**Theology - Part I**

**I. Scripture (The Bible) is inspired of God**

Inspired – Theopneustos (“God-breathed”)

 A. Objective Knowledge of Inspiration

II Tim. 3:16-17 - All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

 Ex. 17:14, Ex. 34:27, Is. 8:1, Jer. 30:2, Ez. 24:2 [the Lord said “write these things.”]

 Heb. 1, 3:7, 4:3, 5:4-6, 7:21, 8:8, 10:15-16 [“God said,” “the Lord said,” “the Spirit said”]

I Peter 1:10-11 - Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow.

II Peter 1:20-21- Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

I Cor. 14:37 - If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.

II Peter 3:15-16 - And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you;As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

* We believe the Bible is the word of God because it clearly claims to be so.
* It is the word of the “God of truth” (Psalm 31:5)
* It is therefore necessarily without error (i.e. inerrant and infallible), in the original manuscripts.
* Also, the orthodox have always ascribed to verbal plenary inspiration (i.e. the inspiration of every word of Scripture).

 B. Subjective Knowledge of Inspiration

 Jer. 31:31-34 …I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts…

 Ez. 36:26-27 …a new heart…a new spirit…my spirit within you, and cause you…

 John 10:3-4 …the sheep follow Him, for they know his voice…

John 7:17 - If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

I John 4:6 - We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.

**II. Consensus**

A. It is circular reasoning to believe that the Bible is inspired by God because the Bible says it is inspired by God.

 B. If section I.B above is true, should be even try to convince people that the Bible is God’s word?

 We should:

* + Call all men to repentance
	+ Be ready to give and answer
	+ Answer the fool according to his folly

 C. How do we even know what books should be in the Bible?

 D. How do we even know what the originals said?