

**Inspiration**

Over the past couple of years I have heard from various people a comment that bothers me. When asked if they believe the Bible is inspired they reply, "Most of it." When asked to explain their answer they remark that they do not believe that certain parts of the NT are inspired, i.e. when Paul says that he is giving his opinion.

This is a dangerous position because it opens the door for all kinds of suppositions concerning the word of God. If it is true (and it is not) that only certain parts of the Bible are inspired and others are not it opens "Pandora's box" in trying to figure out just exactly what parts are inspired and what parts aren't. It would be very easy to reject certain passages by simply saying, "That is Peter's opinion" or "That is just John's opinion" and not receiving the instruction as being inspired (and therefore binding).

When Paul wrote the Corinthians and told them that he was giving his opinion on a matter (1Cor. 7:25,40) we was writing his opinion as an inspired apostle! In the very same letter he wants his brethren to know that what he is writing (and may I stress that he means everything that he is writing) is inspired of the Lord (see 1Cor. 14:37).

When our Lord confirmed Peter's confession as the rock upon which the church was built He went on to say that whatever the apostle bound upon the earth was bound in heaven, and whatever the apostles loosed upon the earth was loosed in heaven (see Mt. 16:17-19).

Genesis 1 to Revelation 22 is inspired literature. The Holy Spirit is the author using various men through the centuries to convey the word of God to mankind (2Pet. 2:20,21). ALL Scripture is divinely inspired by God and profitable for all things (2Tim. 3:16,17). May we never drift in our appreciation and belief in the inspiration of the entire Bible as God's revealed word.

See you Sunday! -gls