

The Battle for God's Word

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I ask you, before you even start to read this article, to ask God to guide your mind. I ask you to keep your mind open to what the Bible says and to not have a preconceived idea of what you think about this subject based upon what a man may have said. Then last of all, I ask that you read this article in its entirety. This article will be longer than most of the articles that I write in this journal, but I believe the importance of what I have written demands of me to ask you to read the whole article with an open mind and heart to the Holy Spirit of God.

The battle for the Word of God is not a new battle. Throughout history the battle for the validity of God's Word, the Bible, has been fought. In each battle Satan has used different means to attack God's Word, but he has failed each time. We read in the book of Genesis that Satan, while in the Garden of Eden, questioned the Word of God. In the book of Isaiah you will read that Satan challenged God's Word and position. In the book of Jeremiah, Satan tried to use a king to destroy the Word of God by having It thrown into a fire. During the life of Jesus, Satan tried to twist the Word of God to get Jesus to fall into sin. He has used so-called intellects of history to defy and scoff at the validity of the Bible. The stories of the Bible have been questioned as to their legitimacy, and yet every story in the Bible is still found to be true. Liberals throughout history have made an all-out effort to change the words of God for political and lifestyle expediency. Even printing companies have come out with their new bibles trying to destroy the King James Bible. Yet, through all of these attacks, the Bible still stands strong and will continue to stand strong even when attacks come its way in the future.

From a young boy, I can remember the battle was over which Bible is the true Bible. I can remember men like Lester Roloff preaching back in the 70's about the King James Bible being the Word of God. I can remember when other versions started coming out and became popular, that men of God would stand in their pulpits proclaiming that the King James Bible was the Word of God. Then from the mid 80's, Fundamentalism took this battle head on as Dr. Jack Hyles used the latter years of his life fighting for the King James Bible. The truth is I really thought when he went to Heaven that Fundamental Baptists had this battle solved and settled within their hearts. I really did not think we would have to fight for the King James Bible again.

I should have known better because the battle over the Bible will always be fought, for the Bible is the foundation and source of what we believe. Without It, we have nothing to stand upon, and with It we can be bold in our stance for what we believe.

In recent years a new battle, that many have tried to avoid, over the KJB has crept into our Fundamental Baptist churches. This battle is over whether the KJB is inspired or whether only the "originals" are inspired. Those who say the originals are inspired want to say that the KJB is preserved but not inspired. Then there are those of us who believe that the KJB is inspired and preserved. We believe that the KJB never lost its inspiration because God's Word has been and always will be inspired.

The average church member may think this is not important, and truthfully he may not be interested in this battle, however, it is about time that ALL of God's people take interest in the battle for the KJB. God did not command only the preachers to contend for the faith. God

commanded His people, as a whole, to contend for the faith, and the Bible is part of the faith. If the average church member does not learn what he believes about the KJB and whether or not It is inspired, then generations to come may one day be without a Bible only because of the apathetic attitude of the Christians of our day.

Let me give you several simple thoughts about what the Bible says about being inspired. We must realize that it really does not matter what great men of the past have said about the Bible or even what the Baptist historical position is about the Bible. The only thing that truly matters is what does the Bible say about It being inspired? Remember: the Bible is our final authority and not man or some position that Baptists have taken in the past.

1. The Devil's way of attack is always to question the Word of God.

Way back in the Garden of Eden, we see that Satan's tactic to mankind was to put question in their mind concerning the Word of God. Satan said to Eve in Genesis 3:1, "...*Yea hath God said...*" From that time to now, that is all that Satan has tried to do; he has tried to put question in your mind whether or not the Word of God is true. Why would he do such a thing? Because he knows that if we have a question in our mind whether God's Word really says something, then he can get us to make ourselves the authority and not God.

When men of God stand up and proclaim that the KJB is not the inspired Word of God, all they are doing is putting a question about God's Word into the minds of those to whom they are preaching. Whether they realize this or not, they are only doing what Satan would want them to do because this is what Satan would do to Christians if he were to stand in the pulpits of our churches.

