

∞ Revelation ∞

***God making known to mankind
His divine person and divine
truths that would otherwise be
unknown; to unveil***

How Do Revelation and Inspiration Differ?

Revelation	Inspiration
<i>God making known to mankind His divine Person and divine truths that would otherwise be unknown</i>	<i>God transferring to mankind His divine Person and divine truths through human agency into written language form for mankind to understand</i>
<i>Giving of the truth</i>	<i>Recording of the truth</i>



∞ General Revelation ∞

*God making known to mankind
through His creation His
existence, attributes,
and goodness*



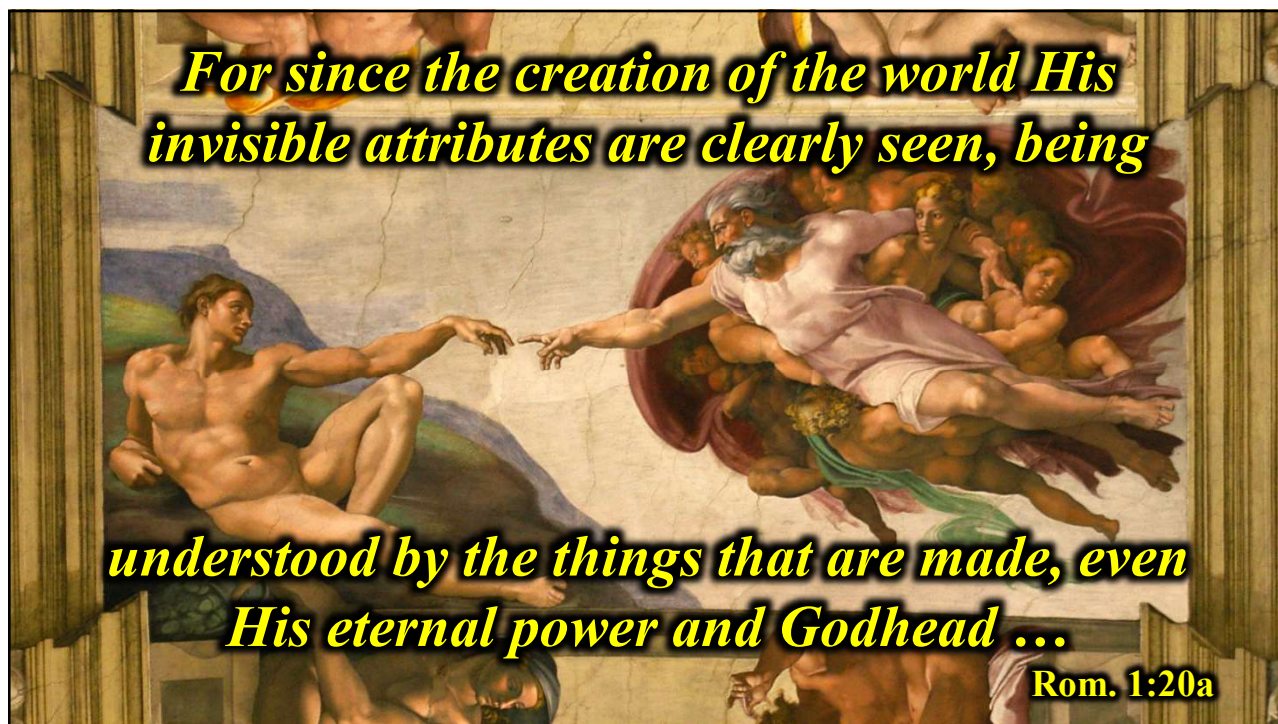
***The heavens declare
the glory of God; and
the firmament shows
His handiwork.***

