

Attic Answer #2

The Doctrine of the Bible; the Inscribed Word of God - Does it Really Matter?

“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”
2 Tim 3:16-17

The Bible is the only infallible (inerrant) rule of faith and practice. This premise hinges on the belief that man, inspired by God, authored the words of the Bible; and these words are therefore perfect, whole, and lacking error in any form. This proposition has suffered many an attack over the course of history. The first of these said attacks dated to the Garden of Eden where Satan authored the first attack on the word of God in the 3rd chapter of Genesis. Since this first attack, many others have surfaced over the course of time. In our present day setting, the Bible has been limited to be “true” only in certain places. This dynamic has been termed as limited infallibility or limited inerrancy. This belief states that the Bible is true and infallible only when it speaks of faith and practice. This subjective mentality leads to a downward spiral away from God. Eventually as faith is subjected to one's opinion and therefore splintered in many ways, so also practice succumbs to the same dynamic and is watered down according to the whim and desire of the individual. Each person becomes autonomous where pragmatism becomes the dominant determiner of practice. Thankfully there are those who hold to the fact that the only source and norm of all Christian knowledge is the Holy Scripture. As one adopts this mentality it is undeniable that God is active in the lives of his people. Therefore, He has also been active in the development of the Bible. The process as to how God has revealed His word to man manifests in 3 primary ways; God is, God acts, and God Speaks. Firstly, creation reveals God. This revelation is called General revelation. God also has chosen to reveal Himself through “Specific revelation.” This was accomplished through the Word spoken to man and through His Son, Jesus Christ. Because this Bible is fully inspired, genuine, and true, it then has power. The Bible is power. The central question surrounding the nature of the Bible is simply this: Is the Bible the comprehensive authority over a man's life, or is a person the authority over the Bible? This is the real question that each must answer.

If you would like further reading on the nature and inerrancy of Scripture I encourage you to check out Dan's Corner and the Answer Attic on the KCC Webpage (kentchristian.org). In Dan's Corner you will find an outstanding detailed explanation about limited inerrancy and on the Answer Attic you will find an interesting explanation of the process by which Scripture was penned by man and guided by God. We hope you are encouraged and better equipped by these resources. God Bless!