

# Guidelines: Part 1 in What Way Is the Bible Unique?

by J. Vernon McGee

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*The Bible is a unique book that is both human and divine, communicating life and truth to readers through its authors and the Holy Spirit.*

**Scripture:** John 1:1, John 5:39, 2 Timothy 3:16, Hebrews 4:12, 2 Peter 1:21

**Topics:** "Biblical Inspiration", "Divine Revelation"

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## Description

J. Vernon McGee discusses the uniqueness of the Bible, emphasizing its dual authorship by God and man, with about forty authors writing over fifteen hundred years yet presenting a Book with remarkable continuity and without error. The Bible is a very human Book, written by individuals from all walks of life, yet inspired by the Holy Spirit to convey God's message accurately. It is a God-Book, with God speaking through its pages to communicate life and reveal Himself to humanity, remaining relevant and unchanging throughout time. The Bible is a corridor between two eternities, leading us to encounter the Christ of God and find forgiveness and eternal life through Him.

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## Transcript

### IN WHAT WAY IS THE BIBLE UNIQUE?

In many ways the Bible is a most unusual Book. For instance, it has a dual authorship. In other words, God is the Author of the Bible, and in another sense man is the author of the Bible. Actually, the Bible was written by about forty authors over a period of approximately fifteen hundred years. Some of these men never even heard of the others, and there was no collusion among the forty. Two or three of them could have gotten together, but the others could not have known each other. And yet they have presented a Book that has the most marvelous continuity of any book that has ever been written. Also, it is without error. Each author expressed his own feelings in his own generation. Each had his limitations, and made his mistakes--poor old Moses made mistakes, but when he was writing the Pentateuch, somehow or other no mistakes got in there. You see, it is a human Book and yet it is a God-Book.

It is a very human Book, written by men from all walks of life, prince and pauper, the highly intellectual and the very simple. For example, Dr. Luke writes almost classical Greek in a period when the Koine Greek was popular. His Greek is marvelous! But Simon Peter, the fisherman, wrote some Greek also. His is not so good, but God the Holy Spirit used both of these men. He let them express exactly their thoughts, their

feelings, and yet through that method the Spirit of God was able to overrule in such a way that God said exactly what He wanted to say. That's the wonder of the Book, the Bible.

It is a God-Book. In the Bible God says twenty-five hundred times, "God said . . . the Lord has said . . . thus saith the Lord," etc. God has made it very clear that He is speaking through this Book. It is a Book that can communicate life to you. You can even become a child of God, begotten "not by corruptible seed, but by incorruptible, by the Word of God that liveth and abideth forever." It is God's communication to man. And if God spoke out of heaven right now, He would just repeat Himself because He has said all that He wants to say to this generation. And, by the way, He didn't learn anything when He read the morning paper. When man went to the moon, he didn't discover anything that God didn't already know when He gave us the Bible. He is the same God who created this universe that we are in today.

The Bible is both divine and human. In a way it is like my Lord who walked down here and grew weary and sat down at a well. Although He was God, He was man. He talked with people down here and communicated with them. This is a Book that communicates. It speaks to mankind today. The Bible is for men as they are.

The Bible is a corridor between two eternities down which walks the Christ of God; His invisible steps echo through the Old Testament, but we meet Him face to face in the throne room of the New; and it is through that Christ alone, crucified for me, that I have found forgiveness for sins and life eternal. The Old Testament is summed up in the word Christ; the New Testament is summed up in the word Jesus; and the summary of the whole Bible is that Jesus is the Christ.

--Bishop Pollock

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