

# Men Who Spoke From God

God's spoken Word began everything! And God said, "*Let there be light and there was light.*"<sup>1</sup> And God said, "*Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water.*"<sup>2</sup> And God said, "*Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place and let dry ground appear and it was so.*"<sup>3</sup> God's creative Word contains all the energy necessary to bring into being both spiritual and material realities. Truly, God's Word began everything!

## The Origin Of Doubting The Trustworthiness of God's Word

Before the beginning of the material universe God created many spiritual beings. For example, Revelation chapter 4 and Isaiah chapter 6 describe living creatures that surround God's throne and never stop crying out, "*...Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.*"<sup>4</sup>

At some very distant time before earth existed, one member of God's spiritual kingdom became arrogant about his awesome person and position. His feelings of superiority gave birth to outright rejection of God's authority. This rejection filled his heart with doubt about the validity of God's Word and commands. From then on this spirit creature became known as Satan which means "*adversary*" or "*accuser*."

Jealousy filled Satan's heart when God invested the first man and woman with authority over the works of His hands.<sup>5</sup> Satan decided to entice them to consider their word superior to God's Word. He said to the woman, "*Did God really say...?*" Questioning God's command planted the seeds of doubt about the truthfulness of God's Word in Eve's mind. When Eve failed to disregard his suggestion, Satan moved in with an outright attack on God's spoken Word. "*You will not surely die, the serpent said to the woman.*"<sup>6</sup> Then, the wicked adversary confidently declared, "*For God knows that when you eat of it you will be like God.*"<sup>7</sup> In other words, Satan offered Eve the false hope of being equal with God instead of humbly serving Him. Subsequently, Adam, too, followed Satan into disobeying God's word.

## God Hand Picks Humans Who Record Scripture

Things looked really hopeless for mankind. Every child inherited physical life from its parents, but also received a dead human spirit from its forbears. But God's plan cannot be thwarted!

The Spirit of God began appealing to sinful mankind. He called everyone to humbly repent of rebellion against God and accept His supreme authority. Everyone who yielded to God's insistence on repentance of sin began complying

with God's Word. His Word guided them into fellowship with the God who brought everything into being.

However, God wanted to provide a way for humans to return to his original intent for the human race. Therefore, God began a program of bringing about written words that reliably shared His direction for successful living.

God handpicked people to write the documents we call the Bible. For example, the Lord said to Jeremiah, "*Write in a book all the words I have spoken to you.*"<sup>8</sup> Through the prophet Hosea the Lord declared that he "*wrote for them [Israel] the many things of my law.*"<sup>9</sup> Second Peter 1:21 declares, "*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.*" No, God did not dictate the words of Scripture to copiers. God's Spirit "*carried along*" these men who yielded themselves to Him. He supervised their circumstances and guided them in what they wrote, what they saw and what they experienced. The Lord oversaw the preservation of scrolls and parchments which men assembled into the Hebrew and Greek language scriptures. We confidently rely on the Bible because "*All scripture is God breathed and is useful for...training in righteousness.*"<sup>10</sup> Training in righteousness! That's what God intended for the Word He spoke to Adam and Eve. He continues speaking words that train us in godly living which leads to success. How? Through the 66 books of the Bible!

Ever since creating the first two humans, the almighty God has used humans as his partners in bringing about the divine plan for the ages. How remarkable that human smallness and human imperfections do not negate God's ability to communicate to humans through humans! No wonder millions of God's children confidently rely on the Bible as God given direction for all of us.

Here are a few other verses that either declare or imply that the Bible is the work of God's Spirit as He partnered with hand picked humans.

*"They...would not listen...to the words that the Lord Almighty had sent by his Spirit through the earlier prophets."* Zechariah 7:12

*"In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets."* Hebrews 1:1

*"The Scripture had to be fulfilled which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through the mouth of David."* Acts 1:16

*"The Law of Moses, which the Lord, the God of Israel, had given."* Ezra 7:6

## Handling Your Doubts about God's Written Word

Jesus was not exempt from the temptation to doubt God's Word. Satan was fully confident in his ability to plant doubt in the human mind. Consequently, he expected to cause Jesus to doubt Scripture. "*If you are the Son of God...*" Satan said to Jesus. In other words, "*Jesus, are you really sure that you are who Scripture says you are?*" Without hesitation Jesus confidently quoted the Bible. **Doubt never gained control of Jesus because Jesus fully trusted Scripture as the reliable Word of God.**

If Jesus can be tempted to doubt the validity of God's Word, don't be surprised when doubts attack you. Just follow Jesus' battle tactics: quote the Word and go on with your life! Keep reading the Scriptures and fellowship with people who love the Bible. Walk into the victory experienced by the men who spoke for God!

### Footnotes:

1. Genesis 1:3
2. Genesis 1:6
3. Genesis 1:9
4. Revelation 4:8
5. Genesis 1:26-28
6. Genesis 3:4
7. Genesis 3:5
8. Jeremiah 30:2
9. Hosea 8:12
10. 2 Timothy 3:16