"When I pick up this Book, I hold one unified volume with a logical beginning, a climactic ending, a story that comes full circle, it unfolds in a dramatic fashion around a central character, and has a rational message that doesn't contradict itself...The Bible's content answers the questions of my mind, satisfies the longings of my heart and has not only passed the test of time, but has put time to the test and demands the respect of all the ages." —David Jeremiah

Apart from God, we have no greater treasure as believers than the Holy Scriptures.

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"We live in a moment of history where change is so rapid that we begin to see the present only when it is disappearing." —R.D. Lang

by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

—2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV

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The Vitality of the Bible Starts With the

Origin of the Bible "breathed out by God" (2 Timothy 3:16)

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ²but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world. —Hebrews 1:1-2 ESV

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"Religion is based upon authority and without that authority, faith is sheer speculation. If religion is nothing but human, fallible, probing guesswork, one man's conclusions may be about as good and acceptable as another man's. Religion is absolutely washed out when it is based upon philosophical conjectures.

If faith is nothing but what a man may or may not think it to be, it is nothing. If there is to be real religion, somewhere, sometime, somehow God must speak. God must disclose Himself." —W.A. Criswell

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Vitality = animation, life, liveliness,

pulse; endurance, energy, spirit, vim

"By inspiration we mean that through the superintending influence of God's Spirit on the writers of Holy Scripture, the account and interpretation of God's revelation have been recorded as God intended so that the Bible actually is the Word of God.

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Inspiration preserved or recorded what God had revealed so that the resulting document carried the same authority and effect as if God Himself were speaking directly. This view of complete inspiration involving divine intention and words of Scripture is called plenary inspiration."

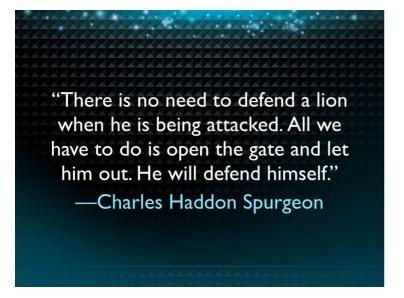
—David S. Dockery

... ²⁰knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation.

²¹For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

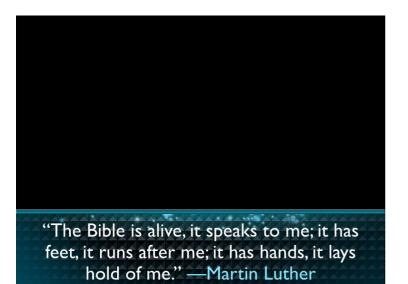
—2 Peter 1:20-21 ESV

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"It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter." —Baptist Faith and Message

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The Vitality of the Bible Extends to the

Outcome of the Bible

"profitable" (2 Timothy 3:16)

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The product attests its source; the effect proves its cause.



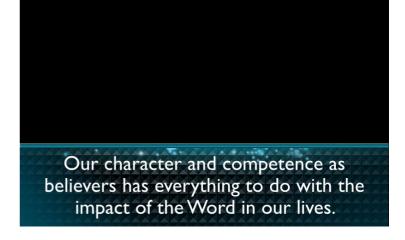
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TEACHING (What's Right)	REPROOF (What's Wrong)
Foundational	Confrontational
CORRECTION (Getting Right) Motivational	TRAINING in RIGHTEOUSNESS (Staying Right) Practical



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