

DIFFERENT THEOLOGICAL VIEWS OF INSPIRATION

Definition	Inerrancy	Final Authority
<p><u>Verbal plenary</u>: All the words of the Bible are inspired (i.e., given by God). (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pe. 1:21). Born-again and Spirit-filled believers hold this view.</p>	<p>The original manuscripts of the Bible do not contain errors (Mtt. 5:18; John 10:35).</p>	<p>The Bible is the final authority in all religious matters. Modern religious thought has no value unless it aligns with Scripture (Mark 7:7-13; Rom. 3:3,4; Gal. 1:8; Col. 2:8).</p>
<p><u>Neo-Evangelical</u>: The Bible is divinely inspired in a unique sense. The exact sense cannot be defined, but the Bible is not merely the work of man. It is the Word of God to the extent that God aided the writers. Some born-again believers and unsaved denominationalists hold this view.</p>	<p>Even the original manuscripts of the Bible may contain some errors.</p>	<p>The Bible is the main authority, but not the only one. It is the final authority in most cases, but religious leaders may overrule it if necessary. Christians must be open-minded enough to modify what the Bible says to conform to modern religious thought.</p>
<p><u>Neo-Orthodox</u>: Some parts of the Bible are inspired, but the rest of it is not. The Bible is not the Word of God; it contains the Word of God. "Inspired" means the reader encounters God experientially, so this view is subjective. Some unsaved denominationalists hold this view.</p>	<p>The Bible contains errors. It is like a minister preaching a sermon. He is fallible and errs, but he still communicates the truth.</p>	<p>The Bible is an authority, but not the final one. The final authority is what religious leaders say. The church must believe all the modern religious thought possible, even if it contradicts the Bible.</p>
<p><u>Liberal</u>: The Bible is not inspired, but the men who wrote it were. "Inspired" means the highest level of human work possible, not God's involvement. The Bible writers were inspired in the same sense that Shakespeare was. Some unsaved denominationalists, university professors, and sinners hold this view.</p>	<p>The Bible contains errors, even myths. One must interpret it allegorically, not literally.</p>	<p>The Bible is in no sense an authority. The final authority is what political, social, and religious leaders say. The Bible is outdated. God is speaking a modern relevant message today. The church should salvage from the Bible whatever it can.</p>

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<p><u>King James Version:</u> God inspired the A.V. 1611 King James Version of the Bible. The Holy Spirit thrust Himself into the committee. God "authorized" only this version. A small segment of born-again believers, mostly Baptists, hold this view.</p>	<p>The A.V. 1611 King James Version does not contain errors. Revisions to the A.V. 1611 made by Dr. Scattergood (1680) and Dr. Blayney (1769) were also the work of the Holy Spirit.</p>	<p>The A.V. 1611 King James Version is the final authority. It supersedes all Greek and Hebrew manuscripts, and corrects all other translations, all religious leaders, and all modern religious thought.</p>
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AUTHENTICITY OF THE BIBLE
Test: Mid-semester

File 5 (BC) R817
(H-BC-AUB5)

Name _____
Corrector _____
100 points total

PART I. MULTIPLE CHOICE. Circle the letter of the correct response. There is only one correct answer for each question. All questions are worth three points each.

1. (3 pts.) How many different writers were used by God to pen the Old and New Testaments?
 - a. 15.
 - b. 27.
 - c. 40.
 - d. 55.
 - e. 66.

2. (3 pts.) How many books are there in the Bible?
 - a. 27.
 - b. 39.
 - c. 55.
 - d. 66.
 - e. 75.

3. (3 pts.) How many Hebrew manuscripts of the Old Testament are known to be extant?
 - a. 500.
 - b. 800.
 - c. 1900.
 - d. 3300.
 - e. 5000.

4. (3 pts.) How many Greek manuscripts of the New Testament are known to be extant?
 - a. 800.
 - b. 2300.
 - c. 4000.
 - d. 4800.
 - e. 6600.

5. (3 pts.) In approximately what year was the first Old Testament book written?
 - a. 1500 B.C.
 - b. 1750 B.C.
 - c. 2250 B.C.
 - d. 2700 B.C.
 - e. 3500 B.C.

6. (3 pts.) In approximately what year was the last New Testament book written?
 - a. A.D. 33.
 - b. A.D. 66.
 - c. A.D. 70.
 - d. A.D. 85.
 - e. A.D. 96.

