

for years and even centuries and mean something different by them than what one would ordinarily think. That is the case in the use of the word, "Inspiration". We mean breathed in by the Holy Spirit.

(Record # 11) I wish we had a term that meant what we mean by "Inspiration" of Scripture and nothing else. This has a unique meaning when used in connection with the Bible.

The definition of what the Church means by "Inspiration"-- "Inspiration is a special act of the Holy Ghost whereby He guided the writers of the Scriptures so that their words should convey the thought which He wished conveyed--and should convey to the other inspired books a proper relation, and should be free from error in doctrine, fact and judgment." It is a special act then which the Holy Spirit performed. It is not something of controlling the thought--that is revelation--they used the words in such a way so that the thought would be conveyed in the way which He wished it conveyed. It deals then with God's using godly men to write down His revelation --notice the last part of the definition especially. They were kept from error in doctrine, fact or judgment.

- (1) "Inspiration is a technical term to avoid confusion with other uses of the term...."
- (2) "Inspiration is a special act of the Holy Spirit"--this does not mean the same as when we use it in the sense of our acting or praying but in a special sense to ~~keep~~ keep the writers free from all error. This is different from the Holy Spirit's act of regeneration or helping us in prayer or reading of the Word. This was a very special act.
- (3) "Inspiration, in the sense, that He ^{applies} ~~applies~~ only through the Scripture! It does not apply to any other books outside the Bible. Many writers like Shakespeare had wonderful ideas but the Bible is entirely unique--it does not apply to what he said but what was written. This applies only to Scripture.
- (4) When we say "Inspiration" we do not mean dictation. There is both the human and the divine element in "Inspiration" --man writes, thinks, uses his own vocabulary--but the Holy Spirit keeps him from error as he writes and gives him the general idea what to write.
- (5) "Inspiration applies to the words and not only to the ideas--often it has nothing to do with ideas though God has revealed ideas to his people so they have thought and