

Nature of the Bible



X Diocesan Leadership Conference
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Nature of the Bible



■ Inspired Revelation

2 Timothy 3:16

“All scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness”

2 Peter 1:20,21

“ ..no prophesy of Scripture came about by the prophet’s own interpretation...men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit”

2 Peter 3:15,16

“ Paul also wrote to you with the wisdom that God gave him”

■ Revelation

Unveiling which was hidden

God chose to reveal Godself

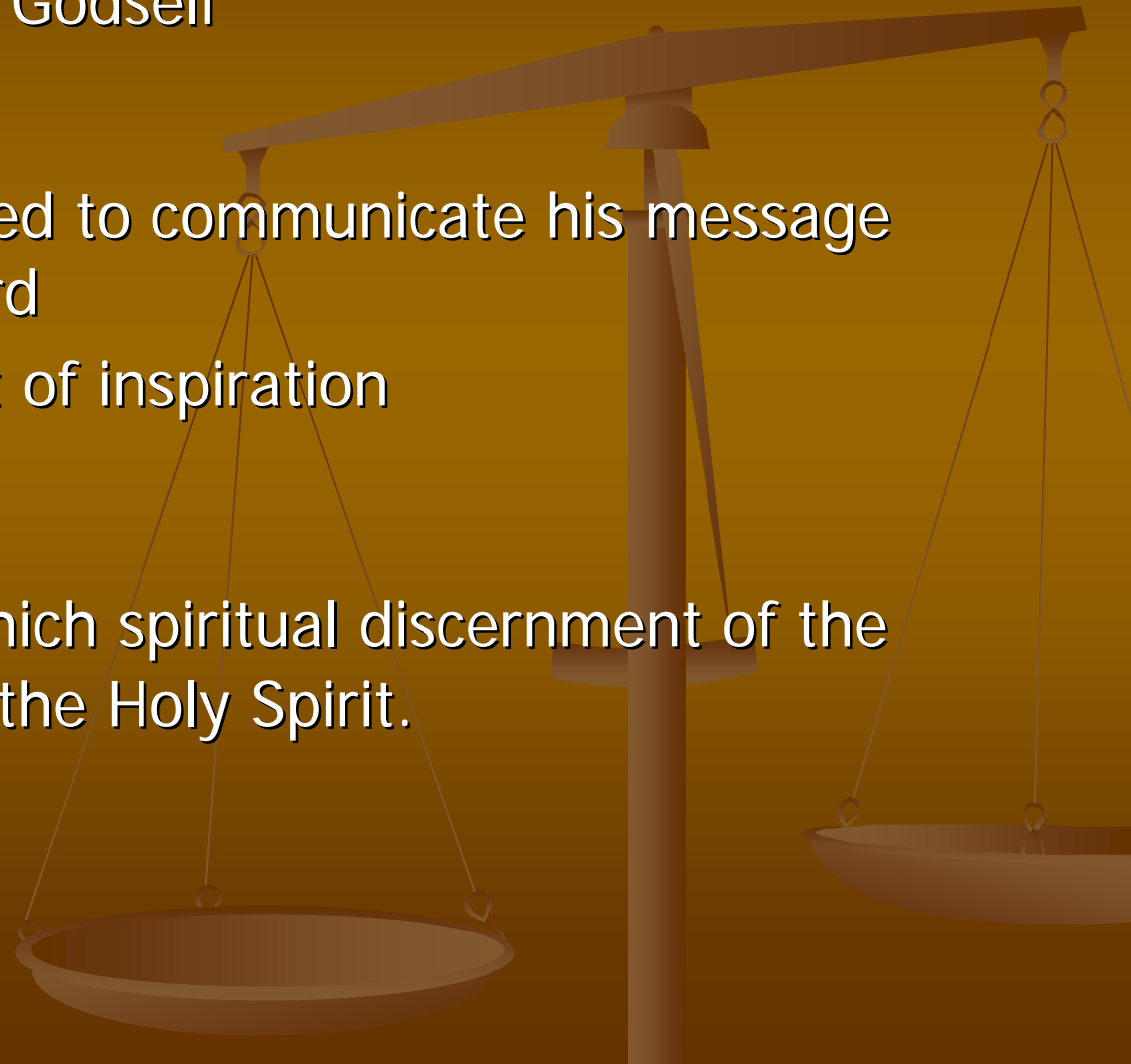
■ Inspiration

The process God used to communicate his message through the Written Word

process and product of inspiration

■ Illumination

the experience in which spiritual discernment of the Scripture is provided by the Holy Spirit.



