

**TITLE:** Inspired or Expired?

**TEXT:** 2 Timothy 3:16-17

**TARGET:** The Bible is not just inspiring —it is *inspired*; it is not just relevant—it is *revelation*.

**Plenary Verbal Inspiration:**

*Plenary:* All parts of the Bible equally inspired by God, not just sections

*Verbal:* means the Inspiration extends to the specific, individual words, not just thoughts or concepts

**3 Greek expressions for the *Word of God*:**

*Graphe:* the manuscript, the manual, the actual words that make up the Bible

*Logos:* meaning & message behind the words (*graphe*)

*Rema:* declarative, spoken, authoritative Word of God.

**I. INTERNAL EVIDENCE—found within the pages of the Bible itself & how it came to be written.**

**A. Author's Unity-**

- 40 authors: shepherds, prophets, kings, fisherman, doctor, scholar, prisoner, military leader, cup bear
- 66 books: 39 Old Testament & 27 New Testament
- OT was written before Jesus was born & NT was written after His death, burial & resurrection
- 1,500 years; the earliest books were penned 1,400 years before Jesus' birth
- 3 languages: Hebrew (OT), Aramaic (part OT), Greek (NT)
- 3 continents: Asia, Africa, Europe

**B. Doctrinal Consistency-**Jesus Christ is the center of the storyline

- Creation of the universe
- Fall of man
- Redemption of mankind
- Redemption of God's creation

**C. Functional Sufficiency-**

- Teaching: foundation of our doctrine (what is right)
- Reproof: exposes our sin (what is not right?)
- Correction: provides the solution for our sin (how to get right)
- Training: ongoing spiritual growth (how to stay right)

**D. Fulfilled Prophecy**-Historical & Messianic; 30% of the Bible is prophecy

- Daniel 9:25-timeframe when the messiah would come
- Micah 5:2-Jesus will be born in Bethlehem
- Zachariah 11:12-13-Jesus betrayed for 30 pieces of silver
- Psalms 22:16-Jesus, his hands and feet would be pierced when crucified

**E. Miraculous Validity**-100's of witnessed & recorded miracles

- The resurrection of Jesus witnessed by 500+ people

**F. Divine Authority**-Inspired by God

- Inspiration=supernatural influence exerted by the Holy Spirit of God on human writers
- The Bible is trustworthy because of the source of the words, not the scribes who penned them

**II. EXTERNAL EVIDENCE**— found outside or apart from the Bible

**A. Archaeological**

1. *Tel Dan Steele* (900-850 BC)-King David
2. *Moabite Stone* (846 BC)-King David, King Omri, Yahweh
3. Carbonized loaves of bread (7th-8th century AD): *With gratitude to the blessed Jesus*

**B. Historical**

1. *Dead Sea Scrolls* (250 BC-AD 68)
  - Scroll=pieces of parchment or papyrus connected together to create one long piece that is rolled
  - Super preservation of Scripture
  - When compared with Modern Hebrew bible, was word-for-word accurate
2. *Aleppo Codex & Leningrad Codex* (AD 1000)
  - Codex= sheet of parchment or papyrus stacked on top of each other similar to our modern book style
  - Source of Modern Hebrew bible

**C. Scientific**

1. *Astronomy*- Earth is round (Isaiah 40:22)
2. *Geology*- Water Cycle (Ecclesiastes 1:7; Isaiah 55:10)
3. *Biology*- Blood necessary for life (Leviticus 17:11)
4. *Time, Space & Matter*- (Genesis 1:1)
  - In the beginning= time
  - God created the heaven= space
  - And the Earth= matter

**III. ETERNAL EVIDENCE**—eternal evidence exists because God is eternal

**A. God**

1. God is eternal (1 Timothy 1:17)
2. God's Word is eternal (Isaiah 40:8)
  - Psalm 138:2-God exalts His Word higher than His own Name, meaning His Word represents Him more fully than His Name alone can do.

#### **B. You**

1. New Creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
  - Have a testimony to share
2. Spiritual Growth (2 Peter 3:18)
3. Eternal Life (Romans 6:23)

**Takeaway:** The Bible does not simply *inform* you; it *transforms* you.

#### **Bible Reading Resources:**

- Ed Newton Ministries app: [ednewton.com](http://ednewton.com)
- [Biblegateway.com](http://Biblegateway.com): bible reading plans; daily audio bible reading; Spanish reading plans