

GOD-BREATHED SCRIPTURES

Paul used a Greek word that teaches the infallibility of the Scriptures. Paul used the Greek word theopneustos (God-breathed) in 2 Tim.3:16 – “All Scripture (is) inspired by God (theopneustos).”

Theopneustos consists of two Greek words: Theos (God) and pneustos (breathed or inspired).

There is no verb (is) in 2 Tim.3:16. The absence of the verb places greater emphasis on the two Greek nouns connected with ALL SCRIPTURE: theopneustos (God-breathed) and ophelismos (profitable).

- Theopneustos is the God side to the Scriptures.
- Ophelismos is the believer’s side to the Scriptures.

This lesson will study five aspects of how the God-breathed Scriptures are profitable to the spiritually advancing believer.
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1. As completed canon of Scriptures, the Bible is God’s gift to mankind (ophelimos) [profitable].

The completed canon of Scriptures has consists of 39 OT books and 27 NT books.

“By the early 200’s, Origen of Alexandria My have been using the same 27 books found in modern NT editions, though there were still disputes over the canonicity of Hebrews, James, 2 Peter, 2 and 3 John, and Revelation.” (Wikipedia)

“Since 397AD, the Christian church has considered the canon of the Bible to be completed.”
(Basic Theology by Ryrie, pg.120)

All Scripture owes it origin and content and purpose to being God-breathed or divinely inspired for mankind (Unbeliever) (Jn.3:15) [salvation] and (Believer) (Jn.3:16-17) [Divine Production]

2. There is an important chain of events involved in cycling the Scriptures from God-breathed (theopneustos) to profitable (ophelismos) divine production (agathos ergon) of the believer.

- God to human authors – inhale
- Human authors to Scriptures – exhale (2 Pet.1:20-21)
- Scriptures to gifted PT – inhale
- Gifted PT to believer – exhale (Eph.4:11-14)
- Believer to BD in soul – inhale
- BD in soul to human experience – exhale (Heb.4:2,12; 1 Thess.2:13)

3. The very grammatical structure, words, and thoughts of the Scriptures are God-breathed and profitable.

“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.” (Matt.5:18; Luke 16:17)

“Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall not pass away.” (Matt.24:35)

“And the Scripture cannot be broken.” (John 10:35)

The source of error is due to ignorance, laziness, or negative volition towards the Scriptural truth. “But Jesus answered and said to them, ‘You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures, or the power of God.’” (Matt.22:29)

4. Because the canon of Scriptures is God-breathed, it transcends time, ages, dispensations, and civilizations (2 Pet.1:20-21).

“For the coming of the Son of Man will be **just like** the days of Noah.” (Matt.24:37; 2 Pet.3:5-7, 13)

“Yet we do not speak wisdom among those who are mature; **a wisdom**, however, not of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are passing away. But we speak God’s wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom, which God predestined before the ages to our glory.” (1 Cor.2:6-7)

“And by referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit.” (Eph.3:4-5)

5. As the custodian of the word of God and evangelism, the Christian church took the old covenant canon of 39 books and added 27 new covenant books to complete the canon in human history.

The evangelical old covenant Jew translated the Hebrew canon into the Greek language known as the Septuagint.

The evangelical new covenant Gentile church has translated the Bible into the languages of every nation evangelized by the gospel of Jesus Christ (Matt.28:18-20; Acts 1:8).

The English bible is an example of this evangelistic missionary activity and the Reformation of Europe and America.

“The Bible continues to be the most translated book in the world.” (Wikipedia)

“The Bible is available in whole or in part to some 98% of the world’s population in a language which they are fluent.” (Wikipedia)

“Wycliffe Bible Translators estimate that 2,251 languages, representing 193 million people, need a Bible translation.” (Wikipedia)

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