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7. (3 pts.) Approximately how many total years elapsed during the writing of both the Old and New Testaments?
 - a. 1600.
 - b. 1850.
 - c. 2350.
 - d. 2800.
 - e. 3600.

8. (3 pts.) What is the literal meaning of the Greek term theopneustos which is found in 2 Timothy 3:16?
 - a. Inspired of God.
 - b. Inspired by God.
 - c. Inbreathed by God.
 - d. Spirit-inspired.
 - e. God-breathed.

9. (3 pts.) What dilemma results from the theology that the Bible only "contains" the Word of God?
 - a. The Bible cannot be translated perfectly.
 - b. No one interpretation of the Bible can be said to be correct; each passage can mean many things.
 - c. All of the Bible is brought into question because no one can determine which verses are inspired and which are not inspired.
 - d. The original readings in the autographs can never be positively established.
 - e. The Bible becomes obsolete because it only applies to the age in which it was written.

10. (3 pts.) From cover to cover, the Bible contains clear and repeated claims of divine inspiration. In the face of this fact, what implication is made against God by those who deny the full inspiration of Scripture?
 - a. God does not exist.
 - b. God is incapable of inspiration.
 - c. God is a plagiarist.
 - d. God is a liar.
 - e. God is not omniscient.

11. (3 pts.) What one important qualification must be made to the statement that the Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God which contains no errors or contradictions and is perfect in every respect?
 - a. This is only true of the places which were directly inspired word for word; the rest of the Bible is only inspired in a unique sense.
 - b. This is only true for the one authoritative translation for each nation in its given period of history.
 - c. This is only true for the Greek and Hebrew Testaments that we have today, since these are the original languages.
 - d. This is only true for the earliest copies of the Scriptures that were circulated among the churches in apostolic days.
 - e. This is only true for the original manuscripts (called "autographs") penned by the Bible writers.

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PART II. CHECK ALL THAT APPLY. Place a check in the blank next to the letter of every correct response. Point values for partial credit are noted above each question.

All right, 4 pts.; 1 wrong, -1; 2 wrong, -2; 3 wrong, -3; 4 or more wrong, -4.

1. Which of the following are valid objections to rendering 2 Timothy 3:16 as "Every Scripture inspired of God is profitable"?
- a. This translation teaches verbal inspiration only.
 - b. The Greek construction in this verse cannot be properly translated this way.
 - c. The context of the passage will not allow this translation.
 - d. The word translated "Scripture" always refers to the written Word of God. This verse is saying that all of the Scripture is inspired, but this mistranslation is teaching only partial inspiration.
 - e. The Apostle Paul did not believe in partial inspiration, and since Paul is here expressing his personal opinion, the verse has to be teaching full inspiration.
 - f. "Inspired of God," and "profitable" are predicate adjectives, and together they define two facts about the Bible. This translation only states one fact describing the Bible.
 - g. This translation makes no sense because what it is stating is self-evident. Obviously the Scriptures that God does inspire will be profitable; this cannot be the point being made in the verse.

All right, 4 pts.; 1 wrong, -1; 2 wrong, -2; 3 wrong, -3; 4 or more wrong, -4.

2. Which of the following Biblical events are explicitly mentioned in the Bible as being believed by Jesus Christ?
- a. Moses penned the Pentateuch.
 - b. The creation of Adam and Eve.
 - c. Jonah was swallowed by a great fish.
 - d. Elijah's three and one-half year drought.
 - e. Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by God.
 - f. Lot's wife was turned into a pillar of salt.
 - g. The global flood and Noah's ark.
 - h. Some Psalms were written by David.
 - i. Moses was at the burning bush.
 - j. Satan was cast out of heaven.
 - k. Solomon had great wealth and honor.
 - l. David ate shewbread off the table in the Tabernacle.
 - m. Nineveh repented at the preaching of Jonah.
 - n. The Queen of Sheba visited King Solomon.
 - o. Cain slew Abel.

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PART III. MATCHING. Match the responses in the right column to their corresponding premises in the left column by placing the letters of the correct responses in the blanks provided. Some responses must be used more than once. All blanks are worth one point each (20 pts. total).

