

## We Must Accept It All or Reject It All

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by Bill Crews

When some respected or notable author among men writes a book that is non-fictional in nature (whether technical, biographical, historical or whatever), and he makes a few errors (such as contradicting himself or making assertions or reaching conclusions that prove to be wrong) we do not label the whole work as worthless and reject it all. Rather, we retain it and read it for the "good" or the "benefit" we find in it.

**Many think that it ought to be that way with the Bible, and this is exactly how they regard it.** (Unitarians, Modernists, pragmatists, existentialists, Humanists, situationists, and others, for example.) To them the Bible is a record of the religious experiences of some ancient peoples, the wisdom and views of mere men, honest and wise, but sometimes mistaken, misguided. **But the Bible cannot be viewed like this!**

The Bible professes to be the revelation of God and the will of God to man. Specifically, it claims to have been written by men who were speaking from God as they were moved and guided by the Holy Spirit and denies that it came from the will of man (2 Peter 1:20-21). It claims to be **inspired of God** (*literally, breathed of God*) and able to make the man of God *complete* and to furnish him *completely* unto every good work (2 Timothy 3:14-17). It claims to be the revelation of the things of God, known only by the Spirit of God, through chosen men who had received the Spirit of God, and who spoke in words which the Spirit taught, not in words of man's wisdom (1 Corinthians 2:11-13). It claims to contain all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3; cf. John 14:25-26 and 16:12-13). It reveals the origin (Genesis 2:7; Acts 17:24), purpose (Ecclesiastes 12:13; Micah 6:8; Acts 10:34-35), and destiny (Matthew 25:46; John 5:28-20) of man. It professes to tell the story of God's creation of the universe, including man, and of God's dealings with mankind from creation through the first century A.D., and it forecasts the end of time and the following of eternity. It presents itself as the unfolding of God's eternal purpose, God's plan for the redemption and salvation of the human race. It purports to contain all that we need to know, to believe, to do, and to be to please God and to promote our own true welfare. It insists that it has the answers to all of our really serious questions and the solutions to all of our really serious problems. **It is all of these things!**

We must either accept it all or reject it all, for it all stands or falls together. There are other religious books that do not claim to be divine in origin or perfect and complete in content. The Bible is not one of these. There are other religious books that do claim to be divine in origin, but the Bible is totally unlike these and has stood the test of time and of every objective and honest investigation. It proves itself to be, in content and fruit, all that it claims to be. Historically, geographically, biographically, chronologically and even scientifically it has been tested and found to be accurate. We must take it all or reject it all. When we accept it, we must reject all other writings that purport to be religious guides or divine revelations, for the Bible is exclusive in nature. It allows for no other, just as the God of the Bible allows for no other.

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