

PART TWO: DIVINE ORIGIN OF THE BIBLE

CHAPTER 1

WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD?

We say that the Bible is the Word of God because **God is its author**. He speaks to us through the Bible.

But weren't men who wrote the books of the Bible? (for example, the book of the prophet Jeremiah was written by Jeremiah). Yes. It was men who wrote the Bible. But those men wrote **inspired by God**, inspired by the Holy Spirit.

This is what the Catholic faith teaches when speaking of all the texts of the Bible it affirms:

“Written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit”

(SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL, Dei Verbum 11)

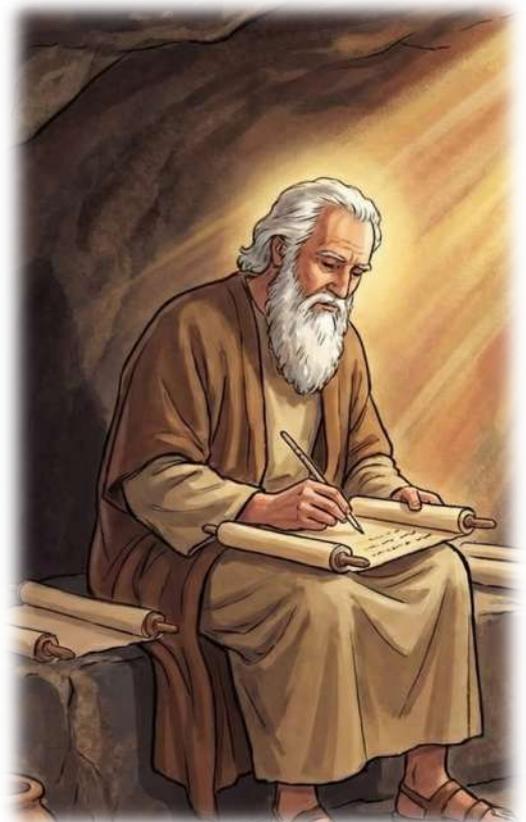
“The Holy Spirit inspired the human authors
who wrote what he wanted to teach us!”

(COMPENDIUM OF THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH 18)

That is why the Bible is really and authentically the Word of God.

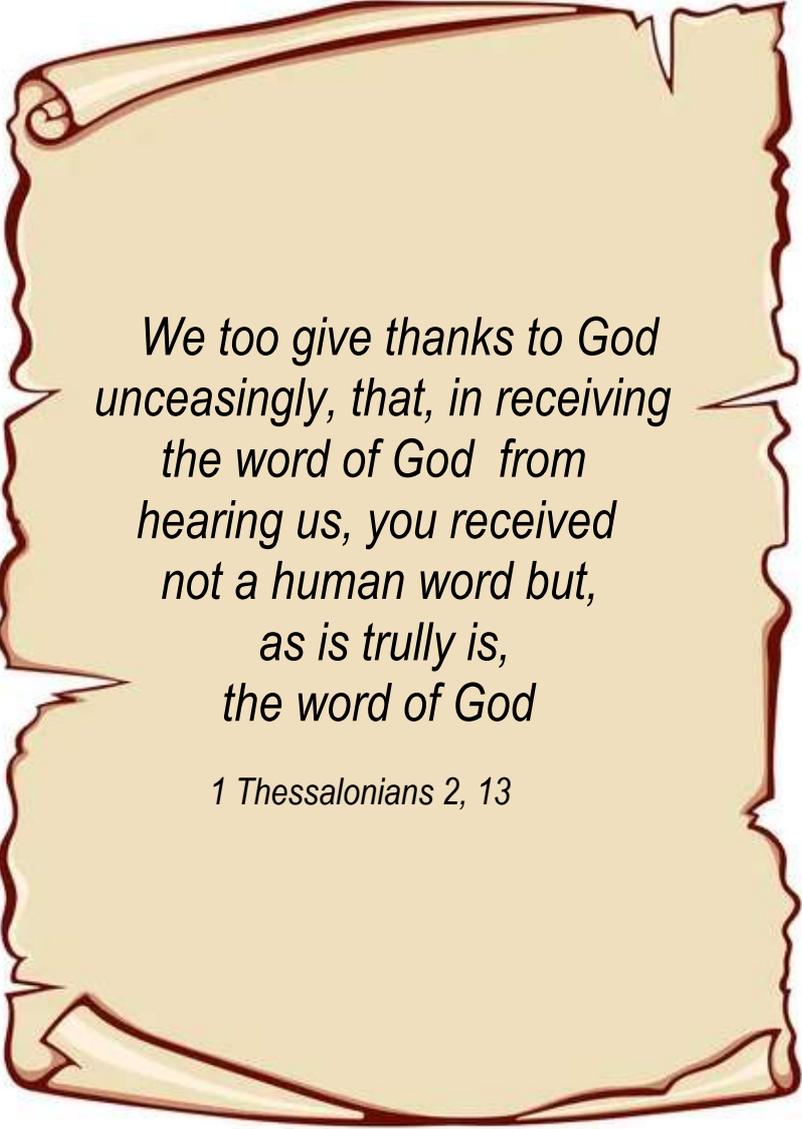
The word "**inspiration**" means that the Holy Spirit enabled the human authors (who wrote the books of the Bible) to actually convey, in human language, what God wanted to convey to all of us. They wrote down what God inspired them to do. And that is why the author of the Bible is God. Since **God wanted to speak to humanity** through the Bible, He chose human beings so that, inspired by Him, using human words, they would speak with human language what God wanted to convey to us.

That is: God addresses men and women with human language, expressing the truths of the faith, not in incomprehensible language, but with human words that we can understand. Human language was assumed by God through divine inspiration to be an expression of divine language.



Biblical inspiration is a **supernatural action**. It was not a human, rational effort that composed the Bible, but those men, inspired by God, wrote under his influence what God wanted to communicate to us.

That is why St. Paul will say to the Christians of Thessalonica:

A scroll with a dark red border and a light beige background. The scroll is unrolled, showing the text. The text is in a black, serif font and is centered on the scroll. The scroll has a slightly wavy, aged appearance.

*We too give thanks to God
unceasingly, that, in receiving
the word of God from
hearing us, you received
not a human word but,
as is trully is,
the word of God*

1 Thessalonians 2, 13

The people who were inspired to compose the books of the Bible are called *hagiographers*. It is a Greek word that means "**sacred writers.**"