Psalm 19:1



***The heavens declare
His righteousness,
And all the peoples
see His glory.***

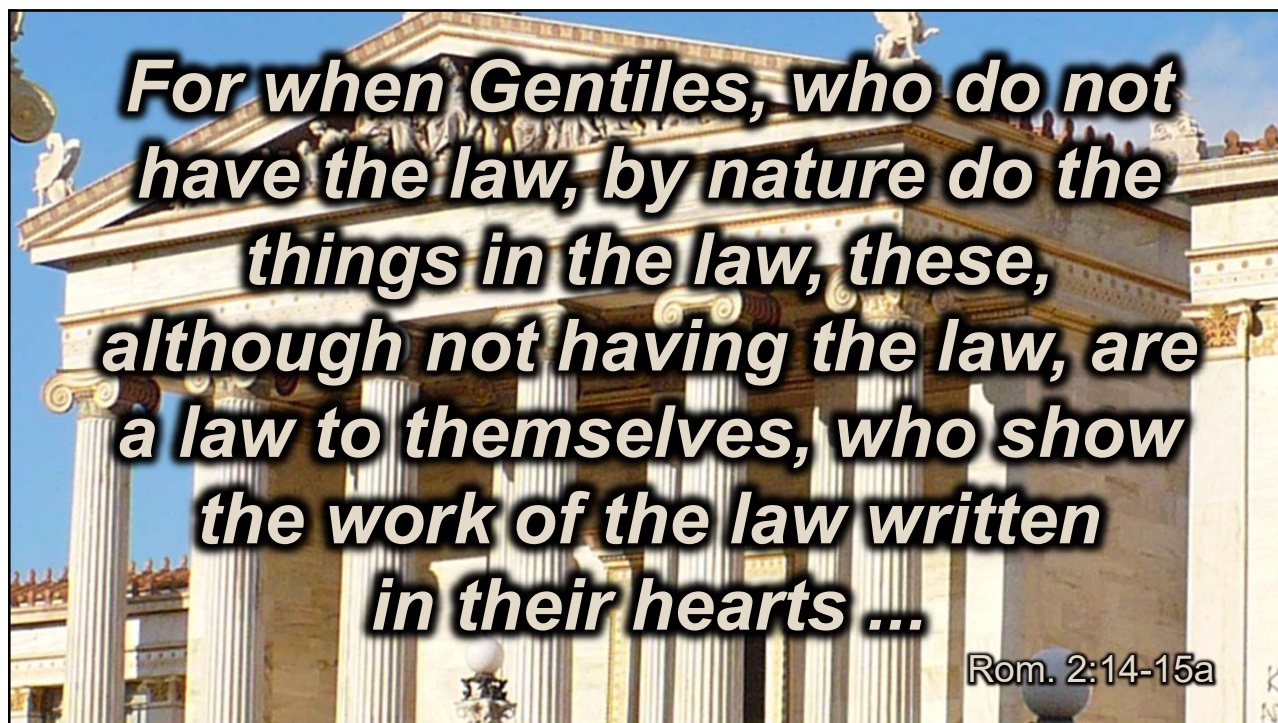
Psalm 97:6



For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