

How do you know the Bible is the Word of God and not just human writings?

spoke through the prophets – in the Hebrew Old Testament Scriptures

Agree or disagree? The Bible has many authors.

“The oracle of David son of Jesse, the oracle of the man exalted by the Most High, the man anointed by the God of Jacob, Israel’s singer of songs. The Spirit of the LORD spoke through me; his word was on my tongue.” (2 Samuel 23:1,2)

What does the first sentence say about David’s words?

What does the second sentence say about David’s words?

Then the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah son of Jehoiada the priest. He stood before the people and said, “This is what God says: ‘Why do you disobey the LORD’s commands? You will not prosper. Because you have forsaken the LORD, he has forsaken you.’” (2 Chronicles 24:20)

What message can the Holy Spirit speak through the prophets?

But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the Lord, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression, to Israel his sin. (Micah 3:8)

What similarity do you notice between this and the previous passage from 2 Chronicles?

“The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,” declares the LORD. “As for me, this is my covenant with them,” says the LORD. “My Spirit, who is on you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will not depart from your mouth, or from the mouths of your children, or from the mouths of their descendants from this time on and forever, says the LORD. (Isaiah 59:20,21)

What other message can the Holy Spirit speak through the prophets?

Who is the person whom the Spirit is on here?

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn. (Isaiah 61:1,2)

Jesus stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor..." (Luke 4:16-18)

Who is the person whom the Spirit is on in Isaiah 61?

What message does this individual speak by the Spirit?

spoke through the prophets – in the Greek New Testament Scriptures

The New Testament begins with a bang of the Holy Spirit's prophesying.

"[Your son John] will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth. Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." (Luke 1:15-17)

What message would the Spirit be speaking through John?

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!" (Luke 1:41,42)

What message did the Spirit speak through John's mother, Elizabeth?

His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people. He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David." (Luke 1:67-69)

What message did the Spirit speak through John's father, Zechariah?

Zechariah continued talking about his son, John:

"And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace." (Luke 1:76-79)

Comment on how beautifully the Spirit can speak.

“All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.” (John 14:26,27)

How could an apostle like John remember everything Jesus spoke in the upper room?

We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. (1 Corinthians 2:12,13)

What does Paul discount about the apostles' words?

What does Paul claim about the apostles' words?

What does the Spirit want us to understand?

Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things. (1 Peter 1:10-12)

Find where it says the Spirit spoke through the prophets.

Find where it says the Spirit spoke through the apostles.

What does this section tell you about the prophets and their messages?

Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit. (2 Peter 1:20,21)

What does Peter discount and claim about biblical prophecy?

Why do you think it's important for you to know that the Spirit speaks through the prophets?