

## **Who Wrote the Bible?**

Down through the years there have been those who have doubted the inspiration of the Bible. There are those who look upon the Bible as being nothing more than a dead letter, or some fable, or a group of fables that have been passed on from generation to generation. Others feel that the Bible is but a part of the revelation that is from God, and so and so on. Many who hold these views claim to be of God but such automatically places them in the category of the modernist or even the infidel.

In considering this question we can be sure that certain men did not have a part in writing the Bible. For instance, we know that the infidel did not write the Bible inasmuch as the Bible condemns such an individual. We read: "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God." (Ps. 14:1). Again, we know that the modernist did not write the Bible in that the Bible upholds the virgin birth of Christ, etc. (Matt. 1:18-25). We also know that a denominationalist did not write the Bible because the word reveals that there is but one true church. Paul stated in his day that there was but one body, or one church. (Eph. 4:4; Col. 1:18). Then too, we know that a Catholic did not write the Bible in that the scriptures nowhere suggest that Peter was ever Pope, or even came near to being the Pope of the church. On the contrary, the Bible teaches that Christ is head of the church and is saviour of the body. (Eph. 5:23). Now we know that these individuals, and many others, did not write the Bible, or have part in writing the Bible, or else they would have penned it to suit their own doctrine, or doctrines. At any rate, we know that such individuals would not have condemned themselves by their own writings. Think seriously about these statements.

If the people mentioned did not write the Bible then who did? Well, the answer is very simple. The Bible itself reveals that inspired men of God took part in this great work. Peter tells us: "Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." (2 Pet. 1:21). Then the apostle Paul said: "All scripture is given by the inspiration of God." (2 Tim. 3:16). Hence, the Bible is from God. Since such is true, then it is a holy or divine book. The scripture nowhere contradicts itself, but rather agrees, even though a number of inspired men had part in penning, it.

- by J. C. Choate

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## **The Lord Is My Helper**

A little girl, when asked to repeat the 23rd Psalm, said, "The Lord is my shepherd, that's all I want." She may have been a little confused about the actual wording, but she expressed a truth that should be the property of every Christian.

There is no blessing so valuable as the ability to lean upon the sufficiency of God, to find in Him all that we want. The firm basis of such trust was brought to Paul's attention when the Lord said to him, "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my power is made perfect in weakness." (2 Cor. 11:9).

Consider the unsearchable riches which one possesses when the Lord is his helper.

1. There is a feeling of security that transcends social and financial security. The child of God can be content in all circumstances of life. "I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therein to be content." (Phil. 4:11).
2. There is a peace that passeth understanding (Phil. 4:7) and floods the Christian's life with joy that is unspeakable. (I Pet. 1:8). This peace is greater than all the treasures earth can yield.
3. There is a freedom from fear of all types. "So that with good courage we say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear: What shall man do unto me?" (Heb. 13:6). Fear of bodily harm and even of death itself is dissipated when we walk with the Lord. "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil; for thou art with me." (Ps. 23:4)
4. There is a crown of life that glitters through eternity. "Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give to me at that day; and not to me only, but also to all them that have loved his appearing." (II TIM. 4:8).

In addition to these wonderful blessings, the Lord promises us what we need physically. Surely, when the Lord is our helper, there can be no want.

- by Billy Boyd

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## **"Teachers After Their Own Lusts"**

"For the time will come when they will not endure the sound doctrine; but, having itching ears heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and turn aside unto fables" (2 Tim. 4:3, 4).

It has always been true that there have been those who will refuse to listen to the truth of God's word. It is an attitude of rebellion on their part. They do not respect the authority of God's word and they are unwilling to be taught. Such was the condition in Isaiah's day. Jehovah described His people in these words: "For it is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of Jehovah; that say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits . . ." (Isa. 30: 9, 10).

When people are determined to have their own way, follow their own sentiments and emotions, and refuse to be taught God's will, they will rally around a preacher who will preach what they want to hear.

**- by Hoyt Houchen**

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## **Stay Focused On The Important Work Of The Church**

More than 70 years ago B. C. Goodpasture wrote this:

*"For the church to turn aside from its divine work to furnish amusement and recreation is to pervert its mission. It is to degrade its mission. Amusement and recreation should stem from the home rather than the church. The church, like Nehemiah, has a great work to do; and it should not come down on the plains of Ono to amuse and entertain. As the church turns its attention to amusement and recreation, it will be shorn of its power as Samson was when his hair was cut. Only as the church becomes worldly; as it pillows its head on the lap of Delilah; will it want to turn from its wanted course to relatively unimportant matters. Imagine Paul selecting and training a group of brethren to compete in the Isthmian games! Of his work at Corinth he said: "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." (Gospel Advocate, May 20, 1948)*

It is obvious that the things that Goodpasture warned about have come to pass. We see churches of Christ fully engaged in all manner of 'fun and games'. The principle work of the church is to spread the gospel (1 Tim. 3:15). Let us never attempt to divert the church from this work - the most important work in all the world.

**- by Greg Gwin**