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| ___ 1. Draws directly from the German theologian Schleiermacher. | a. Verbal plenary. |
| ___ 2. All Scripture is fully inspired. | b. Neo-evangelical. |
| ___ 3. The Bible "contains" the Word of God. | c. Neo-orthodox. |
| ___ 4. The Bible contains some errors. | d. Liberal. |
| ___ 5. The source of true theology is man's religious consciousness. | |
| ___ 6. No concept should be accepted simply because it is in the Bible. | |
| ___ 7. Karl Barth is the most famous theologian representing this view. | |
| ___ 8. The Bible is full of errors. | |
| ___ 9. There are myths and fables in the Bible. | |
| ___ 10. The Bible is all important, but may be modified by modern religious thought. | |
| ___ 11. The Bible is without error. | |
| ___ 12. The Bible is at every point the vulnerable word of man. | |
| ___ 13. The Bible is divinely inspired in a unique sense. | |
| ___ 14. The Bible is no more inspired than Shakespeare. | |
| ___ 15. Modern religious thought is authoritative; the Bible is not. | |
| ___ 16. The Bible is authoritative, but concessions are justified on the basis of scientific theory. | |
| ___ 17. Modern religious thought only has value when it agrees with Biblical teaching. | |
| ___ 18. The Bible is authoritative and necessary, but modern religious thought must be incorporated as much as possible into theology. | |
| ___ 19. This view represents total apostasy. | |
| ___ 20. Outwardly claims to agree with all major Christian doctrines. | |

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PART IV. SHORT ANSWER. Write the correct response to each question and statement in the space provided. Point values are noted for each question.

1. (3 pts., 1 pt. per answer) The Biblical view of inspiration has been labeled the "verbal plenary" view. According to the definitions given in class, state the meaning of "verbal," the meaning of "plenary," and the overall concept expressed by the "verbal plenary" view.
 - a. Verbal:
 - b. Plenary:
 - c. Verbal plenary:

2. (3 pts.) One of the external evidences of inspiration is the unique process of the Bible's origination. Explain briefly how the process of origination of the Bible is unique.

3. (3 pts.) Another external evidences of inspiration is the unique nature of the Bible's preservation. Explain briefly how the preservation of the Bible is unique.

4. (3 pts.) A third external evidence of inspiration is the unique nature of the Bible's circulation. Explain briefly how the circulation of the Bible is unique.

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5. (4 pts., 2 pts. per answer) One of the internal evidences of inspiration is the fact that the Bible is human, yet divine. Explain briefly how the Bible is human, and how it is divine.

a. Human:

b. Divine:

6. (4 pts., 2 pts. per answer) Another internal evidence of inspiration is the fact that the Bible is manifold, yet one. Explain briefly how the Bible is manifold, and how it is one.

a. Manifold:

b. One:

7. (4 pts., 2 pts. per answer) A third internal evidence of inspiration is the fact that the Bible is ancient, yet modern. Explain briefly how the Bible is ancient, and how it is modern.

a. Ancient:

b. Modern:

8. (3 pts.) Give one example where the Old Testament witnesses to its own inspiration.

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AUTHENTICITY OF THE BIBLE
Test: Final

File 6 (BC) R817
(H-BC-AUB6)

Name _____
Corrector _____
100 points total

PART I. MULTIPLE CHOICE. Circle the letter of the correct response. There is only one correct answer for each question. All questions are worth three points each.

1. (3 pts.) Which of the following statements presents the proper view of the inspiration of the Bible?
 - a. The Bible is inspired in the same way that Shakespeare's writings are inspired.
 - b. The Bible is inspired in the passages where you encounter God.
 - c. The Bible is a reliable human witness to the inspired Word of God.
 - d. The Bible contains the inspired Word of God.
 - e. The Bible is the inspired Word of God.

2. (3 pts.) Which of the following statements presents the proper view of the accuracy of the Bible?
 - a. Because the Bible writers and the people to whom the Bible was written were educated in ancient societies which were relatively ignorant, God allowed the historical and scientific misconceptions of the day to be recorded in the Bible.
 - b. Because the Bible was written as a textbook to impart divinely inspired truth regarding many secular subjects, it contains no errors in history, science, or any other secular topic.
 - c. Although the Bible contains no internal contradictions in its contents, it is often found to be at variance with external sources such as history and science.
 - d. The Bible is correct in every spiritual truth, historical account, and scientific statement it contains.
 - e. The Bible contains some contradictions because it presents the viewpoints of its numerous writers.

3. (3 pts.) Which of the following statements presents the proper view of the method of inspiration of the Bible?
 - a. Men of God recorded in the Bible for the benefit of future generations, an accurate account of what God had done and taught them in their day.
 - b. God imparted His inspired truths and concepts to holy men of God who chose the exact words to express the truths God had given them to be preserved for the church.
 - c. God moved the Bible writers so that the words penned, although from the man's vocabulary, were not selected by the will of man but by God Himself.
 - d. God caused holy men to write the Scriptures by moving upon them so that they responded to the impulses of the Holy Spirit as accurate machines faithfully dictating God's exact words.
 - e. God made certain that all doctrines and spiritual truths were recorded perfectly in His exact words, but He allowed the Bible writers to record their own eyewitness accounts of biographical and historical events in their own words.