being

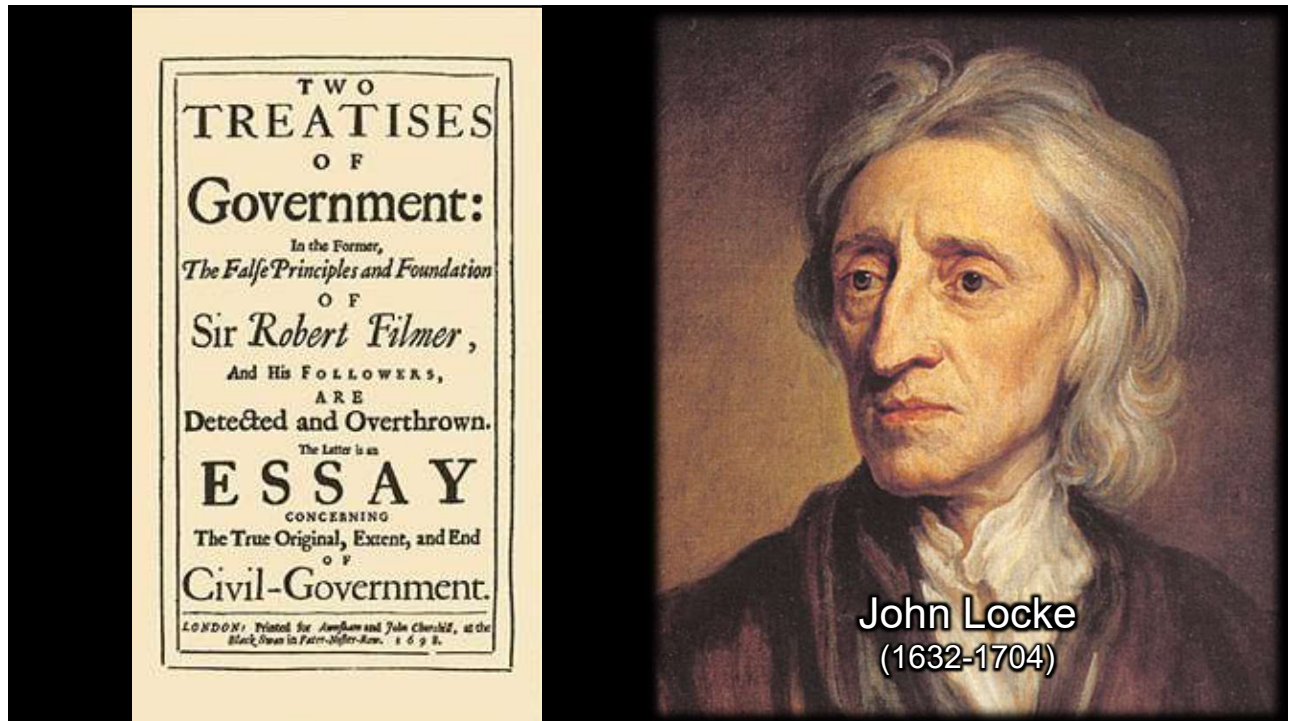
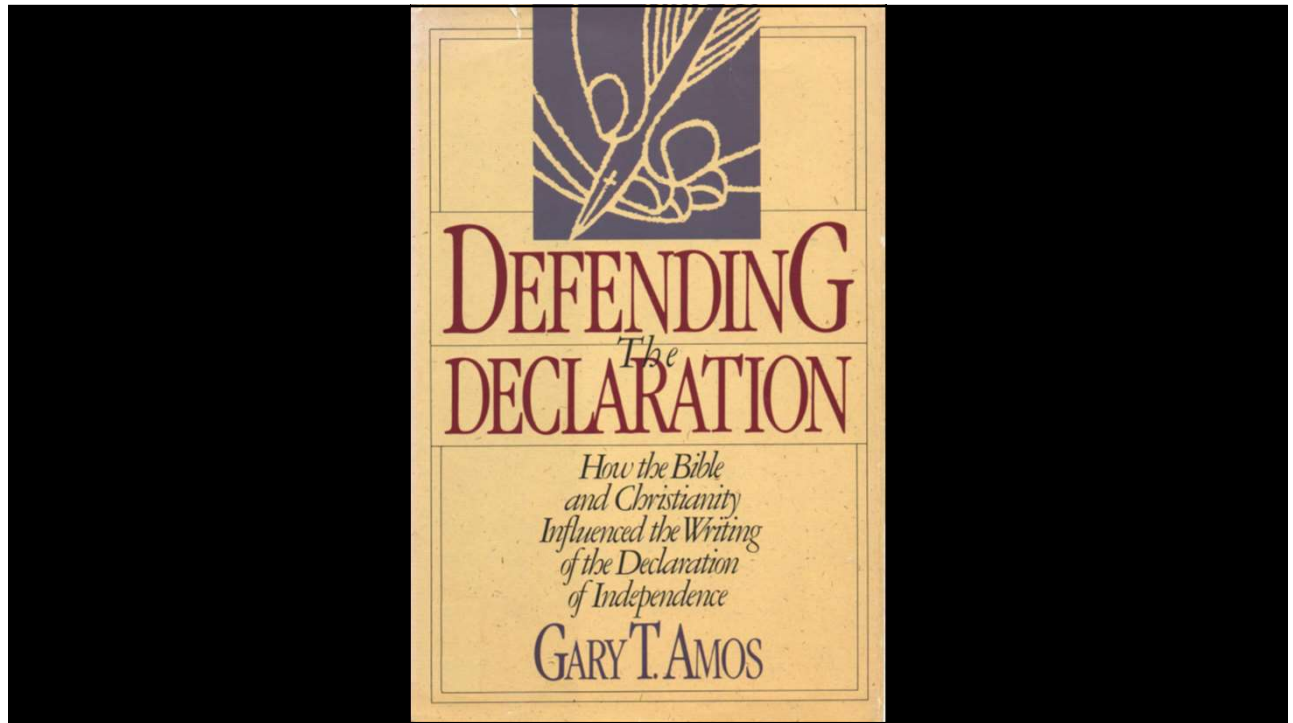
understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead ...

