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## **The Inspiration and Infallibility of the Father**

Consider what a window does. It allows those who are inside a building to see outside, or those who are outside to see in. It reveals and makes known that which would otherwise be hidden from us.

If I look out a window and see some strange object that I have never seen before, I may need help to understand what I am seeing. It would be helpful if someone who has been on the outside would come alongside me and help me understand what I am seeing.

In this analogy the Bible is the window. What we see when we look through the window of the Bible is Jesus. He is The Word of God. The only reason we have to call the Bible “the word” is because it is through the Bible’s word that we see The Word of God, the second person of the Trinity in the flesh as the man Jesus Christ.

What we see through the window of the Bible is that Jesus is in the Father and the Father is in him. We also see that he is in us and we are in him (John 14:20). In seeing this reality – the reality of God the Father, Son, and Spirit, and our inclusion in that life – we understand ourselves and our relationships with one another.

The Holy Spirit is the one who enters our reality from the other side of the window and comes alongside us to help us understand what we are seeing. When we understand the Holy Spirit’s role in this way, it helps us understand the way in which the Bible is the inspired and infallible word of God.

The Bible is the window given to us by the Father, in Jesus, through the Holy Spirit. That makes it inspired. As the gift of the Father to humanity, it is reliable. We can trust that it is not some kind of funhouse mirror that merely reflects back to us a distorted image of our own thinking. We can trust that our Father has given us a window that shows us who we really are in Jesus without distortion or falsehood. That makes it infallible.

No other window has this origin. That is why we rely on the Bible alone for our doctrine and faith. Any other window that we might create without this direct involvement of the Holy Spirit will suffer too much from the distortions that we put into it from our human nature. Over the centuries, after the books of the Bible were written, the Holy Spirit led the early Church Fathers to see that these particular books – as opposed to many others that were around at the time – were the ones that had been created with this special involvement on the Spirit’s part and thus could be read as inspired and infallible.

*~ Jonathan Stepp*