

# Inspiration

Are people inspired today? Well, they may be inspired to write what comes from their own mind but not the mind of God. Biblical inspiration is referring to the inspiration given to God's servants, generally prophets, who were chosen to deliver His message also known as revelations. The holy men spoke as God, the Spirit, gave them utterance (Acts 2:4, 2Pet. 1:21).

The Hebrew writer said, "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..." (Heb. 1:1-2) We can look back in "time past," referring to the Old Testament, and see that God used prophet as His spokesperson. Moses brought the message to Pharaoh of Egypt telling him to let God's people go (Exo. 9:1). Jonah went to Nineveh and preached repentance or destruction (Jonah 3). There were other prophets in the Old Testament delivering messages to both Israel and other nations.

What about today, the last days? Does God still speak to us through prophets? The Old Testament told us how to test a prophet (Deut. 18:22) but it also told us about Jesus (Deut. 18:17-18) who, like the Hebrew writer said, will be God's Spokesperson for today (Heb. 1:2). Jesus delivered the gospel (or good news). He taught about Himself, the kingdom, and how to be saved. Jesus passed on that message to the Apostles and said He was sending the Holy Spirit to guide them in all truth, (John 16:13), and give them miraculous abilities to confirm their message was divinely given (Mark 16:20). However, the inspired Paul said the miraculous abilities (1Cor. 12:7-11) was going to cease which included prophecies (1Cor. 13:8). There is still a prophesy to be fulfilled, the judgement day, (Matt. 24:36-44) but there will be no more divine revelations from God. The gospel, which is our perfect and complete (1Cor. 13:10) revelation, is here and that part, inspiration, is done away with. Inspiration died with the Apostles, who passed on the miraculous by the laying on of the hands (Acts 8:14-17) All has been given that is needed (2 Tim. 3:14-17) and there is nothing to be added or taken away (Rev. 22:19) from "this book." There is not, and no need for, further inspiration today.