

Godliness and the Holy Spirit



Inspired by God

Peter started chapter one by telling us to be a people empowered by faith that leads to 'godly' living. He ends the chapter by encouraging us to let the Word of God transform us and the world as a light that transforms darkness.

I. Godly Living is Based on the Inspired Word of God

- a. **God breathed:** The Greek word most nearly equivalent to our word "inspiration" is found in *2 Tim 3:16*. It is theopneustos. It means, "God-breathed." By divine breath and power the Holy Spirit moved the (human) authors of the Bible with such precision that the product accurately reflects the intention of God himself. This means that the sixty-six books in the canon, which make up the Bible, in their original expression are entirely trustworthy as the voice of the Holy Spirit. *2 Peter 1:17-21*
- b. **God revealed:** [*1:20*] "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation."
 1. God reveals to Israel: [*1:21*] The promised New Covenant was for a new heart and spirit where God would reveal His Word to Israel in their hearts and minds. *Ezk 36:26-27; Jer 31:31-34*.
 2. Holy Spirit reveals the Word: The Holy Spirit would reveal to the apostles what to write and also reveal the meaning of God's Word for us. *John 14:26; 1 Cor 2:14*

II. Three Steps to Believe in God's Word

- a. **Awareness of need:** When we realize that before God and the message of the Word that we are guilty of sin.
- b. **Awareness that Jesus has the answers:** We hear, read or someone tells us about Jesus and how He can meet our need.
- c. **Acceptance of Jesus and His Word:** We accept Jesus as savior and accept that the Old and New Testament is the Word of God.

We base our confidence and behavior on what He spoke and what is revealed in the Word of God. God is the author of Scripture—therefore:

1. It is true *Psalms 119:142* "And Your law is truth. "
2. It works God's purpose in our hearts *1 Thessalonians 2:13*
3. It does not return empty to the One who sent it
Isaiah 55:10-11
4. It is pure like silver refined in a furnace seven times
Psalms 12:6
5. It is sanctifying *John 17:17*
6. It gives life *Psalms 119:37, 50, 93, 107; John 6:63; Matthew 4:4*
7. It makes wise *Psalms 19:7; 119:99-100*
8. It gives joy *Psalms 19:8; 119:16, 92, 111, 143, 174*
9. Promises great reward *Psalms 19:11*
10. It gives strength to the weak *Psalms 119:28*
11. It gives comfort to the distraught *Psalms 119:76*
12. It gives guidance to the perplexed *Psalms 119:105*
13. It is salvation to the lost *Psalms 119:155; 2 Timothy 3:15*

2 Peter 1:20-21 (NKJV)

:19 And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;

:20 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation,

:21 for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

The Inspired Word of God

Exo 4:15 Now you shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth. And I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and I will teach you what you shall do.

2 Tim 3:16-17 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for **doctrine**, for **reproof**, for **correction**, for **instruction in righteousness**, :17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The Revealed Word of God

Joh 14:26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

1Co 2:14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Here is some additional information that I used when I first gave this sermon.

What inspires you? What inspires God?

I. The Inspiration of God

a. We are His inspiration: According to Gen 2:7 God 'breathed' life into Adam. The Hebrew word 'Nepesh' can also be translated 'inspiration.' It is not wrong to say that it was the 'inspiration of God' that resulted in Adam's new life.

Gen 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

From eternity past God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit existed. The 'otherness' of the Trinity was the basis of love. There can be no love unless there is an object of love. If God is love—then that love was shared in the 'otherness' of the Trinity.

Because of the love that was shared between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit—the expression of that love was the creation and most specifically, the creation of mankind. We are the true God-breathed 'inspiration' of God.

b. God's inspiration gives understanding: The word 'breath' in Job 32:8 can be translated as 'inspiration.' The breath of God—which is by nature something that fills us...can also fill us with wisdom.

Job 32:7-8 I said, 'Age should speak, And multitude of years should teach wisdom.' :8 But there is a spirit in man, And the breath [inspiration] of the Almighty gives him understanding.

c. God's Word is inspired: See I a on other side!

2 Tim 3:16-17 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for **doctrine**, for **reproof**, for **correction**, for **instruction in righteousness**, :17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

d. The inspired apostles: In an admittedly unique event, Jesus 'breathed' upon the apostles to receive the "Holy Spirit." This was not the same as the Acts 2 event—but was a commissioning of the apostles and empowering for service.

Joh 20:22 And after he said this, he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

The point for our study is that here is another instance of God breathing and providing 'inspiration,' in this case for service.

e. The inspired Church: On the Day of Pentecost there was a 'mighty wind' that blew down on those gathered. Is this another 'breath' of God? I think so and it was an inspiration to the church then and now.

Act 2:1-4 Now when the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.:2 Suddenly a sound like a violent wind blowing came from heaven and filled the entire house where they were sitting. :3 And tongues spreading out like a fire appeared to them and came to rest on each one of them. :4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them.

f. God's Word breathed on us: When you read the Word—the God-breathed Word—can you feel His breath on your face? The Word of God—not the print and paper—is God-breathed and inspired and as we read it and take it into our lives, it is as if God is breathing LIFE into us as He did with Adam in Gen 2:7.