

Chapter Four Workbook

The Bible Is God's Word

Scripture Memory:

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

I Thessalonians 4:2 For you know what commandments we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

Scripture Review:

- Revelation 22:18 & 19**
- II Timothy 3:16**
- II Peter 1:21**
- Deuteronomy 29:29**
- Isaiah 55: 8 & 9**

The Bible is God's Word, it is the literal Word of God

I. The Actual Word of God

- A. The phrase, **Word of Lord** appears 253 x's in the Bible.
- B. The phrase **Word of God** appears 47 x's in the Bible.
- C. The phrase **God said** appears 572 x's in the Bible
- D. The Word of God speaks directly to this issue
 - 1. I Thessalonians 2:13 *And for this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received from us **the word of God's message**, you accepted it **not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God**, which also performs its work in you who believe.*
 - 2. I Thessalonians 4:8 *Consequently, he who rejects this **is not rejecting man but the God** who gives His Holy Spirit to you.*
 - 3. Isaiah 1:10 ***Hear the word of the Lord**, You rulers of Sodom; Give ear to the instruction of our God, You people of Gomorrah.*
 - 4. Psalms 119:4 ***Thou hast ordained Thy precepts**, That we should keep them diligently.*

From the preceding passages list all the key words or phrases that have to do with the topic – “The Bible Is The Actual Word of God”

Now write a thesis statement concerning – “The Bible Is The Actual Word of God” incorporating all the concepts from your list.

II. The Word of God Is Inspired - “God breathed”

A. Established by the Word of God

Does the Word of God distinguish between the authority of the differing persons of the trinity? In other words, does the Word of God give more authority to God the Father than to God the Son or to God the Son than to God the Holy Spirit?

From The Bible...

What is an example of a teaching of God the Father? Give book, chapter and verse...

What is an example of a teaching of God the Son? Give book, chapter and verse...

What is an example of a teaching of God the Holy Spirit? Give book, chapter and verse...

Ultimately, which person of the Trinity is responsible for the transmission of the Word of God?

1. II Timothy 3:16 *All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;*
2. No matter which person of the Trinity is speaking, by whom is divine inspiration taking place?

B. How

1. II Peter 1:20 & 21 *But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.*
2. II Samuel 23:2 *"The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me, And His word was on my tongue.*
3. I Chronicles 28:19 *"All this," said David, "the Lord made me understand in writing by His hand upon me, all the details of this pattern."*
4. **Do the above passages allow for the authors own prejudices or values to be added to the scriptures?**

5. **Although we may speak of "The Law of Moses" or "The Book of John" or again, "The Letters of Paul", in reality who is the author of the books of the Bible?**

C. Old Testament – How did the accounts of creation, Adam & Eve, Cain & Able, Babel, the flood, Abraham etc., come down to Moses?

Oral tradition passed down by the Jews around campfires and in homes until Moses finally assembled them? Amalgamation of memories of pagan religions and traditions, molded into history and law by Moses? Research on the part of Moses in Pharaoh's libraries?

It is a common misconception that the first five books of the Bible, the Pentateuch, referred to by the Word of God as, The Law of Moses, was handed down orally over the years and finally compiled by Moses and his descendents into the form which we have today.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The Law of Moses was dictated by God to Moses and preserved by the Holy Spirit.

There is no indication from the scriptures that before Moses came down from Mt. Sinai and began meeting regularly with God that any of the information about the history of man and the nation of Israel was known by the people of Israel other than that Joseph wanted his bones brought out of Egypt when God gave deliverance. They may have been knowledgeable, there may not, but there is no indication from any of the historical revelation and record that Israel was maintaining and passing down an oral tradition.

They may have had some idea of who they were and what had happened, but the truth, the Word of God, the divine Historical and Spiritual Revelation of God was given to them at Sinai and from then on the Word of God was a unique compiled living document under the careful watch of the Holy Spirit, as Moses met with God in the tent of meeting in the Tabernacle. No other account for the giving of the Word of God appears for this time period.

