

Dear Friends,

It's June, the 6th month of 2025, the middle of another year. School's get out and vacations are on. Alpha usually slows down during the summer but this year seems different. I am seeing more new people and also people returning who came to Alpha years ago. The general theme seems to be anxiety and depression that is causing conflict in their relationships.

One cause of all this distress may be a lack of trust in God's presents in their lives. I hear "where is He when I need Him?"

In some interesting conversations with younger adults I have learned that many do not believe the Bible is God's message to people. They state strongly and with a lot of confidence are saying that the Bible was written by men and not God. Therefore, they think it has no value for them!

While doing quite a bit of online reading on this topic I can see why there is confusion about the authorship of the Bible. Many articles produce an array of opinions and 'scholarly' studies about the various writers of the Bible and fault finding seems to be a theme in this research. This can cause many people to take a negative view of the Bible just because of all the confusing controversial information!

So you may call me old fashioned but, I wholeheartedly believe God inspired the writing of all 66 books of the Bible. I must admit there are certain books I don't understand their purpose but it doesn't cause me to doubt God's work. So "inspired" means God "breathed into" the people who wrote his Word. To explain it another way, the Holy Spirit was in the men who wrote the Bible. Now, because the words of Scripture were inspired by God, it follows that they are true and accurate — or infallible.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 **All Scripture is breathed out by God** and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man (and women-my addition) of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 1:16-21 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that **no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.** (Matthew 17:1-9)  
So stay strong, in these troubling times, by staying in God's word every day!

Please continue to pray for Alpha, Debi, and me.

Thank you for your faithfulness to Alpha! God Bless You!!!

*Richard.*