WHAT ABOUT THE BIBLE?

By Keith Greer

"And further, my son, be admonished by these. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is wearisome to the flesh." {Ecclesiastes 12:12} Indeed, many books have been written. The number is probably in the billions. Over the years, religious folks have submitted, as the basis of their beliefs, a plethora of so-called inspirational and divinely originated books. But, how can we be certain their claims are true? The truth is – there is only <u>ONE</u> book of divine origin, one book that came from God's mind, one book that is the standard in matters of religion. That book is the Bible. Allow me to share some of the evidence that leads me to this conclusion.

Every word is inspired. *"All 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}*

Literally, the word inspiration means "**God breathed**." Let those words and that thought sink into your minds – the Bible's words came from God! Do you understand that those who disagree with the teachings in Scripture are, in effect, arguing with God! When we read the Bible, we are reading God's mind. Read and consider the following passage:

"But as it is written: 'Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.' But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God." {1 Corinthians 2:9-11}

Some have suggested that the Bible's words are nothing more than men's thoughts. Not so! "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." {2 Peter 1:20,21} The Holy Spirit moved men to write down these words – not their own thoughts or opinions, but what God wanted revealed. The Holy Spirit's work removed mankind from the equation. Consider that men who never met, who lived at different times over a period of more than 1500 years, under different circumstances, and who came from different backgrounds, all told the same story. Yet, the Bible is a book of complete harmony that has not ONE contradiction. All the thoughts came from God!

Not too difficult to understand. Many have tried to convince us that the Bible is too difficult to understand. Some have even suggested that God gave the ability to fully understand the Bible to only a certain few. But the Bible says, "How that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets." {Ephesians 3:3-5} Paul also wrote that God commanded us to understand His word. "Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of

the Lord is." {Ephesians 5:17} Did God give a command that is impossible to keep? God desired to save all men, *1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9*. How then could He reveal His mind in a book but then make it impossible for men to understand – then condemn him to a devil's hell for his failure! Unbelievable!

The Bible is the only accurate road map that can lead us to heaven. Other books have claimed to be inspired but they fail the authenticity test and have been shown to be the works of men. The Bible has been under attack for centuries, but yet it remains. Contradictions, flaws, irrelevant, good moral lessons, book of suggestions, but the doctrine is not important. Indeed every false claim, and all these are, can be shown to be incorrect! God's word is eternal and will be here when the world is on fire!! *{Matthew 24:35}* ***