Why is it that in our day, the only Bible that seems to come under constant attack is the KJB? Why is it that liberals will attack the integrity of the KJB but will not even expose the bias towards other perversions? The reason why the KJB is being attacked is because Satan wants us to question God's Word so we will not put our complete faith and trust in It. He knows if we will put our complete trust in the Word of God, then God's agenda will continue to go forward in a mighty way.

2. Inspiration means the KJB is alive.

In 2 Timothy 3:16 we read that God said that "*All scripture is given by inspiration of God...*" I am one of those who believes that the Bible is a great dictionary of Itself. Because of this, I go to the Bible to try and figure out what God is trying to tell us when it comes to His Word. In Acts 7:38, when God talks about His Word, He calls the Bible "*...the lively oracles...*" Again in John 6:63 when Jesus is talking about the words that He spoke to us, He said, "*...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*" The word "*inspiration*" in 2 Timothy 3:16 is literally defined in the other verses that we just read above. The word "*inspiration*" does not mean God breathed, but it means that God's words are spirit. This is why we read in John 6:63 that His words "*are spirit and they are life.*" Because His words are spirit, we have the assurance that God's word is alive.

Christian, you should rejoice in this fact because if God's Word was only preserved and not inspired, then that would mean that the Bible we hold in our hand has no power, for how can something without life have power? It takes life to have power! With the KJB being inspired,

we can place all of our confidence in the promises of the Bible because those promises are alive and well for us today.

3. The “originals” are in Heaven.

To be quite honest with you, I get tired of the old liberal argument that only the originals are inspired. What an ignorant statement to make! These people imply that the Hebrew and Greek are the originals and only they are inspired and not the KJB that God has given to us today.

When I study the Bible, I find that the originals were not the Hebrew and Greek, but the originals were in Heaven before the Hebrew and Greek were ever given. In Psalm 119:89 God said *“For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.”* Notice, God’s Word was in Heaven before there was even an Earth that was created. This verse did not say that God’s Word was settled in the Hebrew and Greek; it says It was settled in Heaven.

Furthermore, the Bible says in Galatians 3:8, *“And the scripture; foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham...”* The Word of God has always been, and before the Gospel was ever written on Earth, God preached to Abraham the Gospel that was in Heaven. I have news for you, the originals according to the Bible were already in Heaven.

The truth is this, these Hebrew and Greek texts that people call the originals were nothing more than translations given by God to the men of God of that day. The originals are in Heaven because God’s Word is settled in Heaven and not on Earth.

4. God is the author of all languages.

Briefly we must understand that God is the author of all languages. God is not limited to one language, for God is the author of all languages.

We find this in Genesis 11:9 when at the tower of Babel, God was the One Who confounded the languages of man. So if God was the One Who confounded the languages, then that would mean that God is the One Who is the author of all languages.

Why would we think it difficult for God to keep His Word inspired in the English language through the KJB, when He is the author of every language? Though to man this may be a difficult task, to God this is not difficult, for God is an omniscient and omnipotent God who is capable of keeping His Word inspired from one language to the next.

5. God inspired His words, not a language.

I think too many times we get caught up in the language when we must realize that it is the words of God that are inspired. God never said one time that He inspired a language; He simply says that His words are inspired.

Notice that 2 Timothy 3:16 says *“All scripture..”* is inspired. Notice God did not say that the languages were inspired, but the scriptures are inspired. I have news for you, those scriptures are words. Scriptures are the words of God not the language of God. That is why God says in

Proverbs 30:5, *“Every word of God is pure...”* God did not say that every language is pure but that every word is pure. God always puts the emphasis upon His words while man has tried to put the emphasis upon the language.

It is pretty arrogant of mankind to think that God speaks Hebrew and Greek up in Heaven. Now, God may speak those languages in Heaven, but the fact is that I am not too sure that anyone knows the language up in Heaven. If God inspired a language then God would have inspired the language that He speaks in Heaven for that is where God’s words are. Instead God showed us that He inspired His words and not a language. This is why it should not be difficult for us to understand that the KJB is inspired, for God did not inspire the language of Hebrew and Greek, God inspired the words that were in Hebrew and Greek; it is those words that are now in the English language through the KJB.

