

# **THE DOCTRINE OF SCRIPTURE**

**Part One: A theology of Scripture**

*The authorship, character, and  
authority of the Bible*

**Adult Sunday School**

**9:30 am**

**Teacher: Mark Lincoln**

# Divine Origin of Scripture

## “Inspiration”

- Word used in theology to refer to the divine origin of the Bible
- **Definition:** *“the supernatural influence of the Holy Spirit upon the writers of Scripture which resulted in their writings being the words of God”*

# Divine Origin of Scripture

## The Fact of Inspiration

(What we have been establishing)

- 1. Self-Claims:** the authors of Scripture claim clearly and consistently that their words are God's words
- 2. Substantiation:**
  - Credibility of the authors and their writings
  - Characteristics of divine authorship

# **Divine Origin of Scripture**

## **The Method of Inspiration**

(“how” did God give us His words?)

- ❖ He used men to write His words – not inscribed in heaven; not angels
- ❖ These men were “moved” by the influence of the Holy Spirit

# Divine Origin of Scripture

## The Method of Inspiration

### ➤ Dual Authorship: “concurrency”

#### 1. Activity of the Holy Spirit

- **2 Peter 1:20-21** – “moved” (borne along)
  - **1 Peter 1:10-11** – “the Spirit of Christ within them” (i.e. the prophets)
  - **1 Corinthians 2:4-13** – “through the Spirit”
- ❖ Although He employed a variety of means, all Scripture is ultimately a product of the Holy Spirit’s activity

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## The Method of Inspiration

### ➤ Dual Authorship: “concurrency”

#### 2. Human Agency

- in general, not mechanical (dictation) – the writers were very involved (Luke 1:1-4)
- drew from their knowledge, circumstances, background, research; expressed in their own styles and personalities
- “superintendence” – God’s providential oversight of the writers in the entire process of writing, including their preparation

# Divine Origin of Scripture

## The Method of Inspiration

### Summary:

**“God’s continued work of superintendence, by which His providential, gracious, and supernatural contributions having been presupposed, His Spirit presided over the sacred writers in their entire work of writing...”**

**-- B.B. Warfield**