

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Lannie Key

Opening Prayer: Billy Box

On the Table: Head - Greg Lowery
Servers - Eddy Dickinson
Ralph Burleson
Gary Addison

Closing Prayer: David Key

Preparing the Lord's Supper Vertie Mae York

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am
Morning Worship 10:45 am
Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Visit Our Website

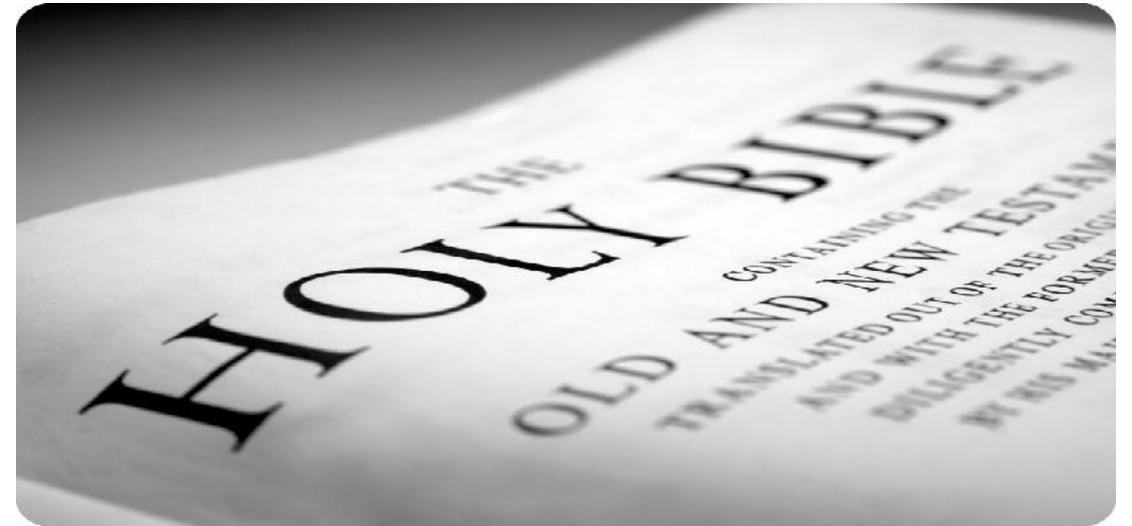
www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Deacon: Al Corkren
Leonard Key / David Key
Billy Box / Eddy Dickinson Minister: Greg Lowery

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***Without We Would
Not Know***



***The
Brilliant
Beacon***



The Church Needs More Wise Guys

By Jason Jackson

If we were to describe the historical background of the book of Proverbs, it would be “life.” Proverbs is universal and timeless. It affirms much of what pop-psychology denies — that it matters how you live. There are objective, foreseeable, eternal consequences to living foolishly. Yes, it does matter.

Living wisely involves skill, and skill for living is learned. Proverbs distills biblical principles into memorable phrases (e.g., on sexual immorality — “Can a man carry fire next to his chest and his clothes not get burned?” Prov. 6:27). Proverbs gives the prudent listener vivid expressions to truths, which are taught throughout the Bible.

The book is encouraging because it reminds us that skillful living can be taught. It can be taught to our children, and older folks as well. The proverbs of Scripture are inspired and always, always convey truth. The material is available; teaching will result when a willing student (young, old, rich, or poor) seeks it like silver and searches for it as for hidden treasure (Prov. 2:4).

Solomon uses several terms that describe the goal of Proverbs. Consider these words as they form the introduction to this wonderful book (Prov. 1:2-7).

The result of listening and learning these inspired proverbs (i.e., learning the truths that are imbedded in them, not merely the recitation of them) is “wisdom and instruction” (Prov. 1:2). Wisdom means skill. The word is used in the Old Testament of the making of priestly garments, the tabernacle, metal work, of the skill of mariners, and of administrators in government. But here it means the skills necessary for successful living in the sight of God in a sinful world.

