



Lecture # 15 Part 1

Specific Claims for the Inspiration of the New Testament

THE NEW TESTAMENT WRITINGS ARE SPIRIT-DIRECTED

SPECIFIC CLAIMS THAT NEW TESTAMENT BOOKS ARE INSPIRED

Not only did Jesus promise divine guidance, and the New Testament as a whole claim to be the product of that guidance, but each individual New Testament book contains a claim to substantiate that position. A brief survey will suffice to support this point.

Romans

The author of this book claims it to be the work of an apostle of Jesus Christ ([Romans 1:1](#)).

[Romans 1:1 \(NASB\)](#)

¹ Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called *as* an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,

In [Romans 9:1](#) Paul says, “I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit.” –

[Romans 9:1 \(NASB\)](#)

¹ I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit,

The final appeal of the epistle is not to accept any other doctrine than that which they have been taught, which would include, of course, the great teachings of this doctrinal book ([Romans 16:17](#)).

[Romans 16:17 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁷ Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them.

1 Corinthians

This book contains what “God revealed ... through the Spirit” ([1 Corinthians 2:10](#)).

[1 Corinthians 2:10 \(NASB\)](#)

¹⁰ For to us God revealed *them* through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.

Besides making authoritative pronouncements on morals ([1 Corinthians 5:1–3](#)) and doctrine ([1 Corinthians 15:15](#)), in it, Paul asserts, “The things which I write to you are the Lord’s commandment” ([1 Corinthians 14:37](#)).



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1 Corinthians 5:1-3 (NASB)

¹ It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

² You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed would be removed from your midst.

³ For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged him who has so committed this, as though I were present.

1 Corinthians 15:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ Moreover we are even found *to be* false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised.

1 Corinthians 14:37 (NASB)

³⁷ If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment.

2 Corinthians

This book is introduced by an apostle of God ([2 Corinthians 1:1](#)), who strongly contests for his own authority ([2 Corinthians 10:8](#)) and declares his lofty revelations from God ([2 Corinthians 12:1-4](#)).

2 Corinthians 1:1 (NASB)

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy *our* brother, To the church of God which is at Corinth with all the saints who are throughout Achaia:

2 Corinthians 10:8 (NASB)

⁸ For even if I boast somewhat further about our authority, which the Lord gave for building you up and not for destroying you, I will not be put to shame,

2 Corinthians 12:1-4 (NASB)

¹ Boasting is necessary, though it is not profitable; but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord.

² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago—whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows—such a man was caught up to the third heaven.

³ And I know how such a man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, God knows—

⁴ was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words, which a man is not permitted to speak.

Galatians

Galatians states the case for its author's divine authority as strongly as any book in the New Testament:



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Galatians 1:1 (NASB)

¹ Paul, an apostle (not *sent* from men nor through the agency of man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead)

Galatians 1:12 (NASB)

¹² For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but *I received it* through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

Galatians 1:8 (NASB)

⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!

Ephesians

This book, along with the claim to be written by an apostle ([Ephesians 1:1](#)), declares itself to be a revelation of the mystery of God, showing “that by revelation there was made known to me [Paul] the mystery” ([Ephesians 3:3](#)).

Ephesians 1:1 (NASB)

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are at Ephesus and *who are* faithful in Christ Jesus:

Ephesians 3:3 (NASB)

³ that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.

Those who read it can gain “insight into the mystery of Christ” ([Ephesians 3:4](#)).

Ephesians 3:4 (NASB)

⁴ By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,

Philippians

Philippians not only comes as from an apostle and with the standard greetings “from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ” ([Philippians 1:2](#)), but it further enjoins the readers to follow the moral example and spiritual teaching of its author, saying, “Brethren, join in following my example” ([Philippians 3:7](#)).

Philippians 1:1-2 (NASB)

¹ Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons:

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.

Again it says, “The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things” ([Philippians 4:9](#)).



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Philippians 4:9 (NASB)

⁹The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Colossians

Colossians also comes from “an apostle of Jesus Christ” (**Colossians 1:1**), with greetings “from God our Father” (**Colossians 1:2**), as an authoritative refutation of heresy (**Colossians 2:4, 8**), with a command to be circulated and read in the churches (**Colossians 4:16**).

Colossians 1:1 (NASB)

¹Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

Colossians 1:2 (NASB)

²To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ *who are* at Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

Colossians 2:4 (NASB)

⁴I say this so that no one will delude you with persuasive argument.

Colossians 2:8 (NASB)

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.

Colossians 4:16 (NASB)

¹⁶When this letter is read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and you, for your part read my letter *that is coming* from Laodicea.