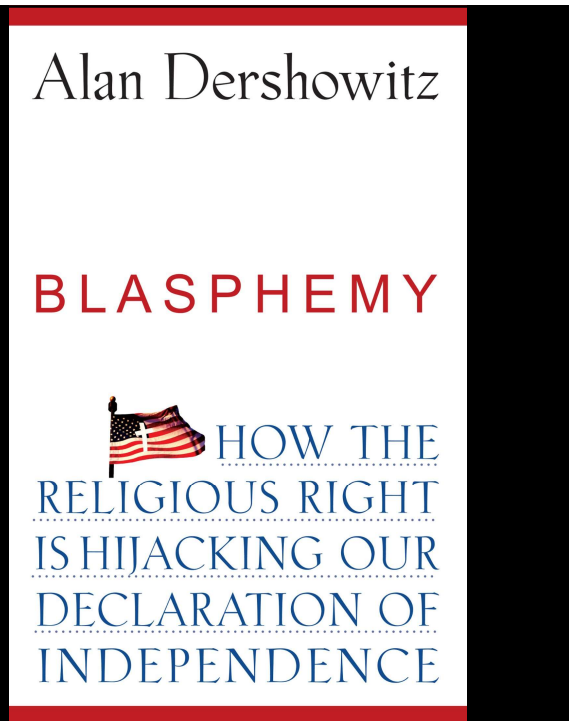
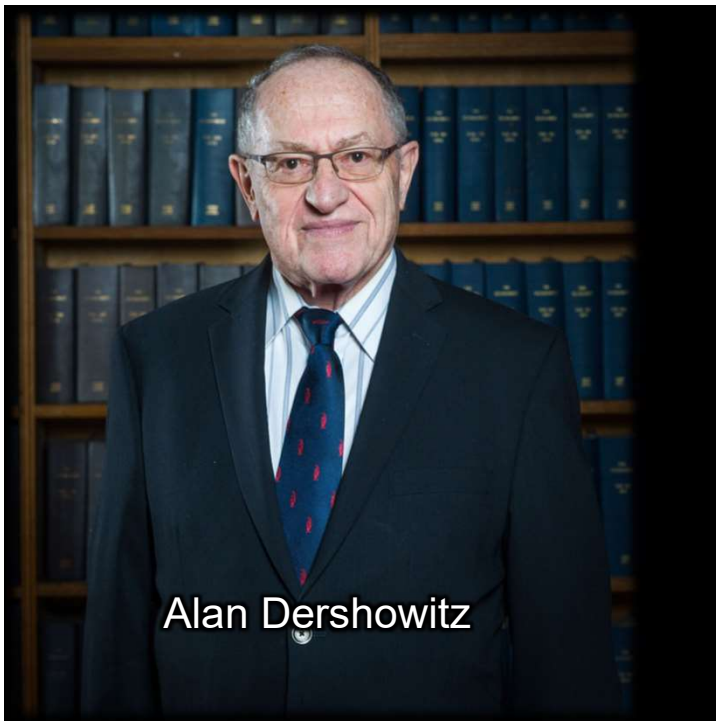
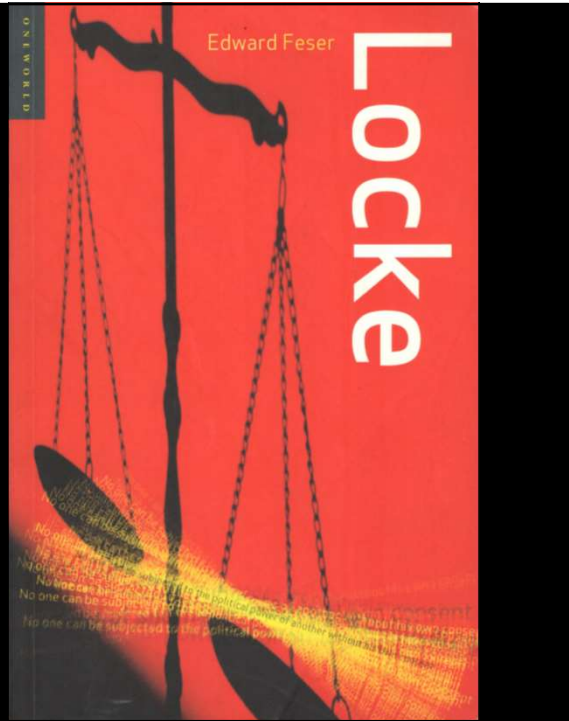
Rom. 1:20a