Proverbs is intended to impart “instruction,” which means training or discipline. From the Hebrew term *musar* this term means a moral education through discipline with restraint (note: from the root *yasar*, which means to chastise with blows, but figuratively with words). These words of instruction, proverbs, should be repeated so that they become ingrained (cf. Deut. 6:6-7). Fools despise such (Prov. 15:5, 32; 3:11-12).

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Faye Cotton: recent scans showed little to no growth, please be praying that some new treatment can be found that will help her

Denise Kimbrell: has completed her treatments; please be praying that cancer will not return

Kay Dodd: received good report from recent scans, will continue treatments just as a precaution, please continue to pray that this cancer will stay in remission

Katie Berryhill: diagnosed with gestational diabetes, please pray that this will be controlled and that she will have a successful delivery

Barbara Wilkinson: still having problem with infection on her feet, please pray that the medicine she is taking will cure this infection

Danny Harbin: recently diagnosed with prostate cancer, please keep him in your prayers

Mable Weeks: recent scans showed no new growth of cancer, please continue to pray that this cancer can be defeated

Cory Davis Holmes: born May 4th with neuroblastoma which has spread to his liver, he is undergoing treatments, please pray for this young child and his family

Sandy McCaleb: has started cancer treatments, please be praying that this cancer can be treated and defeated

Edward Skinner: has been recently diagnosed with cancer, please pray that this cancer will be treatable

Charles Gay: has a brain tumor, attends the Cleveland congregation, please pray for him and his family

Adam Stidham; (co-worker of Al) has been diagnosed with leukemia, please pray that this will be treatable

Upcoming Events

Today	Nursing Home	2:00 pm
August 20 th	Fellowship Meal	

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Rebert Corkren: diagnosed with lung cancer, please be praying that he will receive the help needed defeat this cancer

Kristy Ingram: was diagnosed with cancer and is presently undergoing treatments, please pray that these treatments will work

Sonya Campbell: {Jacob & Whitney Cotton’s Mother} respiratory problems (ARDS), please pray that with treatments she will get better soon

Larry Metcalf: has been diagnosed with lung cancer; please pray that he can receive treatments that will defeat this cancer

Danny Berryhill: the doctor was pleased with the surgery, please be praying that he will make a full recovery and that the pain will be subsided.

Wayne Burleson: had an implant placed into his brain to help control tremors that he is having, please pray that this treatment will be successful

Dewayne Wilkinson: has a fungus growing on his lungs, please pray that with treatment this fungus will be cleared from his lungs

David Key: his surgery went well; please pray that he will make a full and quick recovery

Alice Foster: diagnosed with congestive heart failure and having problems with her lungs she is currently in the nursing home undergoing rehab, please keep her in your prayers

The book of Proverbs provides the ability to “understand words of insight” or to “discern the words of understanding” (Prov. 1:2). The book gives us a moral foundation from which we can make discriminating choices. Thereby we know that different choices have different moral consequences. These factors guide us in making right decisions. How ought we to think about relationships, money, work, attitudes, and child rearing? Every day brings decisions. Moral discernment is vital.

Proverbs is given to “receive instruction in wise dealing” (Prov. 1:3). It facilitates good moral decisions. Not everything needs to be learned through negative experiences. Not only do certain proverbs make us aware of many dangers, but they also provide us with the positive counterpart. Wise dealing leads to “righteousness, justice, and equity.” When we have a moral bearing, based on God’s word, the destination is integrity. “So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man” (Prov. 3:4).

The power of Proverbs is seen in the next verse (1:4). Shrewdness is given to the naive, prudence to the simple. The sincere, humble, willing-to-listen person will be the wisest of all. The big-headed, haughty-eyed, know-it-all does not realize what a fool he is. “A rebuke goes deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred blows into a fool” (Prov. 17:10). Proverbs molds a person with the right attitudes; it prepares the mind for spiritual instruction and the heart for spiritual sensitivity.