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9. (3 pts.) Of the New Testament manuscript variations affecting the proper meaning of the text doctrinally, how many of these alter an article of faith which is not positively established by other undisputed passages?
- None.
 - 25.
 - 50.
 - 75.
 - 100.
10. (3 pts.) What is "the canon of Scripture"?
- The list of criteria used to determine which books of the Bible are inspired.
 - The officially accepted list of books of the Bible that are recognized by the church as genuine and inspired.
 - The five major Bible doctrines held to be essential for eternal salvation.
 - The inaccurate list of all books that are often accepted as the inspired Word of God (includes Apocrypha and other books that are not inspired).
 - The twenty-two Old Testament books in the Hebrew Bible (same as our thirty-nine, only divided differently).
11. (3 pts.) Which of the following statements is true regarding the identification of the sixty-six inspired books of the Bible?
- The Jews never fully agreed on which of their sacred writings should be accepted as Scripture. Both during and after Christ's time, the scribes and Pharisees continued to debate the subject.
 - From the time of the apostles to the Council of Hippo (A.D. 393), there was much debate over which books to accept as Scripture. The Council of Hippo finally formulated the accepted list of Bible books.
 - From the time of their writing, both Old and New Testament books were accepted as Scripture inspired of God. There has never been a serious question in discerning which books are to be included in the inspired Word of God.
 - From the apostolic age until today there has been a small degree of uncertainty connected with the sixty-six books that have been selected and generally accepted as divinely inspired books of the Bible.
 - The selection and approval of our accepted Bible books is based upon the almost unanimous agreement among the many official lists of Bible books preserved in the writings of the early church fathers.

PART II. SHORT ANSWER. Write the correct response to each question and statement in the space provided. Point values are noted for each question.

1. (3 pts.) State any one of the eight examples given in class of how archaeology has confirmed the accuracy of historical details recorded in the Bible.

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5. (3 pts.) What one important qualification must be made to the statement that the Bible is the inspired and infallible Word of God, contains no errors or contradictions, and is perfect in every respect?

6. (3 pts.) What is the literal meaning of the Greek term theopneustos which is found in 2 Timothy 3:16?

7. (6 pts., 2 pts. per answer) The Biblical view of inspiration has been labeled the "verbal plenary" view. According to the definitions given in class, state the meaning of "verbal," the meaning of "plenary," and the overall concept expressed by the "verbal plenary" view.
 - a. Verbal:

 - b. Plenary:

 - c. Verbal Plenary:

8. (3 pts.) What one primary historical evidence was emphasized in class as indisputable proof that Old Testament Messianic prophecies could not possibly have been written after their fulfillment?

9. (3 pts.) What major theological view of inspiration teaches that the Bible is inspired in a unique sense, and may contain some errors?

10. (3 pts.) What major theological view of inspiration teaches that the Bible "contains" the Word of God?

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11. (3 pts.) What major theological view of inspiration teaches that the Bible is inspired only to the degree that other human literature is inspired, and the Bible is full of errors?
12. (2 pts.) What one Old Testament Hebrew manuscript was discovered that was 1000 years older than any of the others possessed until that time?
13. (6 pts., 3 pts. per answer) There are fifty-two cards in a deck, and a die has six sides. What is the probability of cutting a deck of cards and coming up with the three of clubs, then rolling the die once and getting a four, then flipping a coin twice and having it come up heads both times? Show your work, and give the answer in the form of a fraction.
- a. Your work:
- b. Answer:
14. (4 pts., 2 pts. per answer) The word "apocrypha" comes from the Greek adjective apokruphos. State the meaning of apokruphos and then write the Biblical word that has the exact opposite meaning of apokruphos.
- a. Apokruphos:
- b. The opposite word:

(continued)

15. (5 pts., 1 pt. per answer) State the five reasons given in class why the Apocrypha is not canonized.

a.

b.

c.

d.

e.

16. (3 pts., 1 pt. per answer) State the three tests given in class which establish the canonicity of Old Testament books.

a.

b.

c.

17. (4 pts., 1 pt. per answer) State the four tests given in class which establish the canonicity of New Testament books.

a.

b.

c.

d.