

What Is Special About the Bible?

A. Inspired by God

1. Fully authored by God and humans. God superintended what the human authors intended. God is the primary author, but the human authors also fully participated.

2. Plenary verbal inspiration

a. Plenary: full—the entire Bible is inspired.

b. Verbal: the words. God didn't merely put thoughts in the human authors' head and allow them to freestyle with their own words, but the very words they chose also came from God.

B. Authoritative for Life

C. True

a. Infallible

b. Inerrant

D. Clear (Perspicuity)

a. Some parts are hard (2 Peter 3:16)

b. But Scripture is clear enough for a child to understand its main story and points.

E. Powerful

Scripture will change lives and empower our ministries.

F. Sufficient (2 Peter 1:3-4)

G. Contemporaneous

The Bible is written **to** you, not merely **for** you. It is not merely relevant to you but it is addressed to you. God had you in mind as much as the original recipients.

Romans 15:4: “For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us”

1 Corinthians 10:11: “these things...were written down as warnings for us”

1 Cor. 9:10: “surely he says this for us, doesn’t he?”

Matthew 22:31: “have you not read what God said to you”

Hebrews 3:7 applies Psalm 95: “as the Holy Spirit says”

Hebrews 4:7: “Today, if you will hear his voice”

H. Preserved

Our Bibles are the Word of God.