

## THE THEORIES OF THE INSPIRATION OF SCRIPTURE

**TEXT:** 2 Timothy 3:15,16

- I. NATURALISTIC THEORY:** The belief that the Bible is NOT INSPIRED BY GOD AT ALL. It is simply a collection of a **mythological history of the world...a semi-accurate history of Israel** and **some wise sayings**. (The view held by most "scientists & "intellectuals".)
- II. NEO-ORTHODOX THEORY:** The view that GOD DIDN'T INSPIRE THE BIBLE AT ALL but **He uses it for His purposes**, just as He may use the Koran or Book of Mormon, etc. (The view held by modernistic churches.)
- III. THE PARTIAL INSPIRATION THEORY:** The belief that ONLY THOSE PORTIONS OF SCRIPTURE CONCERNING DIVINE REVELATION ARE INSPIRED OF GOD. They reject anything concerning **science, history and geography** (like Israel's right to the Land, etc.)
- IV. THE CONCEPT INSPIRATION THEORY:** That the BIBLE CONTAINS GOD'S IDEAS BUT NOT HIS EXACT WORDS. They use the **"dynamic equivalence"** method of translating the Bible (as in the new "versions" of the Bible)
- V. THE MECHANICAL DICTATION THEORY:** LIKE A SECRETARY WRITING A LETTER. God spoke the words He wanted written.
- VI. THE VERBAL, PLENARY INSPIRATION THEORY:** THAT GOD CHOSE EVERY WORD USED IN THE WRITING OF THE BIBLE. He used the **vocabulary and personality of each writer**, but did not dictate them. **(My view and I hope yours as well. ) - P.F.**