1. Written By God:

Exodus 32:15 & 16 Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, tablets which were written on both sides; they were written on one side and the other. And the tablets were God's work, and the writing was God's writing engraved on the tablets.

2. Written By Moses (after he broke the first set because of his anger towards Israel and their idolatry.)

Exodus 34:1 Now the Lord said to Moses, "Cut out for yourself two stone tablets like the former ones, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets which you shattered.

Exodus 34:27 & 28 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Write down these words, for in accordance with these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel." So he was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights; he did not eat bread or drink water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments.

3. Moses Teaches Israel

Exodus 34:31 – 33 Then Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the rulers in the congregation returned to him; and Moses spoke to them. And afterward all the sons of Israel came near, and he commanded them to do everything that the Lord had spoken to him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.

4. these are called the Ten Commandments

DEU 4:13 "So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, that is, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone.

5. The Revelation was not limited to the Ten Commandments

Ex 20: 1- 21 vs. Ex. 20:22 & 21:1

Dt. 5: 1 – 21 vs. Dt. 6: 1 – 4

6. The was continual ongoing revelation between Moses and God, which was then passed down to the nation of Israel.

a. The commands by God for Moses to record His Word predate the giving of the Law on Sinai

EXO 17:14 ¶ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Write this in a book as a memorial, and recite it to Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the memory of Amalek from under heaven."

b. An continue after Sinai

Exodus 33:7 – 9 Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, a good distance from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And it came about, that everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting which was outside the camp. And it came about, whenever Moses went out to the tent, that all the people would arise and stand, each at the entrance of his tent, and gaze after Moses until he entered the tent. And it came about, whenever Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent; and the Lord would speak with Moses.

Leviticus 9:23 And Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting. When they came out and blessed the people, the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people.

Numbers 11:24 So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord. Also, he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people, and stationed them around the tent.

c. God was sovereignly watching over the writing of His Word and did so until He deemed it complete.

Deuteronomy 31:24 And it came about, when Moses finished writing the words of this law in a book until they were complete,

7. This work came to be known as the Law of Moses. It is clearly evident from these passages that the Law of Moses was not simply the Ten Commandments.

a. First mention in the Bible of the Law of Moses

Joshua 8:31 just as Moses the servant of the Lord had commanded the sons of Israel, as it is written in the book of the law of Moses, an altar of uncut stones, on which no man had wielded an iron tool; and they offered burnt offerings on it to the Lord, and sacrificed peace offerings.

b. During the time of Kings – the Law of Moses was the Word of God.

I Kings 2:3 "And keep the charge of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to what is written in the law of Moses, that you may succeed in all that you do and wherever you turn.

c. The Law here clearly entails more than the initial Ten Commandments.

Ezera 3:2 Then Jeshua the son of Jozadak and his brothers the priests, and Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and his brothers arose and built the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt offerings on it, as it is written in the law of Moses, the man of God.

d. Here the Law, is still being used after the dissolution of the nation of Israel during the time of the dispersion. The phrase “as it is written...” clearly interprets the Law of Moses to be the first five books of the Bible and not simply the ten commandments.

Daniel 9:13 "As it is written in the law of Moses, all this calamity has come on us; yet we have not sought the favor of the Lord our God by turning from our iniquity and giving attention to Thy truth.

e. The last book of the Old Testament still refers to the Law of Moses. Again the Law of Moses refers here not to the Ten Commandments but the statutes and ordinances.

Malachi 4:4 *"Remember the law of Moses My servant, even the statutes and ordinances which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel.*

- f. The reference to the “days of their purification”, which are not mentioned in the technical ten commandments, clearly indicate the term Law of Moses was meant to be a reference for the entire revelation of the Pentateuch.**

Luke 2:22 *And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord*

- g. Jesus Christ presents the Pentateuch as the Law of Moses and one of the divisions of the Old Testament. Messianic types and prophecies found in Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers are here referred to and not simply the ten commandments.**

