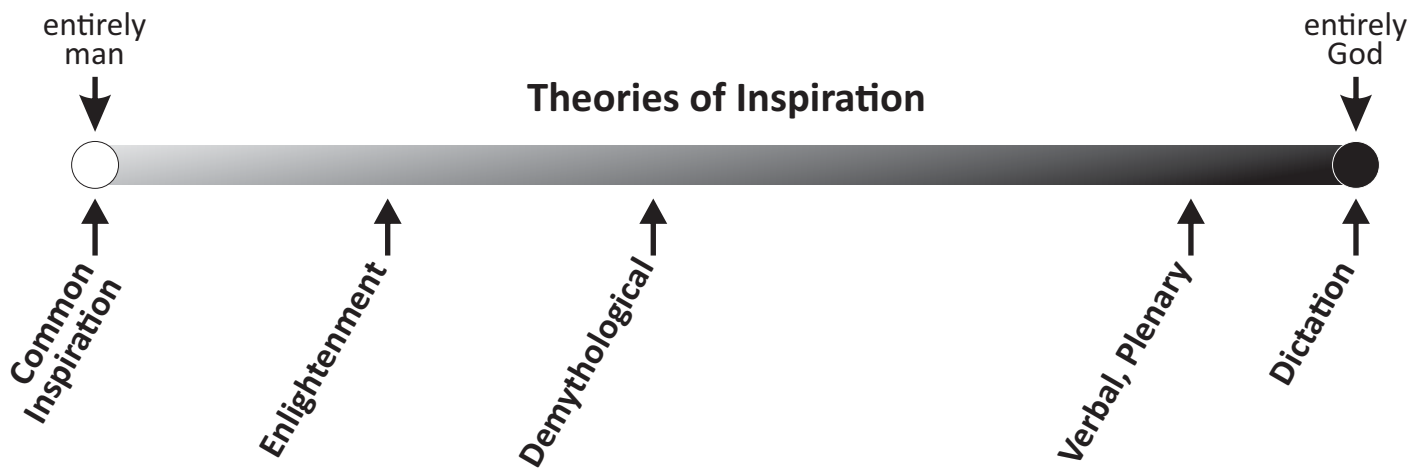


The History of the Bible INSPIRATION



Common Inspiration

The Bible is not God's revelation in any form. It is written only by men who were sometimes right, but often wrong.

The Bible is not God's Word.

Enlightenment

While God did not speak through the writers, the writers were enlightened enough to often record true words and ideals. In this view, when God uses the Bible it becomes His Word. God's revelation is not *in* the words, but only *through* the words.

The Bible becomes God's Word.

Demythological

The Bible does contain God's Word, but it is often written in ancient mythological language. The myths must be stripped away (demythologized) in order to find the portion of the Bible which is God's message.

The Bible contains God's Word.

Verbal, Plenary

God acted providentially so that as the writers of Scripture used their own thoughts and words, they were recording the complete and specific words God intended.

The Bible is God's Word.

Dictation

The writers of Scripture were entirely passive, recording the Words of God much like a secretary recording the dictation of a speaker.

2 Timothy 3:16–17

All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

θεόπνευστος (theopneustos)
 θεός (theos) πνεῦμα (pneuma)
 God/Deity spirit, wind, breath

2 Peter 1:20–21

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

φέρω (phero)
 to carry, to bring, to bear, to move

See Acts 27:15, 17 where it's translated as "drive" or "driven."