prove what I am saying. Do you recall the experience of Moses at the burning bush? Moses was called by GOD to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt. It happened at Mount Horeb while tending the sheep owned by Jethro, his father-in-law. Moses saw an angel suddenly appear before him out of a bush that burned with fire yet was not consumed. When Moses was commanded to return to Egypt and to go to Pharaoh asking him to let the Children of Israel go, Moses said,

**"Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, 'The GOD of your fathers hath sent me unto you,' and they shall say to me, 'What is his name?' What shall I say unto them?"**

**And GOD said unto Moses, 'I AM THAT I AM: and he said, 'Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, 'I AM' hath sent me unto you'" (Exodus 3:13-14).**

It was centuries later, our LORD JESUS was talking to the Pharisees who were putting forth every effort to trap Him that they might kill Him. When He told them that all that would keep His sayings would never see or experience death, they said He was possessed of a demon. They said that Abraham was dead, the prophets were dead, but who are you, to say that if one would keep your saying he would never taste of death? Now note carefully what JESUS said to these Pharisees, -

**"Abraham rejoiced to see My day; and he saw it and was glad.' Then said the Jews unto Him, 'Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast Thou seen Abraham?"**

**JESUS said unto them, 'Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I AM'" (John 8:56-58).**

I hope you see, dear reader, that JESUS, the "I AM" of the New Testament is also the "I Am" who spoke to Moses on Mount Horeb where the bush burned. But there is still more proof I would give you. The Apostle Paul said, regarding JESUS, -

**"For by Him were all things created that are in Heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions, or principalities or powers: ALL THINGS WERE CREATED BY HIM AND FOR HIM: AND HE IS BEFORE ALL THINGS, and by Him all things consist" (Colossians 1:16-17).**

O, THE WONDER OF THE INSPIRATION OF THE BIBLE! Our LORD JESUS accepted the Bible story of the He said, -

**"But as the days of Noe were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" (Matthew 24:37).**

JESUS likewise set His seal upon the truth of the destruction of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, see Matthew 11:23. Let me give you one more example showing you that our LORD JESUS accepted the inspiration of the entire Old Testament. This should convince the most skeptical. We turn to the 24th chapter of the Book of Luke. After the resurrection of the LORD JESUS from the dead two of the believers were walking to Emmaus, a village which was a little over six miles from Jerusalem. While they were walking on the way JESUS joined them though they did not know it was JESUS. They told Him why they were heavy of heart, they recounted the events which had taken place during the past week, the trial and the crucifixion of JESUS.

Then JESUS began to explain to them the clear teaching of the Scriptures. Beginning with Moses, and going through the prophecies our LORD JESUS made clear to them what the Scriptures had to say concerning Himself. Let me ask you, is this not proof that He believed the Scriptures to be inspired of GOD?

Then later the same day JESUS appeared to all the disciples. He said unto them, -

**"These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.**

**Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures"** (Luke 24:44, 45).

To me, this proves, without the shadow of a doubt, that JESUS knew that the Scriptures were inspired, that they were literally "GOD-breathed". What if men do question the inspiration of the Bible? Shall I accept the denial of the natural man, who does not have spiritual discernment (I Corinthians 2:14), when I have the clear testimony of our LORD JESUS who is the Blessed Son of GOD?

But there is yet another proof of the Wonder of its inspiration. And this is the greatest proof of all. I want to show you, -

### **FINALLY, THE WONDER OF ITS INSPIRATION IS SHOWN IN ITS POWER TO IMPART SPIRITUAL LIFE AND SAVE A SOUL**

All unsaved folk, no matter who they are, are spiritually blind, they are bound by sinful habits, and they are spiritually dead. This is not only plainly stated in the Bible, it is proven by experience. How are they to be given spiritual life? There is only one way - through the inspired Word of GOD. Men cannot save themselves. A dead man has no life in him. Spiritual life can only come through the life-giving power of the HOLY SPIRIT. GOD's Holy Word says, -

**"By grace are ye saved THROUGH FAITH; and that NOT OF YOURSELVES: it is the gift of GOD"** (Ephesians 2:8).

How can a dead soul get a saving faith? This is an important question and there is but one answer - the Bible gives it,