Luke 24:44 *Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."*

- h. During the time of the Acts of the Apostles the Pharisees still held to the Pentateuch, e.g. – the Law of Moses. Circumcision, is introduced in the command of Genesis 17:10 and is directly commanded nowhere else in the Pentateuch save for the book of Genesis. In fact of the 18 times “Circumcised” is mentioned in the Pentateuch, 15 times in Genesis. Thus the Law of Moses was viewed as the Pentateuch and not merely the ten commandments. In fact to extend the Law beyond the ten commandments, but to exclude any book of the Pentateuch is purely arbitrary on the part of the teacher.**

Acts 15:5 *But certain ones of the sect of the Pharisees who had believed, stood up, saying, "It is necessary to circumcise them, and to direct them to observe the Law of Moses."*

- i. The Word of God, presents the Pentateuch, e.g. The Law of Moses, as one of the natural divisions of the Word of God. Were it not to include all five books of the Pentateuch and rather the ten commandments, these passages would not make sense. Were it to include only the legal aspects of the Bible then you would have difficulty with those books which contain both legal and historical revelation. In fact all five books of the Pentateuch contain both legal and historical revelation.**

Acts 28:23 *And when they had set a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God, and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets, from morning until evening.*

- j. Here again, as throughout the New Testament, we see that reference to the Law of Moses was not limited, by the Apostles, to the Ten Commandments. In the passages below, neither of the commands attributed to the Law of Moses are found in the ten commandments. The Word of God is resplendent with passages such as this which clearly extend the boundaries of the Law to the entire Pentateuch.**

I Corinthians 9:9 *For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing." God is not concerned about oxen, is He?*

Hebrews 9:19 *For when every commandment had been spoken by Moses to all the people according to the Law, he took the blood of the calves and the goats, with water and scarlet wool and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people,*

The book of Genesis is included by God as one of the books of His laws

GEN 26:5 because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws. "

In the book of Genesis...

Circumcised occurs 15 times

Altar in reference to God occurs 11

Sacrifice(s) occurs 2

Tenth (tithe) occurs 2

All these and more are aspects of the command of God, are under the regulations of the laws of God as laid down by Moses. When speaking of the Law of Moses, we therefore include the books of Genesis through Deuteronomy as given to Moses at Sinai and through continuing revelation during his visits to the tabernacle.

Using the passages provided in the above section to write a short answer to the question, "How did the Pentateuch, God's revelation of Genesis through Deuteronomy come to be recorded by Moses?"

From the 12 passages given below, answer the following questions...

1. Exodus 31:18 *And when He had finished speaking with him upon Mount Sinai, He gave Moses the two tablets of the testimony, tablets of stone, written by the finger of God.*
2. Exodus 32:16 *And the tablets were God's work, and the writing was God's writing engraved on the tablets.*
3. Exodus 32:16 *And the tablets were God's work, and the writing was God's writing engraved on the tablets.*
4. Exodus 34:1 *Now the Lord said to Moses, "Cut out for yourself two stone tablets like the former ones, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the former tablets which you shattered.*
5. I Kings 2:3 *"And keep the charge of the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, to keep His statutes, His commandments, His ordinances, and His testimonies, according to what is written in the law of Moses, that you may succeed in all that you do and wherever you turn,*
6. Matthew 5:18 & 19 *"For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished. Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and so teaches others, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.*
7. Romans 15:4 *For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.*
8. Galatians 3:19 *Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed should come to whom the promise had been made.*
9. Acts 7:53 *you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it. "*
10. Luke 24:27 *And beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.*

11. Luke 24:44 *Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."*

12. II Peter 3:2 *that you should remember the words spoken beforehand by the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior spoken by your apostles.*

Does the existence of continuing revelation in the New Testament cast a shadow of doubt upon the inspiration of the Old Testament?

How did Christ view the Old Testament?

How did the apostles view the Old Testament?

D. Paul –

Did Paul interject his own thoughts into the chapters of the Bible which he wrote?

Why does Paul speak to some issues that Jesus did not (homosexuals, women leadership, submission of women in marriage, spanking)?