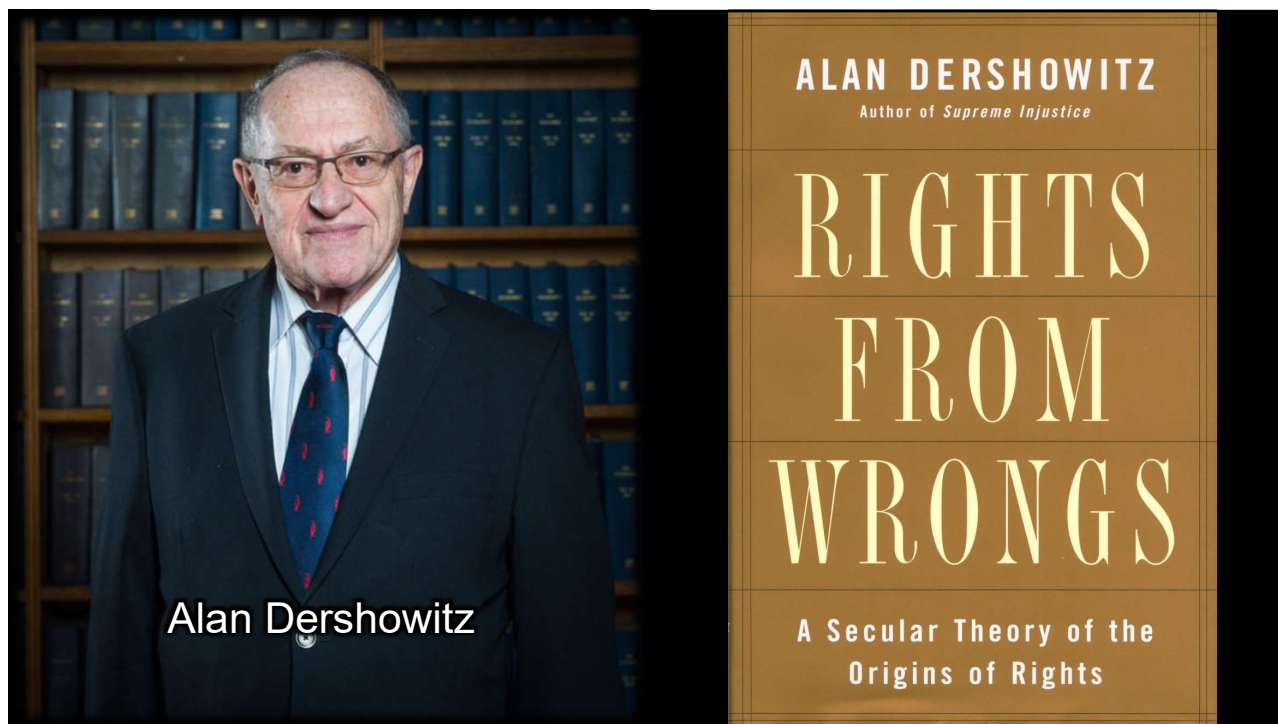


For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts ...

