

the Venues

Go Deep

The Bible You've Never Known

Sweet Inspiration

November 16, 2014

Think about this series:

What has been the most challenging thing about it?

...the most disturbing?

...the most interesting?

...the most encouraging?

When is a time you have been without air?

1. What's this talk about inspiration? Read 2 Timothy 3:16

What piece of literature, music, movie, etc. has inspired you?

Paul says "All Scripture is inspired –God breathed..."

What are the differences/similarities between what Paul is saying about Scripture and what you felt in relation to the above question?

"The Bible's authors were inspired by God."

What does that mean? What have you been taught about what that means? What do you think?

Here are two out of 6 common theories of "inspiration":

- 1) Verbal Plenary - meaning "all words". Some call this "dictation" theory.**

Here is a definition by Kevin DeYoung with "The Gospel Coalition"

"The authors were not passive scribes merely taking dictation. And yet, by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, their words are nothing less than God's words. The authority of the text is as if the authors took down divine dictation, while the style of the texts still reflects the men who wrote them... There is nothing false in Scripture, no errors in fact or doctrine, no mistakes in history or theology. Everything in the Scriptures is true, because it is all from God."

What do you think about that theory of inspiration? What are its strengths/weaknesses?

2) Infused with Life

See Genesis 2:7 and Ezekiel 37:6

How do these two passages help us to understand God's inspiration of Scripture?

The question was asked, "Is Paul saying in 2 Timothy 3:16 that God wrote every word or is he saying that God gives life to those words?"

Care to answer? Well, your answer please....

2. Who's got the power?

What is your answer to the question: "Is the Bible authoritative?" "Does it tell me how to live, what is right and wrong?" How do you determine what to obey and what to ignore?

How does Matthew 28::19-20 help us under the question and its answer?

3. What's the foundation?

Inerrancy, as an extension of the verbal plenary theory of inspiration, is explained by Henry M. Morris, the "father of modern creation science": "If the Bible can't be trusted on scientific and historical matters, then it can't be trusted on matters of salvation and spirituality."

What do you think of Dr. Morris' view?

Can you see how that theory turns Christianity into a house of cards?

What does Paul say is the foundation of Christianity?

See 1 Corinthians 3:11 and 1 Corinthians 15:3,14

Conclusion:

***Let's be careful to not turn the Bible into the 4th person of the God-head.**

How do people turn the Bible into the 4th person of the God-head?

***Let Jesus and His love be our interpretive guide to the Bible.**

What does it mean that the Bible is the sign not the destination.

***God can show Himself to us in many ways.**

We took communion on Sunday. *How does God show Himself through that act?*