

that the framework behind it is correct. But observe that every word is not dictated; only a small percentage of the mass is. It was not necessary to dictate while the Holy Spirit guided.

This is why accounts of an historical event sometimes vary slightly in Scripture. They supplement or complement one another. Each writer presents material from his point of view and presents it accurately, but one writer does not present every single detail. Writers of differing accounts do not conflict in their views: they present the aspects in accord with the point they are making.

Matthew writes of Christ as the King of Israel. In so doing he presents a royal genealogy, the kingdom parables, the fulfillment of royal prophecy, the full temptation narrative, and much else that witnesses to royalty. But Mark is more concerned in presenting Christ as God's perfect Servant. His acts of service are more prominent than acts of royalty. Therefore there is no genealogy and little mention of kingdom principles. Christ is, however, both King and Servant. The Holy Spirit has led Matthew to show Him as King, and Mark to show Him as Servant. Matthew and Mark, the writers, use their own vocabularies and present their own stylized messages. But they are guided to avoid any error (cf. John 14:26).

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A similar example is seen in the Kings/Chronicles account of the history of the divided Kingdom. Kings gives much more detail on the Northern Kingdom; Chronicles on the Southern. The two supplement each other for a thorough history.

It is also important to note that the writers, being controlled by the Spirit, did not err in objective judgment. Occasionally it is suggested that what the words of Scripture say is not so important as the thought behind them. This novel concept is sometimes called "thought" or "organic" inspiration. It is