

Why was there unity among the Bible Writers, But little unity among preachers and teachers today?

I. Why were the 40 writers of the Bible in unity (oneness)? Gal. 1:11,12 "For I neither received it of men, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ,"

A. Bible writers were in agreement because their revelation was from God. Revelation means to uncover, unveil, to show something that was hidden before.

1. **Natural revelation**-man can understand by himself.

a. Nature Psalm 19:1, Romans 1:19,20 (perverted, Rom 1:20)

b. History Romans 13:1 (ignored, Isa. 1:2-6)

c. Conscience - Romans 2:14,15 (seared, 1 Tim. 4:2)

2. **Supernatural revelation** - God teaching man Bible truth he could not learn by himself.

a. Miracles - Ex. 4:2-5, Rod; Ex. 14:15, Waters; 1 Kings 18:24.

b. Theophanies, or showing of God by angels, visions, dreams

c. God, the Son becoming flesh

d. The Scriptures - all revelation is in the Bible.

e. Prophecies, or telling the future - forthtelling

* 3 Views of the Bible: It contains, it becomes or **it is the Word of God.** (last is correct)

B. Bible writers were in agreement because their **inspiration** was from God (2 Tim. 3:16,17).

God breathed or poured into the writer's mind what He wanted written down. (2 Peter 1:20-21).

The writer poured out, or wrote down what God had given him.

Proofs of inspiration: the unity of the whole Bible, the testimony of Jesus, O.T. and N.T. writers, we can never know all that's in the Bible, fulfilled prophecy, it can't be destroyed, the character of the men who wrote it, the teachings, archaeology (History dug up).

C. Bible writers were in agreement because their **illumination** was from God. (John 16:12-15, 1 John 2:27) The Holy Spirit makes us understand the truth of God's written word.

Revelation has to do with the receiving of the truth.

Inspiration has to do with the recording of the truth.

Illumination has to do with the understanding of the truth.

II. Why is there little unity today among preachers and teachers?

A. Some are not saved. (Matthew 7:21-22, Matt. 7:15, 1 Cor. 2:14)

B. Some want money, power or honor. (Isa. 56:11, Ezk. 34:2,3)

C. Some are led by Satan. (1 Tim. 4:1-4, 1 Tim 6:3-5, 2 Tim. 4:3,4, Titus 1:11)

*God's warning: (2 Peter 2:1-3, 1 Tim. 1:7)

III. How can you tell the truth from the false?

A. Search the Scriptures. (Acts 17:11, Isa. 8:20)

B. Test the spirits. (1 John 4:1-3)

C. Trust the Holy Spirit to guide you into truth. (John 14:26)

IV. What should we do?

A. Don't yoke up with unbelievers. (2 Cor. 6:14 - 7:1)

B. Mark them and avoid them. (Romans 16:17)

C. Count them accursed. (Gal. 1:6-9)

D. Follow God's men. (Phil. 3:17)