Knowledge and discretion (1:4) are given to the youth. Even the wise can become wiser (1:5-6). God’s word educates us to have mental discernment and moral skillfulness. Mental discernment is the ability to judge specific circumstances and discriminate between right and wrong. Moral skillfulness is the strength to do what is right — the tools, the motives, the courage, and the comfort of trusting in the Lord (Prov. 3:5-6).

The church needs wiser parents, wiser children, wiser elders, wiser preachers, etc. — individuals who continue to mine the great treasures of Scripture, beginning each morning with an intense desire to respect and reverence the Lord through their choices. This is the beginning of knowledge, the first step in the right direction (Prov. 1:7). Post them on your mirror; read them over and over; study them; and memorize select passages from the book of Proverbs.

Obtained at: www.christiancourier.com

What Is Bible “Inspiration”?

By Jason Jackson

“What do Bible scholars mean when they speak of the ‘inspiration’ of the Scriptures?”

The Bible makes a claim that most books do not. It claims to be from God. Unlike the few that make the claim, the Bible’s claim is true. This is the concept called “inspiration.” There are several things involved in considering the “inspiration of the Bible.”

First, “inspiration” of the Bible means that it had a divine origin. The term “inspiration” is found in the New Testament one time (2 Tim. 3:16).

“Every scripture inspired of God is also profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for instruction which is in righteousness.”

The Greek word *theopneustos* is actually a compound term. Its two parts (*theos* and *pneustos*) literally mean “God-breathed.” For this reason, English translations render the word by the phrase “inspired of God,” rather than just “inspired.”

Paul said that “scripture” is inspired of God. The word “scripture” comes from the Greek term *graphe*, which means “writings.” Paul was considering a specific body of writings. The word “scripture” is used in the Bible in a technical sense to distinguish writings whose origin is God, from those that originate with men. Practically speaking, the terms, “inspired of God” and “scriptures,” are interchangeable.

The apostle said that “every” or “all” scripture is from God. When Paul said that “every scripture” is inspired of God, he affirmed that the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms — the Lord’s three-fold designation of the Old Testament (Lk. 24:44) — were all from God. Both Old and New Testaments are called “scripture” (see 1 Tim. 5:18; 2 Pet. 3:15-16; cf. 1 Cor. 2:10-13).

Second, “inspiration of the Bible” means that God used prophetic agency. The writer of Hebrews referred to the human element in scripture when he said, “God, having of old time spoken unto the fathers in the prophets” (Heb. 1:1; emphasis added). The prophets were speaking; they were writing with pen and parchments. But, the words actually were God’s.

The apostle Peter noted that “the word of prophecy” was of God’s design. In communicating his will, however, “men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit” (2 Pet. 1:21).

The “inspiration” of the human writers did not mean that they were mere transcribers. God employed their human personalities and experiences in the process. Inspired men were not omniscient or personally infallible. But what they wrote was from the mind of God — and it was recorded without error.

They also used firsthand knowledge, the aid of eyewitnesses, and written sources in the composition of Scripture (cf. Lk. 1:1-4). All of these methods, however, were under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, with the guarantee of accuracy (cf. Jn. 16:13).

Third, “inspiration of the Bible” means that this book is authoritative. The Bible is the final word in religious matters. As Paul discussed some doctrinal issues in Romans, he said, “What saith the scriptures?” (Rom. 4:3). The Lord charged the Sadducees, “Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures” (Mt. 22:29). What God has revealed is important when considering any religious matter.

The Bible is the will of God. It is his authoritative word. For that reason, Jesus Christ said, “and the scriptures cannot be broken” (Jn. 10:35). We cannot dismiss God’s written word. It is as authoritative as if God spoke directly from heaven (cf. Mt. 22:31; 2 Pet. 1:18-20).

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