### WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

#### THE DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE

Titus 2:1 But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine:

# Study 2 The Word of God How God gave us His Words

2 Timothy 3:16 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, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Psalm 12:6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. 7 Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

In order to believe in the Word of God and to have the Word of God as our sole authority for faith and practice, it is of utmost importance to understand how God gave us His Words.

### 1) THE WORD OF GOD HAS ALWAYS BEEN IN HEAVEN BEFORE IT WAS GIVEN TO MAN.

Psalm 119:89 For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

The word "settle" means to station, to place in permanent condition.

John 1:1 ¶ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- 4 In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

The Word of God has been from the beginning. It has been settled permanently in Heaven. Before the Word of God was given to man, it already was in Heaven!

#### 2) THE WORD OF GOD WILL ALWAYS BE.

I Peter 1:24 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.

There will never be a time where the Word of God doesn't exist!

#### 3) GOD ORIGINALLY GAVE US HIS WORD THROUGH INSPIRATION.

2Peter 1:16  $\P$  For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

18 And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount.

- 19  $\P$  We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:
- 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.
- 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

2Timothy 3:15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All (Plenary) scripture (Verbal) is given by inspiration of God (God Breathed), and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

This is where the doctrine of "Verbal Plenary Inspiration" comes from. God gave His Word to man word by word. The word inspiration means "God breathed." God literally breathed out His Word to the men that wrote the Bible word for word. These men did not write their words

and then God declared what they wrote to be Scripture. God gave the men the words to write thus making it Scripture.

There is a common misunderstanding of this verse. The words "is given" tell us how God GAVE us His Word. The reason the word "is" was used by God was simply because the entire Bible had not been given yet. There were still more books of the Scripture to be given by God. Paul, under the inspiration of the Holy Ghost was telling Timothy that the Scripture is being given by inspiration of God.

God used human writers as pens to write His Words.

Psalm 45:1 My heart is inditing a good matter: I speak of the things which I have made touching the king: my tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

It is important to note that once all 66 books of the Bible were written, God stopped breathing out His Word to man. It was completed and we should not add to His Word or take away from His Word.

Revelation 22:18 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.

The Bible has been complete and there is no more Bible for God to give!

## 4) GOD HAS THEN FAITHFULLY PRESERVED HIS WORDS THROUGHOUT THE GENERATIONS.

Psalm 12:6 The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. 7 Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

The word "preserve" means-to protect, to guard, to maintain.

Psalm 119:160 Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.

*Matthew 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.* 

Mark 13:31 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

Luke 16:17 And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail.

Luke 21:33 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.

The very Words that God originally inspired have been preserved. This is the doctrine of "Preserved Inspiration."

## 5) GOD HAS BEEN FAITHFUL TO GIVE US A PRESERVED WORD OF GOD IN ENGLISH.

The Word of God was originally written in Hebrew (Old Testament) and Greek (New Testament) with a little Aramaic writings (during the captivity of Israel in the O.T.)

When English became a world renown language in the 17th Century, God worked it out to have the Words of God translated in English. The 1611 King James Version is that translation!

Deuteronomy 8:3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

Matthew 4:4 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.

Luke 4:4 And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.

What we have is the exact Words of God in English. The King James Version 1611 matches up perfectly with the Words of God that is forever settled in Heaven.

### 6) THE PROCESS OF TRANSLATION IS DIFFERENT FROM THE PROCESS OF INSPIRATION BUT IT IS NO LESS SCRIPTURE.

INSPIRATION = Instant writing of God's Word.

TRANSLATION = 7 years of translating and referencing previous English texts. God oversaw the original inspiration, the centuries of preserving those inspired Words and then the translation of those inspired Words in other languages. God had His hand in all 3 phases.

#### 7) THE WORD OF GOD IS ALIVE.

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 discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The word "quick" means-to live, to be alive.

#### 8) THE KING JAMES VERSION IS AS MUCH ALIVE AS THE ORIGINALS.

The Word of God is just as much alive today as it was when God originally gave it to man. It has not lost any power in preservation. The power of the Word of God has been maintained just like the Words themselves have been maintained!

An illustration of this principle would be in God creating mankind.

Genesis 2:7 And 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.

God breathed life into Adam's nostrils. This is the doctrine of inspiration. However, God did not breathe into my nostrils in order for me to be a living soul. I am just as much alive as Adam was because God has "preserved" life in mankind. God breathing into Adam's nostrils was how God "kicked off" life. The "ball" has been rolling ever since but God has not "kicked it off" again!

### 9) IT IS CLEAR THAT GOD HAS ONLY ONE PRESERVED WORD IN A GIVEN LANGUAGE.

1 Corinthians 14:33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

To have different translations in the same language saying different words is CONFUSING! Once God preserved His Word in English we should not attempt to retranslate it. There really is no need to do so unless there is a different agenda at stake.