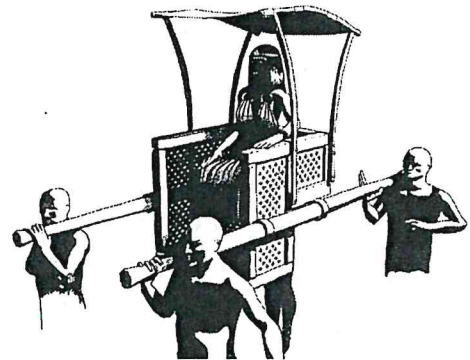


Pay Attention! God Is Speaking to You in His Word!

- “Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord” (2 Pt 1:2).
- Hey: nose out phone (parent – teenage child); head in game (coach – athlete); stay w/me here (colg prof – sleepy student); watch what doing (foreman – careless cnstrctn wrker); excuse me, somewhere else you need be? (chairman – distracted board member). What’s common message here? PA, focus, concentrate; get trouble or hurt or miss out on smthng imp – if don’t PA. If that’s true in all kinds sits in life, then all more true when comes GW. Today, Ap Pt holds forth God’s holy, inspired Word, recorded for us in Bible, says **vs. 19ab**. So that’s what we’re going do. PA-GSUW.
- This psg we have today: one clearest psqs in whole Bible on what GW is and how came to us. **Vs. 20**. Means: when Moses, Gen, creation; when Isa, virgin w/child, Immanuel, or Suff Servant, SSA; when Joel, prophd Pent, pour out Spirit on all ppl – *didn’t come up with that on own*. **Vs. 20**. To say same thing, just diff way, Pt adds: **vs. 21a**. Again, means: when David, who wrote many Pss, said in 23, Lord Shep, not want, and when wrote in 22 re suff/death of J (my God); when prophet Nathan apprhd David in 2 Sam 7 w/msg from Lord, you not build house for me, I for you, one your descndnts reign throne forever (re J); when Micah, you Beth Ephr, out you come ruler over Israel (again, re J) – *didn’t come up with on own*. **Vs. 21a**. Same true in NT, for evnglsts, gospels; Pt/Pl, epistles; Jn, Rev – *they didn’t come up with on own*. Normly, when auths write literary pieces work, they come up w/content on own. Their storyline does have “**origin in human will.**” Think any famous author over centuries: W. Shakespeare, M. Twain, C. Dickens, E.A. Poe, C.S. Lewis, J.K. Rowling, S. King, D. Baldacci – they develop storyline/content in own minds, then put to paper.
- But today, Pt saying: not how we got Bible. Instead **vs. 21b**. Carried. Ever hear of word: “palanquin” (pqn) – vehicle, coach, cart w/cover over top, for trnsprtng passngrs (found in Asian, Mid-Eastn culture) – but not powrd by engine, doesn’t move on wheels. Instead, pqn is carried, up in air, by ppl, who support weight w/poles on shoulders. So if wealthy/monarchy, you could sit in comfy coach; beneath you, ppl holding you up, w/poles on shoulder, carrying you wherever you want go. I picture Jasmine from movie Aladdin carried around like this – in pqn.
- Reason bring up pqn: that’s pic used here to describe role of HS & human authors in writing of Bible. **Vs. 21**. Like HS is carrying pqn, with Bible writers inside (like Moses, David, Mt, Jn); they’re carried along exactly where HS wants take them. Or say this way: what human authors wrote is exactly what HS wanted them write.
- Another imp Bible psg that teaches same thing: **2 Tim 3, “All Scrptr is God-brthd and is useful for tchng, rbkng, crctng, and trnng in rghtsns” (16)**. Pic here: God exhales, breathes out his Word, onto chosen authors, so know exactly what write. “**God-brthd**” – inspired. We use term verbal insprtn (word for word, breathed out by God) to descrb this mircl. And God did this in diff ways: smtms dream; with Moses, God actly wrote 10 Coms himself on tabs stone; with Rev, Jn vision; usuly, God used writers’ own writing style/personlty to comnct his Word – i.e., Paul writes diffly Jn. One of our Luth doctrine teachers, Dr. S. Becker, put this way: “*God in varying and often mysterious ways, which we do not fully understand, put all the words of the Bible into the minds of the holy writers who then wrote these words in exactly the form in which God wanted them recorded.*”ⁱⁱ That’s what Paul talking re in 2 Tim; what Pt says here in our text.



- And reason doctn of verb insp imp: means Bible really is GW (GSUW), so therefore Bible contains absltly no errors; true/accurate in every way/word. Also means that all proms God makes in his word are 100% relbl/true. Pt: **vs. 19a**. Lot things unrelbl. Can't always rely: car start, coworkers show up work, friends be there for you – things in life not always relbl. But GW is **“comply relbl.”** Never: let you down, change, cease to be accurate & applicable for daily life & eternal life. When GW says: J died, rose fr dead for you, and your sins forgvn; in baptism you connctd to Xp, and etern home prepd for you in hvn – *comply relbl*, bec those proms come from God himself. **Vs. 19ab**. PA-GSUW.
- Also have PA bec lot voices out there; not just God who's speaking. Just about anybody talk to, certainly every religion, every denomntn, has spiritual opinion to share. Hard to know what accurate, correct, true – and what's false. Pt: **vs. 1a**. Remem: when Elijah on Mt. Carmel w/prophs Baal, 2 altars (Baal, Lord), Baal's prophs prayed/cut selves, nothing hapd; Elijah, fire from hvn. Pretty easy tell that day which God/prophet true, which false. Not so easy today. **Vs. 1b**. No false teacher ever: listen, what I'm teaching is wrong! In fact, they even convince selves true. But J: false teachers are like wolves in sheep's clothing – look innocent, sound all right. But **vs. 1b**. False doctn is destructive; destroys faith; not **“comply relbl.”** And if put faith in smthng not comply relbl, that's like (as J today) building house on sand. We want build our house/faith on rock – on rock solid foundtn of GW. False teachings: like jack hammers that gradually break that rock apart.
- So you have to: PA; take GW sersly, study for self, undrstnd what says. Then, you'll able diffrentiate between what's true/false – which so imp, bec false doctrine is dangrous! **Vs. 1b-3**. There big diff between **“fabrctd stories”** and that which **“comply relbl;”** between sand/rock; false doctrine/GW. So again: PA-GSUW. Listen carefully to what he says, by: coming ch, coming Bible study, focusing on sermon, reading Word, being member of ch that cares re accuracy of doctrine – bec false teachers & destructive heresies are everywhere.
- But **vs. 19ab** – PA – **vs. 19c**. In mid night, when strong thndrstrm knocks out your power & you're in total drknss, you reach for flashlight; now you can see. We live in world of darkness. But **“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path” (Ps 119:105)**. Reach for GW; now you can see. **Vs. 19bcd** – (day, Last Day, when J returns), (MS=J), and brings you to hvn. And, finally, that's whole purpose of GW: to bring you to hvn.
- So, PA, focus, concentrate, get head in game, stay w/me here, watch what doing – however you want say it – today Pt encouraging us: PA-GSUW. So we will listen – and by doing so we'll be blessed.

2 Peter 1:19-2:3

^{1:19} We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

^{2:1} But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them – bringing swift destruction on themselves. ² Many will follow their depraved conduct and will bring the way of truth into disrepute. ³ In their greed these teachers will exploit you with fabricated stories. Their condemnation has long been hanging over them, and their destruction has not been sleeping.

ⁱ Siegbert W. Becker, “The Scriptures – Inspired of God,” NPH: Milwaukee, 1971, p. 35.