

# HOW GOD GAVE US THE BIBLE

**A**ll Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.  
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

**C**hristians claim that the Creator of this Universe gave us knowledge about our origin, purpose, and destination through what is today called, “The Holy Bible.” How did God give us the Bible? Did it just fall from heaven one day onto someone’s lap? No, but it may seem that way if we have not given thorough investigation into how the Scriptures came to us. Many people have various ideas about this matter, but we would like to share what Scriptures themselves have to say about the matter.

**The Word Communicated Through Moses.** After God chose the descendants of Abraham to be the royal lineage of His Son, Jesus Christ, He made a covenant with the Israelites on Mt. Sinai. When the people had seen the glory of God on the mountain, they said to Moses, “You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die,” (Exodus 20:19). Some today wish that they could hear God speak to them directly, but Biblical history shows that when people had the opportunity, they were so terrified that they sought another way! Thus, “the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend,” (Exodus 33:11). Moses and other prophets inspired of the Holy Spirit wrote

the Old Testament. When we open the Bible, this is the first portion of Scripture that we see, the Law of Moses, also known as the Old Testament.

**The Word Communicated Through Jesus.** As we fast-forward through Biblical history and the Holy Seed is born on earth, dies on earth, and ascends from the earth, the disciples of Christ begin to preach and declare that, “God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son...” (Hebrews 1:1-2). A shift begins to occur in Biblical history, and Scripture tells us that God was now communicating His will to man through His Son, Jesus Christ. When the apostle Peter thought to give equal honor to Moses, Elijah, and Jesus, the voice of God boomed from heaven saying, “Hear Him!” (Matthew 17:5), that is, Jesus Christ. That is why Jesus could say during His last moments on earth, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you...” (Matthew 28:18-20). So an important division occurs in Scripture between the Old Testament, God’s word communicated through Moses,

and the New Testament, God’s word communicated through Jesus.

**The Word Communicated Through Apostles.** However, it should be understood that unlike Moses, Jesus did not pen the New Testament directly, nor did God the Father. Instead, He left the treasure of His word in “earthen vessels,” (2 Corinthians 4:7), i.e., the human vessel. He gave certain men the responsibility of declaring His will to mankind. These men were the apostles and prophets of Christ. In Paul’s words, Jesus had “made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant...” (2 Corinthians 3:6). That is why it may be said that the church of Christ was “built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,” (Ephesians 2:20).

**The Word Communicated through the Holy Spirit.** We can be sure that these apostles and prophets of Christ fulfilled their responsibility in giving God’s word spoken by Jesus accurately because of the Helper whom Jesus promised to send to them. Before His death, the Lord spoke to His twelve disciples at the Last Supper and said, “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you,” (John 14:26). What a comforting promise! Thus, fifty days after Jesus’ death on the Day of Pentecost, we see the apostles receive the Holy Spirit and they “began to

speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance,” (Acts 2:4).

**The Word Communicated Through Scripture.** The apostles certainly would not be around forever to communicate Jesus’ teachings by power of the Holy Spirit. Biblical history then records the process of writing the Holy Bible’s last portion of Scripture. Certain of the apostles and other men wrote letters to churches and individuals; the apostle Paul wrote for instance, “I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read to all the holy brethren,” (1 Thessalonians 5:27).

**A Great New Year’s Resolution.** The arrival of a new year has most of us thinking of resolutions aimed at bettering ourselves—we vow to get more exercise, lose weight, put more money into savings this year than last, and so forth. We would like to respectfully suggest another New Year’s resolution, which is to spend just a little time over the next few weeks—in the comfort of your home and on your own schedule—and increase your knowledge of the Bible. Contact us and we will gladly enroll you in an excellent Bible correspondence course, free of charge and with no obligation.

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