6. When you attack the inspiration of the Bible, you attack Jesus.

In John 1:1 we learn that *“...the Word was God.”* We find later on in John 1:14 that the “Word” in John 1:1 was Jesus Christ for the Bible says that *“...the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...”* The only One Who dwelt among us was Jesus Christ.

When a person attacks whether the KJB is inspired, then in a round about way they are attacking Jesus Christ for He is the Word of God. I have news for you; Jesus did rise from the dead, and He is alive. This is why we must have an inspired Bible today, for if It is not inspired, then Jesus Christ is dead.

7. The power in God’s Word comes from Its inspiration.

When the Bible says in Hebrews 4:12 that the Word of God is powerful, we must realize that the power of the Word of God comes because It is inspired. The power of God’s Word is relevant to us today because It is inspired. This is why the wisdom of the Bible still works today because the Bible is inspired. If the Bible were not inspired, then the wisdom in the Bible would not help us today.

While talking about this with my good friend, Dr. Russell Anderson, he wanted me to relay that the whole reason he has been able to make the millions of dollars that he has made in his lifetime is because of the Word of God. He told me that if the KJB were not inspired, then he would have never had the wisdom to make the money that God allowed him to make. He then said to me that it is interesting that all the other versions out there don’t make millionaires, but the KJB can certainly guide a man into the mind of God to learn how to make money because the KJB is relevant to us today because of Its inspiration.

I completely concur with everything he said to me. The Bible is a powerful Book and is relevant to us today because It is inspired. That inspired Bible is the KJB!

8. Without inspiration, there is no salvation.

I don’t know if you realize how important it is that the KJB be inspired. If It is not inspired then how in the world can anyone be saved? You see, it takes life to give life. If the KJB is just preserved but not inspired, then nobody in the English speaking world can get saved, for without inspiration there is no life.

Just like Adam became a living soul when God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, likewise a person is saved through the Word of God. The Bible says in 1 Peter 1:23, "*Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*" Notice it is only through the Word of God, which is alive, that a person can get saved. If the KJB that we hold in our hand is not inspired, then there is no way that anyone can get saved because life gives life. The Word of God gives salvation.

If the KJB is not inspired, then everyone who reads this article and thinks that they are saved, are truly not saved. Your salvation depends upon God giving us an inspired Bible in our day in order for people to get saved. Let's be careful about saying It is not inspired, for we then question our own salvation and the salvation of everyone who was saved outside of the so-called originals.

9. The inspiration of the Bible will never end.

God, when talking about the scriptures being inspired, said in 2 Timothy 3:16 that "*All scripture is given...*" Notice the present tense of the words "*is given.*" God did not say that the scripture **was given** by inspiration but "*...is given by inspiration...*" God knew exactly what He was saying when He talked about inspiration in the present tense. God knew that the inspiration of the Bible would never end.

Just like God gave the church the promise of divine perpetuity, likewise God promised His Word would always be inspired. Those who do not believe the KJB is inspired can try to explain away the present tense of these words, but their explanation is obviously wrong because it contradicts with what God promised to all of us.

10. Inspiration is a miracle.

We are always looking for a miracle in our day, but the one miracle we can always look to is the KJB. When you hold in your hand the KJB, you hold in your hand a miracle Book. A miracle because God never lets the inspiration of the Word of God expire. His Word will always be inspired.

You may say to me, "Bro. Domelle, explain to me how the Bible can still be inspired today." The truth is, I may try, and I have tried using the Bible, but no man will ever be able to properly explain the miracle of the inspiration of the Scriptures. Just like no person can adequately explain the Trinity, likewise no man will ever quite be able to explain how God keeps His Word inspired. If we could explain it, then God would not be God. The greatness of God is seen in the fact that His Word is still inspired today.