Views of Inspiration

- Illumination view

Scripture contains noble insights of great people of faith; scripture on par with great works of litt

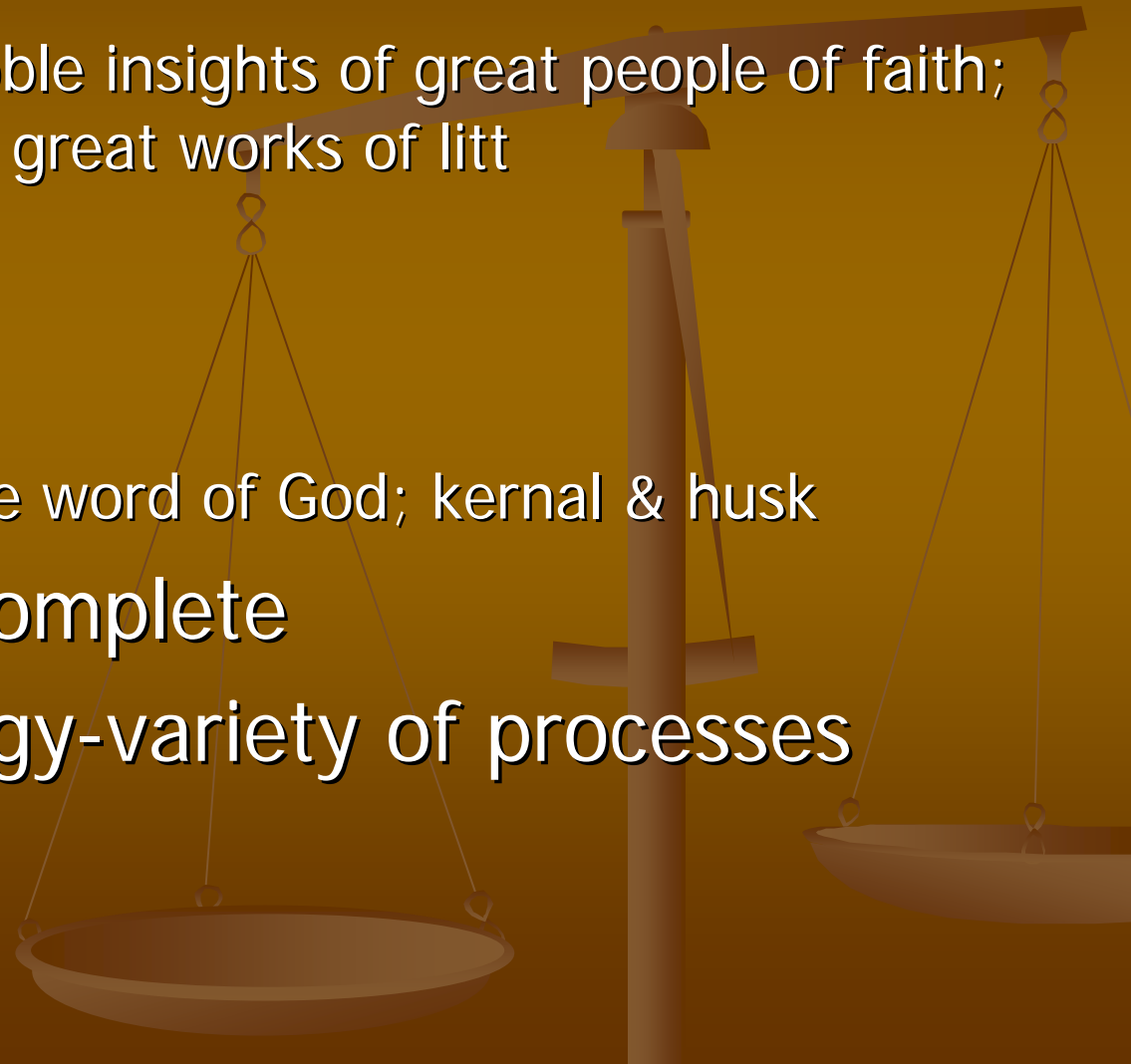
- Dictation view

- Dynamic view

Scripture *contains* the word of God; kernal & husk

- Plenary View- complete

- Multimethodology-variety of processes



■ Inerrant

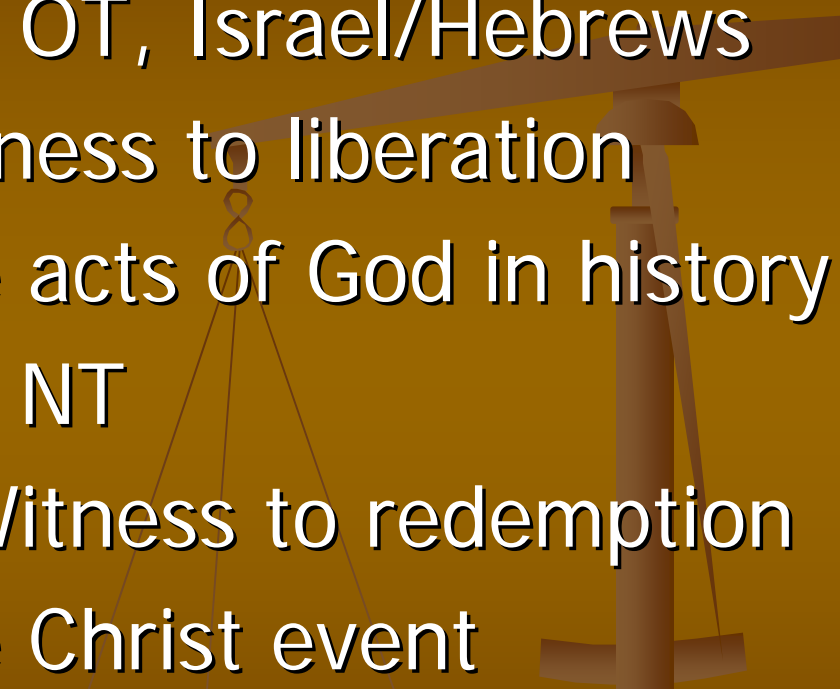
Being free from all falsehood, fraud or deceit

