

## All Scripture Is Inspired, Part 2

### Commentary for January 18, 2013 – The Role of the Son of God

I was reminded recently about a fact which I did not mention in my Commentary "[All Scripture Is Inspired](#)." This fact related to what the apostle Paul wrote just before his death in what may have been the last communication to his trusted and beloved assistant Timothy:

**"... from a babe you are acquainted with the sacred scriptures which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God, and is beneficial for teaching, for exposure, for correction, for discipline in righteousness, [why?] that the man of God may be equipped, fitted out for every good act."**

**• 2 Timothy 3:15–17, Concordant Literal Version**

What did the apostle Paul mean by the words "**the sacred scriptures**" and "**all scripture**"? Of course, he meant what we call today the Old Testament.<sup>1</sup>

So, everything I wrote in my Commentary mentioned above applies perfectly, and all that information is in the Old Testament. Does this mean exclusively in the Old Testament? Dr. Martin covers this issue in his book [Restoring the Original Bible: The Design and Development of the Holy Scriptures](#).

We know the apostle Peter considered Paul's writings to be Scripture:

**"And be deeming the patience of our Lord [to be] salvation, according as our beloved brother Paul also writes to you, according to the wisdom given to him, as also in all the epistles, speaking in them concerning these things, in which are some things hard to apprehend, which the unlearned and unstable are twisting, as the rest of the scriptures also, to their own destruction."**

**• 2 Peter 3:15–16, Concordant Literal Version**

Some have denied Peter was stating that Paul's writings had the status of Scripture, yet no other understanding of Peter's words makes any sense.

**"Search the scriptures, for in them you are supposing you have life eonian, and those [the scriptures] are they which are testifying concerning Me, and not willing are you to come to Me that you may have life."**

**• John 5:39–40, Concordant Literal Version**

We need to keep in mind what "**the Scriptures**" meant to the apostles and to all Jewish people in the first century. They were not only about a set of 613 commandments of the Law of Moses. This is a Talmudic concept which developed later. "**The Scriptures**" were the story of a family, which grew into 12 tribes, then a single kingdom (under David), all descended from one man, Abraham. God separated this nation and people from the land He gave to them.

<sup>1</sup> Jews today call it the Tanakh. The term "Torah" sometimes refers to the entire Old Testament, but usually refers to the first five books of Moses.

God did this to teach all men and nations throughout history about their relationship with the God of all creation. **“The Scriptures”** are also a story of failure that required a Messiah to come to redeem Israel, and to be the Savior of every human being throughout history. He also came to eventually be Israel’s King and the captain of our salvation.

The author of Hebrews presents some important facts about the message of the Old Testament, both what it gave and what it did not give to Israel and the world:

**“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spoke in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Has in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he has appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds [eons, ages]; ...”**

• **Hebrews 1:1–2, KJV**

The Son spoke for Himself. We have His words presented and preserved for us through the eyewitness accounts of the Gospels. Then we have the apostles, disciples, and eyewitnesses to His resurrection present their information to us about His message to the world in the 1st century AD. For a summary of the “Good News” message to the world for posterity, read all of First Corinthians chapter 15.

These first two verses to Hebrews link the Old Testament with the message of the New Testament writings, considering them to be equal in authority. We cannot learn all we need to know about God’s purpose for mankind, such as **“the counsel of His own will”** (Ephesians 1:11) from His creation alone. We can only such things through His revelation of Himself through His Word — both the Living Word (His Son) and the written Word (the Scriptures).

**“But we see Jesus, ... that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.”**

• **Hebrews 2:9–10, KJV**

As Hebrews directly states, God’s revelation of Himself now comes through His Son and by extension those He delegated to take the Son’s message to the world in the 1st century. That message formed the New Testament. In the past God revealed Himself through the agency of the prophets who were His spokesmen. The Son is different. He is God’s legal agent. As an agent Christ not only speaks for the principal, but He also acts for the principle and He acts as the principal. Legally, Jesus acted as God the Father.<sup>2</sup> Jesus acted on behalf of and as God through His birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension, and again in His life now as the head of God’s ekklesia, the very body of Christ, the Messiah.

The Old Testament is God’s Word. The New Testament is God’s Word and it explains and shows the fulfillment of many predictions regarding the Son, Jesus Christ, and the New Testament explains the Old. **“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God”** (2 Timothy 3:16).

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<sup>2</sup> George Wesley Buchanan, *The Book of Hebrews* (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2006), pp. 29–31.