**"Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing BY THE WORD OF GOD"** (Romans 10:17).

Do you see the place the inspired Word of GOD has in the saving of a soul? If the Bible were just the writing of man, it would have no power; but the inspired Word of GOD is alive, it can impart spiritual life. JESUS said, -

**"The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life"** (John 6:63).

Dear unsaved soul, bound by the habits of sin, spiritually dead, listen to GOD's message to you given in GOD's inspired Word,

**"Receive with meekness THE ENGRAFTED WORD WHICH IS ABLE TO SAVE YOUR SOULS"** (James 1:21).

**"Of His own will begat He us BY THE WORD OF TRUTH"** (James 1:18).

When you open the door of your heart, giving the HOLY SPIRIT entrance, and allowing Him to take complete control of you life, then He will apply the Blood of CHRIST which will cleanse your heart of all its sin, then unite with your spirit and you will be spiritually born, begotten of the HOLY SPIRIT.

**"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever"** (I Peter 1:23).

What a wonderful message this wonderful Word of GOD brings to us! My sinner friend, it will completely change your life!

#### 1. THIS INSPIRED WORD OF GOD WILL CLEANSE YOU FROM ALL SIN.

Our LORD JESUS made this clear to us. Dear sinner friend, why wait another day when you can be cleansed from all your sins? Would you like to be made clean? Would you like to have your many sins completely blotted out? Would you like to begin life anew? YOU CAN!

**"Now ye are clean through the WORD which I have spoken unto you"** (John 15:3).

**"Husbands, love your wives, even as CHRIST also loved the church, and gave Himself for it; That He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water BY THE WORD, That He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish"** (Ephesians 5:25-27).

The church is composed of the born again folk who are members of all the different denominations. When you accept CHRIST as your Saviour, opening the door of your heart, the HOLY SPIRIT enters and you are born again, you become a part of the church.

#### 2. WE ARE KEPT FROM SIN AND FROM THE POWER OF THE DEVIL THROUGH THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD.

Show me a Christian who feeds daily upon the Word of GOD, making it a part of his daily life, and I will show you a man who knows the thrill of victory. Just think! That Bible that you have in your home - in the bureau drawer or lying on that center table but rarely opened - will keep you from sin and give you victory over the temptations of the Devil.

*Listen to these testimonies from GOD's Holy Word, -*

**"Thy Word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee"** (Psalm 119:11).

**"By the Word of Thy lips, I have kept me from the paths of the destroyer"** (Psalm 17:4).

Dear reader, if you would enjoy victory over the Devil then spend more time reading GOD's Holy Inspired Word. In the Pacific Garden Rescue Mission in Chicago in the Bible, which they give to every convert you will read these words,

"THIS BOOK WILL KEEP YOU FROM SIN,  
OR  
SIN WILL KEEP YOU FROM THIS BOOK."

How true this is! Oh that men would use the Inspired Word to keep them from sin!

### 3. THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD WILL FULFIL ALL ITS CLAIMS AND PROMISES IF WE WILL MEET ITS CONDITIONS.

Unsaved soul, reading these lines, will you heed the message of GOD's Holy Word? I have tried to show you in this chapter the WONDER OF ITS INSPIRATION. I know what it will do in your life. It is alive! It is living and powerful!

Turn to its life-giving message! It was prepared for YOU! You can, even now as you read, experience the power of its cleansing through the indwelling HOLY SPIRIT: Let men mock, let them sneer and heap ridicule upon GOD's Holy Word. There are many who are doing so in this space age, but remember this - GOD'S HOLY WORD WILL ALWAYS ENDURE!

Tell it in the shop, ring it out in the school, proclaim it in the church and the home - THE BIBLE IS THE INSPIRED WORD OF GOD! Tell it to the world - "IT IS GOD BREATHED". Tell it everywhere, that what Moses said; and David said; and Isaiah; Jeremiah; Ezekiel; Matthew; Mark; Luke; John and all the other writers said IS WHAT GOD SAID!

Oh for a revival of faith in GOD's Holy Inspired Word! Let the Word of GOD be read again in all our schools! Oh for a revival of the old fashioned Family Altar, when the entire family opened and read the Holy Word of GOD!

Has the Spirit of GOD been talking to you as you have been reading? Do you sense His Presence? He is with you, even NOW. Will you let Him, Who inspired GOD's Holy Word, take complete control of your life? GOD help you to do it!

~ end of chapter 2 ~