## God Breathed (The Bible)

8-21-22

2 Timothy 3:16 (ESV)
All Scripture is breathed out by God!

<u>This is one of the greatest texts in the NT on the inspiration of the Bible.</u> The Bible is the breath of God. Whenever we read the Bible, God breathes on us. It is not to edit or debate. It is to be inhaled as the life-giving air from the Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 3:7 (ESV) Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says – Psalm 95:7-11.

This is a clear statement that the Holy Spirit wrote the OT. Jesus when answering Satan in Matthew 4:4 HE quotes Deuteronomy 8:3. Deuteronomy 8:3 came out of God's mouth, and Jesus repeated it to deal with Satan. Even the verse itself declares the inspiration of Scripture, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by 'EVERY WORD' that comes from the mouth of God." In the New Testament, the Apostle Peter declares that the Apostle Paul's writings are Scripture in 2Peter 3:16.

The main theme of the Bible is the revelation of Christ and the redemption of man. Standing on this secure foundation, we also know that all God's breathed out Word is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man or woman of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. The Bible brings us in step with God so that we are an avenue for all the works of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:4 (ESV)

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction.

Therefore, through the Bible we are called alongside of God and we see things from HIS point of view. The Bible renews our mind and therefore impacts our behavior enabling us to walk with HIM.

Psalm 36:9 (ESV)
For with YOU is the fountain of life;
in YOUR light do we see light.

Receiving Christ, we have light which expels darkness.

Standing in Christ's light, God speaks through the Bible and gives us more light. Therefore, we have understanding in "whatever" we may be facing. We see as God sees. When we take a step in the light, we will receive more light.

Psalm 119:105 (ESV)
YOUR WORD is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

A lamp gives us a circle of light. When we step forward that circle of light moves forward, and we have more light. This is walking in the light. The Bible is God's breathed out WORD that give us light. For us to grow in our faith, we must read the Bible. For understanding the deep things of God, we must read the Bible. By not reading the Bible, we will fall into many foolish and hurtful things. In so many of our failures in life are due to our ignorance of God.

Matthew 22:29 (ESV)

"You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God."

## Read the Bible!

#1 Do not debate the Bible. It says what it says! We are to ask the Holy Spirit to open our mind. We must look to the same divine Spirit who breathed out the Bible to open our mind to understand it. The Spirit must interpret what HE wrote.

Luke 24:45 (ESV)

Jesus opened their "minds" to understand the Scriptures.

## #2 Let the Bible speak specifically to us!

Luke 24:32 (ESV)

They said to each other, "Did not our "hearts burn" within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"

We have the Bible to understand the mind of God and lead us in all the ways of our life. But God also will give us that specific word for our specific situation. It will burn within us. Almost 45 years ago in one of the darkest times of my life, through the Bible the Holy Spirit spoke and "burned" in me.

Isaiah 30:21 (ESV)

Your ears shall hear a WORD behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

I held on to that Word and God led me supernaturally step by step through the darkness into HIS light. This is God's desire for every believer. God speaks to us through the Bible. The word to us will accomplish everything God intended it to accomplish. God's Word does not return void.

Isaiah 55:11 (ESV)

MY WORD be that goes out from MY MOUTH; it shall not return to ME empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

We have been reconciled to God through Jesus Christ. Yet we will continue to grow in faith when we "tremble" at the glory of HIS WORD, the BIBLE.

Isaiah 66:2 (ESV)

This is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and "trembles" at MY WORD.

Challenge: Commit before God to read the Bible 5 minutes every day. You can read more, but only commit to 5 minutes! I accepted that challenge 40 years ago and kept it. Since then, I have read through the Bible over 50 times. Why?

1 Timothy 2:5 (ESV)

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.