■ Authority

Has transforming influence upon lives



Written Witness to Revelation

- People of God – OT, Israel/Hebrews
 - Liberation – Witness to liberation
 - Response to the acts of God in history
 - People of God – NT
 - Redemption – Witness to redemption
 - Response to the Christ event
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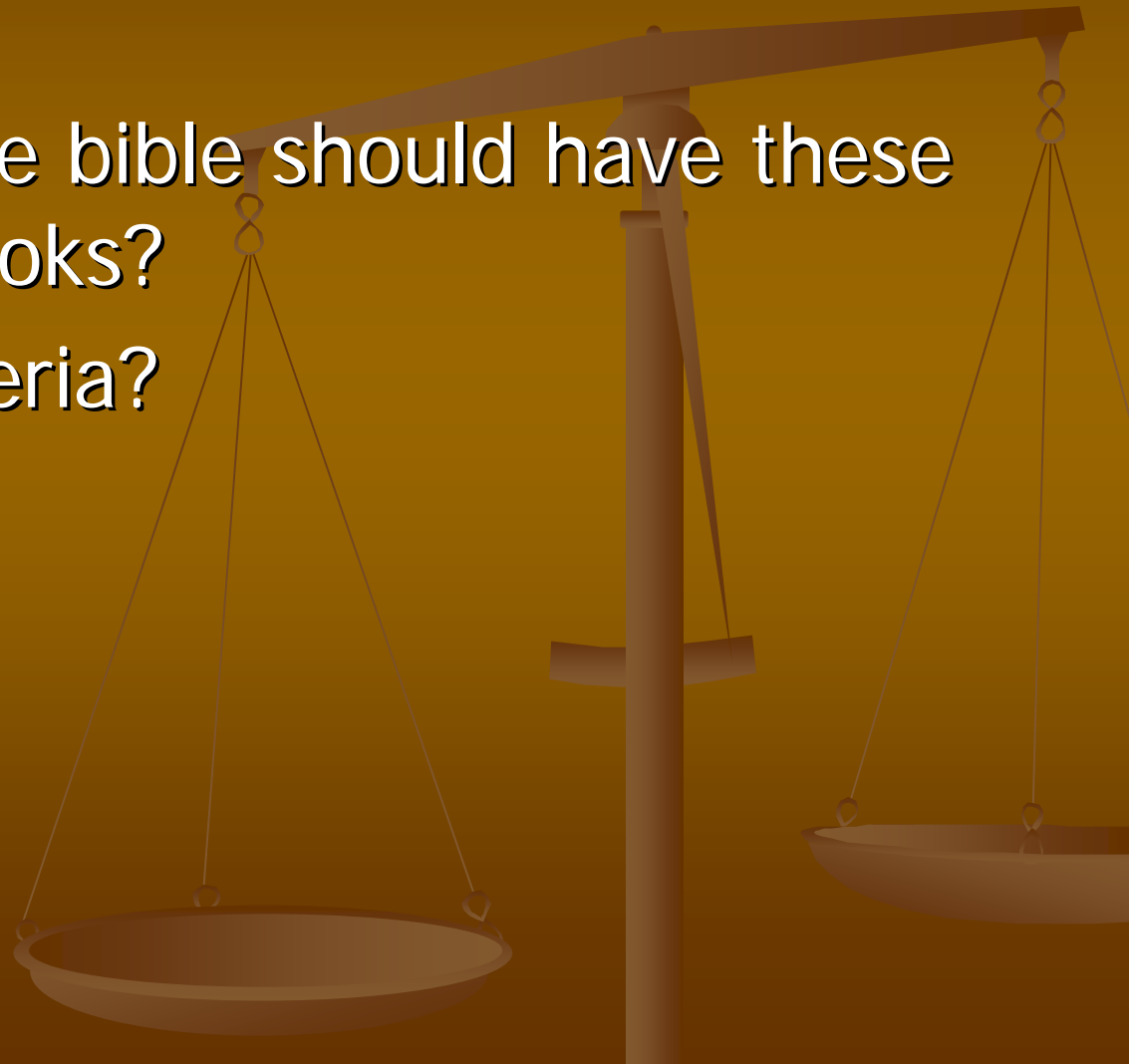
How the Scriptures came into being

- Time of formation
- Chronology
- Language
- Version/Translations
- Chapter and verse divisions



Canon

- Da Vinci Code
- Who decided the bible should have these particular 66 books?
- What is the criteria?



Bible-Church

- Which comes first?
 - What made people write the bible at all?
 - Words of Jesus
 - Deeds of Jesus
 - Preaching of apostles
 - Events of the early Church
 - Letters to the churches
 - Visions about the present and future
 - Historical accounts / narratives
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