



Inspiration-Preservation

What is the Big Deal?



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The battle over inspiration today can be very confusing and seemingly pointless. I have heard many discouraged preachers say “Can’t we all just get along?” or “What is the big deal?”. I would like to share with you exactly what the issue is, what is at stake and where each side of this debate will lead you.

Before we go too far into this discussion we must establish the authority of the Word of God. **Psalms 33:4** “*For the word of the LORD is right;*” It does not matter your education, understanding, or knowledge. The word of the Lord is right! Your degree does not override the Scripture. Scripture trumps intellectualism! Intellect has always been the enemy to the truth. We can go all the way back to the garden of Eden where Satan question God’s Word through intellect – “*Yea, hath God said?*” The Bible says that “knowledge puffeth up” (I Corinthians 8:1). So, in order to come to the truth on this subject we must use Scripture. We cannot defeat intellectualism with intellectualism, but rather with the simple truth of Scripture. Truth needs no props. If it must be propped up it is not true. Let’s lay the foundation once and for all: The word of the Lord is right!

The argument today is that the King James Bible cannot possibly be inspired and that only the originals are. The belief is that the KJB is merely a translation from the originals and does not contain the inspired words of God. They believe that it is the best translation for the English speaking people, but only a translation. Here is the problem with claiming this statement.

To say that the KJV is infallible and inerrant, but not inspired is absolutely ridiculous for it makes Scripture nothing more than an accurate historical book. Just because a book is inerrant does not qualify it to be Scripture. There are many old accurate historical documents that date back before some of the books of the Bible were penned, but they are not Scripture. What sets Scripture apart from all other books and documents is the doctrine of inspiration.

I believe the problem causing the debate today over inspiration is that we have taken a man made definition for the word inspired and have thus limited its meaning. The Bible says in II Timothy 3:16 “*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*” Here in this clear verse on inspiration we find the key to understanding inspiration and that is that **all scripture IS GIVEN by inspiration of God**. It does not say that it WAS GIVEN, but rather that it IS GIVEN. Notice the difference. You will see the importance of this truth shortly.

We that believe that every word of God is pure (Proverbs 30:5), must read it word for word exactly how it reads in the Bible. Remember, the word of the Lord is right!

A close look at what the Bible says about inspiration brings this whole debate into a new spectrum. I Peter 1:23 says, “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by **the word of God, which liveth** (*its inspiration*) **and abideth** (*its preservation*) **for ever.**”

A mummy is preserved, but not alive! The Word of God is more than just an old dead book preserved accurately for us today, but rather it is preserved and ALIVE today! It abideth! Preservation without inspiration makes our Bible nothing more than an old accurate history book.

So, by saying that we believe the King James Bible is inspired, does not mean that we believe that the Lord moved upon the King James translators and miraculously moved their hands to write the words of God as He did in days of old (mechanical dictation). You don't have to believe in double inspiration to believe that our King James Bible is still inspired today. It is not double inspiration, but rather continued inspiration (*All Scripture IS GIVEN by inspiration...*). The words of God in the KJB are just as fresh, alive, and powerful today as they were when they were originally given in the original languages and this being possible through the method of preservation. We believe that the Lord preserved for us today in the King James Bible the inspired words of God. To have preservation without inspiration is absurd. What then is preserved if we no longer have the inspired words? Psalms 12:7 “*Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.*”

The problem with believing that the King James Bible is just a translation and not inspired is that it leads to Bible correcting. If only the original Greek and Hebrew are inspired

and what we hold in our hands today is nothing more than an accurate translation of the Greek and Hebrew then we are at liberty to correct the KJB with the Greek and Hebrew. After all, the King James Bible is not inspired and the Greek and Hebrew are. People who believe this way often study the Greek to find a better understanding of God's word. This then leads to finding better definitions for the English word and eventually ends up endorsing the need for a better translation.

We King James Only crowd believe that EVERY WORD in the King James is placed there by God and cannot be changed, altered, or better defined. For we believe that the words found in the KJB are inspired of God and preserved. Not just an accurate translation, but inspired! The Greek holds no power over the King James Bible. If every word in our Bible is inspired and preserved then not one word can be better defined. No one becomes a Bible corrector by reading the King James Bible and finding errors in it -for there are none! They become Bible correctors by studying the Greek and Hebrew, men's lexicons, and other intellectual study guides and there discover the errors, or "better" definitions. Our response: **Let God be true, but every man a liar!** Studying the Greek and Hebrew does not lead to a better understanding of God's Word. Studying God's Word is the only way to a better understanding of God's Word. II Timothy 2:15 "**Study...the word of truth.**"

If Satan can get us to relinquish the doctrine of inspiration then that will make our Holy Bible nothing more than an old historic document. We must stand our ground and trust the Lord when He promised HIS inspired words would reach from generation to generation, forever!