

Series "Fixed On 66"
"The Book of 66"
Part – 1

- 1. Terms Of The Bible**
- 2. Claims Of The Bible**
- 3. Origin Of The Bible**

1. Terms Of The Bible

- 1. Our English, the word Bible** comes from the Greek words *biblos*.

Matthew 1:1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. and *biblion* (diminutive form) (Luke 4:17), which mean "*book, roll*" Ancient books were written upon the *biblus* or papyrus reed, and from this custom came the Greek name *biblos*, which finally came to be applied to the *sacred books*.

- 2. "The Old and New Testaments"** The word ***Testament*** means *Covenant*, (313X) and is the term by which God was pleased to designate the relation that existed between Himself and His people.

The term *Covenant* was first of all applied to the relation itself, and afterward to the books which contained the record of that relation.

Old Testament deals with the record of the calling and history of the Jewish nation, and as such it is the Old Covenant.

New Testament deals with the history and application of the redemption wrought by the Lord Jesus Christ, and as such it is the New Covenant.

- 3. "The Scriptures"** The Bible is also called "**The Scriptures**" "*Holy Writings*." By the early Christians, the most common designation for the whole Bible was "The Scriptures."
- 4. "The Word of God"** It teaches us to regard the Bible as the utterance of divine wisdom and love—as God speaking to man.
- 5. Canon** – "*means rule or measuring rod*." With connection to the Word of God refers to the collection of books which passed a test of authenticity and authority.

2. Claims Of The Bible

3,800 times the Bible declares "God said," or "Thus says the Lord."

Paul - recognized that the words he was writing were God's commandments.

The Believers - acknowledged as such:

Peter – proclaimed the certainty of scripture and the necessity of heeding the unalterable and certain Word of God.

John – recognized that his teaching was from God; to reject his teaching was to reject God.

Jeremiah – He received the message directly from God.

Continuity of The Bible: The unity of the Bible is miraculous when considering the unusual nature of its composition.

Different Locations: Written in 3 continents: Europe, Asia, and Africa.

Paul – Roman prison cell and Corinth both in Europe.

Jeremiah and perhaps Moses – wrote from Egypt and Africa.

Most of the other books were written in Asia.

Written in the desert, countryside, royal courts, island of Patmos, Paul wrote five from a Roman prison cell.

3. Origin Of The Bible

How the Bible Came into Being: God used three wonderful methods as he carefully carved out that most blessed of all books, the Bible. These three "tools of the Trinity" are referred to as **revelation**, **inspiration**, and **illumination**.

And so the Scriptures are shaped. To summarize thus far, think of the three tools as follows:

Revelation: From God to man (man hears that which God wants written).

Inspiration: From man to paper (man writes that which God wants written).

Illumination: From paper to heart (man receives the light of that which God has written).

1. Revelation – "*disclosure or unveiling*" God unveiling Himself to mankind.

"That act of God whereby He discloses himself or communicates truth to the mind, whereby He makes manifest to His creatures that which could not be known in any other way. The revelation may occur in a single, instantaneous act, or it may extend over a long period of time; and this communication of Himself and His truth may be perceived by the human mind in varying degrees of fullness."

1. General Revelation – The means that does not include Jesus Christ and the Scriptures. **This would be creation, nature.**
2. Special Revelation – That which comes through Christ and His word.

A careful examination of the Bible reveals at **least eight** different modes of communication. These are:

1. He often spoke to men through angels.

1. Angels reassured Abraham of the birth of Isaac and informed him of God's decision to destroy Sodom (Gen. 18).
2. Angels warned Lot to flee Sodom before the awful destruction took place (Gen. 19).
3. The angel Gabriel explained the nature of the tribulation to Daniel (Dan. 9:21-27).
4. Angels announced the birth of Christ to the shepherds (Lk. 2:8-14).
5. An angel announced the resurrection of Christ to some women (Mt. 28:5-7).

