

HOW TO ADDRESS BIBLICAL DIFFICULTIES - Part III

Reference: miscellaneous Scripture

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Bible difficulties are apparent problems found in the biblical record, but this multi-part message addresses ten fundamental principles that can help us better understand the difficulties found in Scripture.

ONE - The unexplained is not necessarily **unexplainable**.

TWO - Someone's flawed **interpretations** of scripture doesn't mean the Scripture itself is flawed.

THREE - New Testament citations of the Old Testament **do not** need to be **exact**.

FOUR - Difficult passages are to be interpreted by the more **obvious ones**.

FIVE - Doctrine is not to be built on **obscure passages**.

SIX - The fact there might be an error in a _____ manuscript or translation does not mean there was an error in the _____ autographs.

Basic premise: The original autographs of Scripture were _____ and _____ and therefore _____.

Definition: The original biblical autographs were those actual documents the biblical authors _____ and then copies were made from those autographs.

Inspired

Definition: That Scripture is inspired is the absolute assurance that what God has revealed to man has been accurately _____.

In particular conservative evangelicalism teaches the verbal plenary inspiration of Scripture.

- **verbal** means _____ - God gave us the actual words of Scripture and not just the thoughts or ideas.
- **plenary** means "_____ or full and complete, extending to all parts."

Plenary inspiration *doesn't* include the chapter and verse divisions.

- In **1227 AD** Stephen Langton, the arch bishop of Canterbury divided the entire Bible into _____.
- In **1448 AD** a Jewish rabbi, Nathan, divided the Hebrew Old Testament into _____.
- In **1555 AD** Stephanus divided the New Testament into _____.

Reference: **II Timothy 3:16** and **II Peter 1:20, 21** (see screen)

Inerrant

Definition: That Scripture is inerrant means those original autographs of Scripture did not contain _____.

That meant there were no geographical errors, scientific errors, historical errors, doctrinal errors, and no errors period.

Reference: **Psalms 19:7, 8; 119:151; 119:160a; Proverbs, 30:5a; John 17:17; I Thessalonians 2:13, etc.** (see screen)

Question: Why haven't any of the original autographs survived until the present?

- The _____ of the material the original autographs were recorded on wouldn't have survived to the present.
- There would be an overwhelming temptation to _____ any surviving original manuscripts.

Reference: **Numbers 21:4-9; II Kings 18:1-5** (see screen)

Authoritative

Definition: That Scripture is authoritative means that it requires complete compliance and _____ in all that it addresses that is applicable to us.

Reference: **John 10:35** (see screen)