

## The Doctrine of Inspiration – Part VI

### The Superiority of the Bible Over other So-Called Holy Books

1. What differentiates the way the Bible was compiled over other "holy" books of other religions and denominational sects? Quran? Book of Mormon? Catholic Bible? Etc.?
  - a. As stated earlier, the Bible was not compiled. It arose organically on its own. As writings were circulated, the individual churches recognized some as Scripture and others as not. It happened that there was international uniformity in which texts were accepted as Scripture and which were not, though there were some disagreements.
  - b. The Qur'an is the writing of a single man, Muhammad.
    - i. Muhammad was illiterate.
    - ii. After his death, his followers wrote down his sayings.
    - iii. There was much confusion and disagreement as to what he actually said and what he did not say.
    - iv. Some of what he said earlier was rescinded later.
      1. The Satanic Verses – sayings he later said he was deceived by Satan into writing down as the words of Allah.
      2. Doctrine of Abrogation – wherein Allah issued new revelations to Muhammad which made null and void revelations he issued previously to Muhammad.
  - c. The Book of Mormon is the writing of a single man, Joseph Smith.
  - d. The writers and followers of Islam and Mormonism each claim that the Bible had been corrupted over the centuries, and that it was their writings that corrected the Bible. Jehovah's Witnesses make a similar claim.
  - e. The Bible could not have been corrupted due to the nature of its organic rise.
2. How do we know the books of the Christian Bible were "God-breathed" and others that were not included were not? See answers to Questions 1-3 above.
3. How do we know the process of choosing the books that compile the Christian Bible was inerrant and infallible to ultimately confirm the inerrancy and infallibility of the Christian Bible?
  - a. Since there was no "process of choosing the books that compile[d] the Christian Bible", such a process could not be relied upon to ensure inerrancy and infallibility.
  - b. Inerrancy is a doctrine which flows from the nature and character of God, not the non-existent process of the human canonization of Scripture.
    - i. Omniscience – God knows every knowable thing (Job 38-39, Psalm 147:4-5, Matthew 10:30, Hebrews 4:13, 1 John 3:20).
    - ii. Omnipotence – God has the power and will to ensure that His Word is accurately preserved and extends to every generation of humanity (Psalm 33:11, 100:5, Isaiah 40:8, 46:9-10, 55:11, Matthew 5:18, 1 Peter 1:25).
  - c. Infallibility also flows from the nature and character of God rather than a process of canonization.
    - i. Truth – God cannot lie (Numbers 23:19, Deuteronomy 18:20-22, Titus 1:2, Hebrews 6:18).
    - ii. Immutability – God cannot change (Malachi 3:6, James 1:17-18).