11. Taking away the inspiration of the Bible is a serious matter to God.

I have become weary of the people who say, "Let's stop majoring on the minor things and let's major on the major things of the Bible." Now I have a question for those who say such things, mind telling me what in the Bible is minor and what in the Bible is major? Where in the Bible did God give us a list of major things we should fight for and minor things we should not fight for? The truth is there is no such list because to God everything in the Bible is important. If it were not important to God, then God would never have placed it in the Bible.

God says in Revelation 22:18-19, *“For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.”* Notice that God said if any man take away from the words and not if any man take away words. There is a big difference in these two phrases. God wanted us to understand that He does not approve of any man taking away from His Words implying that every word in the Bible is still inspired.

When a person says that the KJB is not inspired, then that person is taking away from the Words of God. If inspiration were only in the originals and we only got the words and not the inspiration, then we would have lost something from those words. When a preacher or a seminary teacher stands up and says that the KJB is not inspired, they are taking away from God's Words. We must understand that inspiration is part of God's Words.

So to the individuals who say we are making too much of this inspiration issue, tell God we are making too much of the inspiration issue when He commands us not to take away from His Words. I contend that everything in the Bible is major and is worth standing up and fighting for because God put the emphasis of not taking away from any of His Words. If we say that some of the Bible is major and some is not, then we are taking away from the Words. If we say that the KJB is not inspired but only the originals are inspired, then we are taking away from the Words of God. Every Word of God is important, and every Word of God is still inspired.

12. When men and textbooks disagree with the Bible, the Bible is always right.

The biggest problem that most people face today is that we keep on trying to use men as the source to defend our positions. Let me be very emphatic about what I am going to say; men are not the ones who define what our position is. The Bible is the final authority that we all should run to in order to find where to stand. I love men like Dr. Jack Hyles and Dr. Lester Roloff who defended the KJB. But the truth of the matter is that they are not the authority on whether or not the Bible is inspired. The Bible is the authority on whether or not it is inspired. It does not matter what the Baptist historical position is or what Dr. Hyles said; the only thing that matters is what the Bible says.

When we come to a point when a man or a position is different than what the Bible teaches, we must always choose the position of the Bible over the man or the textbook. We must never trust man's position over the Bible's position; we must always trust the position of the Bible for the Bible is the final and only authority. If you hear a preacher say that the KJB is not inspired, and yet the Bible says that *“All scripture is given by inspiration...”*, then you should trust the Bible and say that the preacher who said the KJB was not inspired is wrong. Always base your positions on the Bible.

13. By faith we MUST believe that the Bible is still inspired.

It all really comes down to this last point and that is that we must, by faith, trust God that the Bible is inspired. God says in Hebrews 11:6, *“But without faith it is impossible to please*

him...” If anything should cause you to believe the KJB is inspired, it should be faith. Nothing in the Christian life will ever please God unless it is done through faith.

You may be having a hard time understanding the whole issue and understanding how all this can be, but by faith you must trust God that when He says His Word is inspired then It is truly inspired. Understanding is not the issue; the issue is having faith in God that His Word, the KJB, is the inspired, preserved Word of God.

Too many Christians and men of God don't want to get involved in this battle because they just want to focus on building their churches. I have nothing against a preacher building his church, but the Bible does not command us to earnestly contend in building our church. The Bible does command us to earnestly contend for the faith, and the inspiration of the Bible is part of the faith. When we would rather contend for building our churches than contend for the faith, then we have disobeyed God in His command to contend for the faith.

Ladies and gentlemen, somewhere we must stop burying our heads in the sand and face up to the facts concerning the Word of God. We cannot sit idly by and let people attack the validity of the KJB by saying that It is not inspired. Yes, it may be hard to take that stand because our friends are the ones who are making the statement, but standing for God has never been an easy stand to take.

We must pray for those who are making erroneous stands, but we must not support them. If the KJB is inspired and someone preaches that It is not, then we **MUST NOT** go to their conferences or support their ministries. By doing so we are telling them that their stand is right; which is nothing more than compromise. Let's be a people who will not stand by as the KJB is attacked. Let us firmly defend the Bible, for without the Bible, we have no ground on which to stand.

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