

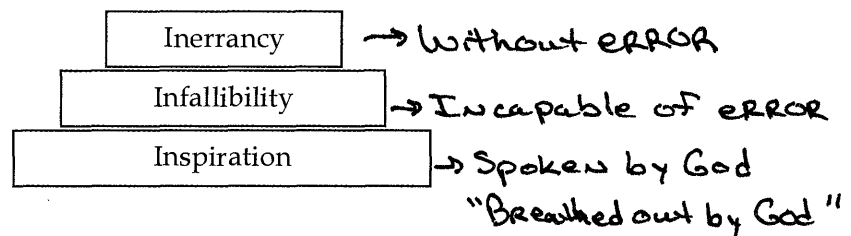
The Inerrancy of the Word of God

GIBC – Grace & Granite

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I. The Definition of Biblical Inerrancy

Scripture is entirely true in everything it says about anything it addresses.



II. The Basis of Biblical Inerrancy

A. The Biblical Declarations of Inerrancy

- God is truth (John 3:33; Rom 3:4)
- All of God's WORDS are:
 - pure (Ps 12:6; 119: 140)
 - sure (Ps 19:7, cf. Prov 8:8)
 - tested (Ps 18:30; Prov 30:5)
 - faithful (Rev 21:5)
 - true (2 Sam 7:28; Ps 19:9; 119:43, 142, 151, 160; John 17:17)

B. The Biblical Case for Inerrancy

- God wrote the Bible (2 Tim 3:16).
- God always speaks the truth (Num 23:19; 1 Sam 15:29; Tit 1:2; Heb 6:18).
- Therefore: The Bible contains no ERRORS and always speaks the truth.

The Origin of Scripture

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The Nature of God

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The Inerrancy of the Bible

III. The Clarifications of Biblical Inerrancy

- Inerrancy does not preclude the use of the ordinary language of everyday speech, for example:
 - the use of non-technical, observational language; i.e., it does not demand the technical language of modern science (e.g., the rotation of the earth rather than the rising of the sun in Josh 1:15)
 - the use of approximations and round numbers (e.g., Isa 37:36; 1 Chron 5:21)
 - *Imprecise does not mean* inaccurate.
 - *Accuracy does not demand* precision.
 - the use of figures of speech (e.g., personification, hyperbole, metaphors, similes, etc.)
- Inerrancy does not preclude the use of indirect discourse or paraphrase (instead of verbatim quotations), but it always *accurately* records what was communicated (e.g. Luke 8:25b; cf. Matt 8:27; Mark 4:41).
- Inerrancy does not preclude the use of uncommon grammatical constructions.
- Inerrancy does not guarantee a comprehensive account of a given historical event (i.e., the Bible can be inerrant and still provide a partial account instead of an exhaustive one).
- Inerrancy does not preclude the recording of statements that are false (without affirming that these statements are true) (e.g., Gen 3:4).
- Inerrancy does not preclude the possibility that fallible man may misinterpret (or fail to fully understand) the divinely intended meaning of Scripture.
- Inerrancy does not preclude the possibility that fallible man is sometimes unable to reconcile what, to him, seems to be a contradiction in Scripture.
- Inerrancy does not preclude the use of loose or free citations of the OT.

IV. The Importance of Biblical Inerrancy

PROBLEMS WITH DENYING INERRANCY:

- It attributes falsehood and deception to the God who cannot lie.
- It undermines the trustworthiness of God's revelation to His people.
- It exalts fallen man to the place of ultimate authority over Scripture.
- It calls into question the certainty of our eternal salvation in Christ.