Did the harshness and rigorous training Paul received before his conversion shape his teachings in terms of bigotry's and prejudices?

How are the writings of Paul different from those of other great biblical scholars throughout the modern age?

Read the five passages provided for you below and answer the question, "To what degree are the writings of Paul, Paul's personal spin on Christianity and to what degree are they the Holy, Infallible Revelation of the Word of God?"

1. Acts 22:14 & 15 *"And he said, 'The God of our fathers has appointed you to know His will, and to see the Righteous One, and to hear an utterance from*

His mouth. 'For you will be a witness for Him to all men of what you have seen and heard.

2. I Thessalonians 2:13 *And for this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received from us the word of God's message, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.*
3. I Thessalonians 4:2 *For you know what commandments we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.*
4. I Thessalonians 4:8 *Consequently, he who rejects this is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you.*
5. I Corinthians 14:37 *If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment.*

E. The New Testament

What is the difference between New Testament books and books in the Christian book store?

What is the difference between an inspired sermon and the inspired Word of God?

What is the difference between saying the New Testament is inspiring vs. the New Testament is inspired?

How do the two passages given below speak to the issue of the inspiration of the New Testament?

1. II Timothy 3:16 *All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;*
2. Ephesians 3:3 *that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.*

F. The Apostles, the early church and “the Scripture”

Many argue that since II Timothy speaks to Scripture and that it is Scripture that this is a “circular argument”. That we would need other truth other than the statement of the Word of God that it is the Word of God. Is this true?

Since the Greek logicians Plato and Aristotle who came up with the concept of “circular arguments” are in hell, is what they think concerning logic of any consequence when it comes to what the Word of God says about itself.

How do the following passages reveal that the Apostles and the early church both considered the writings of the New Testament as written by Paul and the early writers to be “Scriptures”?

1 Cor 15:3-8

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ
 died for our sins according to the Scriptures,
 4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the
 Scriptures,
 5 and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.
 6 After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of
 whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;
 7 then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;
 8 and last of all, as it were to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.
 (NAS)

2 Pet 3:14-16

14 Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by
 Him in peace, spotless and blameless,
 15 and regard the patience of our Lord to be salvation; just as also our beloved
 brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you,
 16 as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things
 hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the
 Scriptures, to their own destruction.
 (NAS)

1Thes 2:13

13 And for this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received from us
 the word of God's message, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really
 is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe.
 (NAS)

1 Pet 1:22-23

22 Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of
 the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,
 23 for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable,
 that is, through the living and abiding word of God.
 (NAS)

G. Closed – one issue that faces the Church today is that of continuing revelation. First
 there was The Law of Moses, then the historical books, then the poetic books, then
 the prophetic books, then the gospels and the letters, when stop at the book of
 Revelation? Who is to say that more books of the Bible have not or are not being
 written?

**The following passage is the last passage, in the chapter of the last book written
 by the last living Apostle. How does it speak to the issue of continuing
 revelation?**

1. Revelation 22:18 & 19 *I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God shall add to him the plagues which are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.*

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: The Bible is God's Word, it is the literal Word of God

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Timothy 3:16

How does this passage relate to the theme?

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me?
Explain why:**

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Peter 1:20, 21

How does this passage relate to the theme?

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me?
Explain why:**

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: II Samuel 23:2

How does this passage relate to the theme?

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me?
Explain why:**

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

QUIET TIMES ALONE WITH GOD

JEREMIAH 15:16

THEME: The Bible is God's Word, it is the literal Word of God

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Chronicles 28:19

How does this passage relate to the theme?

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me?
Explain why:**

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: Exodus 32:15, 16, 19; 34:1, 27, 28, 31 - 33

How does this passage relate to the theme?

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me?
Explain why:**

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?

PASSAGE FOR MEDITATION: I Thessalonians 4:2, 8; I Corinthians 14:37

How does this passage relate to the theme?

**When I reflect on this passage, does it primarily convict, encourage or challenge me?
Explain why:**

How will I apply this passage to my life in the coming week and is there anything I can do today to make this passage a part of my Christian life?