2. He spoke to men through an audible voice.

1. He spoke directly to Adam (Gen. 3:9-19).
2. He spoke directly to Noah (Gen. 6:13-21).
3. He spoke directly to Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3).
4. He spoke directly to Moses (Ex. 20:1-17).
5. He spoke directly to Joshua (Josh. 1:1-9).
6. He spoke directly to Samuel (1 Sam. 3:1-14).

3. He spoke to men through a still, small voice (1 Kings. 19:11, 12; Ps. 32:8).

4. He spoke to men through nature (Ps. 19:1-3; Acts 14:15-17; Rom. 1:18-20).

5. He spoke to one man through the mouth of an ass (Num. 22:28).
This has to be one of the funniest moments in the Bible!

6. He spoke to men through dreams. On a number of occasions God chose this method.

1. Jacob received the confirmation of the Abrahamic Covenant in a dream (Gen. 28:12).
2. Solomon received both wisdom and a warning in a dream (1 Ki. 3:5; 9:2).
3. The wise men were warned of Herod's evil intentions in a dream (Mt. 2:12).

7. He spoke to men through visions. *Unger's Bible Dictionary* defines a vision as: "A supernatural presentation of certain scenery or circumstances to the mind of a person while awake." It may be noted that many great truths in the Scriptures were related to men through this unique method.

1. Jacob was instructed in a vision to go to Egypt (Gen. 46:2).
2. Isaiah saw God's holiness in a vision (Isa. 6:1-8).
3. Daniel saw the great Gentile powers in a vision (Dan. 7, 8).
4. Ezekiel saw the regathering of Israel in a vision (Ezek. 37).
5. Cornelius was instructed to send for Peter in a vision (Acts 10:3-6).
6. The Apostle John received the book of Revelation in a vision.

8. He spoke to men through Christophanies. A Christophany is a pre-Bethlehem appearance of Christ. Some theologians have seen a number of these appearances in the Old Testament, believing that the term "the Angel of the Lord," is actually another name of Christ. If this is true, the following examples of Christophany communication could be submitted.

1. The Angel of the Lord wrestled with Jacob (Gen. 32:24-30).
2. The Angel of the Lord spoke to Moses from the burning bush (Ex. 3:2).
3. The Angel of the Lord protected Israel at the Red Sea (Ex. 14:19).
4. The Angel of the Lord commissioned Gideon (Judges 6:11).
5. The Angel of the Lord reassured Joshua (Josh. 5:13-15).
6. The Angel of the Lord preserved three Godly Hebrew men (Dan. 3:25).

2. Inspiration - The ears have heard the message, but how will the fingers react? What is involved in transferring the voice of God into the vocabulary of man?

Inspiration - *"The Holy Spirit's superintending over the writers so that while writing according to their own styles and personalities, the result was*

God's Word written-Authoritative, trustworthy, and free from error in the original autographs."

"The Scriptures are not something breathed into by God, rather, the Scriptures have been breathed out by God."

Theories of Inspiration.

1. The Natural Theory:
 2. The Mechanical Theory:
 3. The Content (or concept) Theory:
 4. The Partial Theory:
 5. The Spiritual-Rule-Only Theory:
 6. The Plenary-Verbal Theory:
- Importance of inspiration.

Completion of inspiration.

3. Illumination - We have already stated that, without inspiration, no Scripture ever would have been written. We may now claim that without illumination, no sinner ever would have been saved!

Illumination, then, is that method used by the Holy Spirit to shed divine light upon all seeking men as they look into the Word of God. Illumination is from the written word to the human heart.

Reasons for Illumination.

Why is this third step necessary? Why cannot sinful man simply read and heed the biblical message without divine aid?

Illumination – *"The ministry of the Holy Spirit whereby He enlightens those who are in a right relationship with Him to comprehend the written Word of God."*

- 1. It is necessary because of natural blindness.**
- 2. It is necessary because of satanic blindness.**
- 3. It is necessary because of carnal blindness.**

Results of illumination.

- 1. Sinners are saved.**
- 2. Christians are strengthened.**

Application:

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