Rom. 2:14-15a







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Clarence Thomas and 'Natural Law'

By LAURENCE H. TRIBE;
Published: July 15, 1991

What is really at stake in the nomination of Judge Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court? While any candidate nominated to replace Justice Thurgood Marshall would likely accelerate the Court's rightward trend, Judge Thomas's adherence to "natural law" as a judicial philosophy could take the Court in an even more troubling direction.

Most conservatives criticize the judiciary for expanding its powers, "creating" rights rather than "interpreting" the Constitution. These critics talk of returning issues like abortion to democratically elected and politically accountable bodies.

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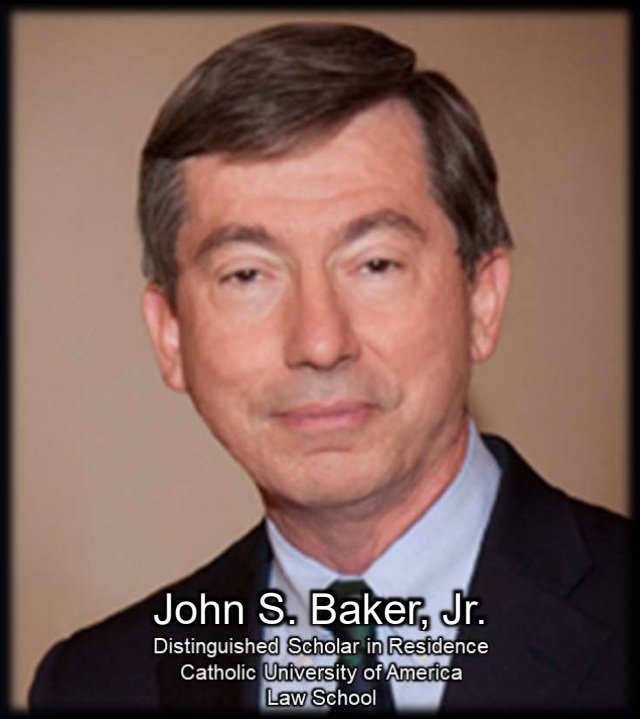
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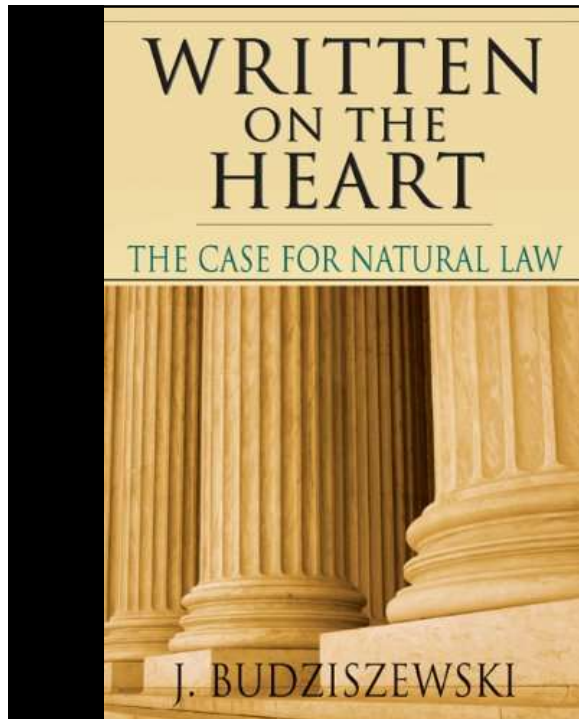
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"The anxious questions asked by the Senators about natural law and the nominee's disavowal that natural law would have any role in his decision of actual cases evidence a pervasive lack of understanding or acceptance of natural law."

[*"Natural Law and Justice Thomas," Regent University Law Review (1999-2000): 471*]



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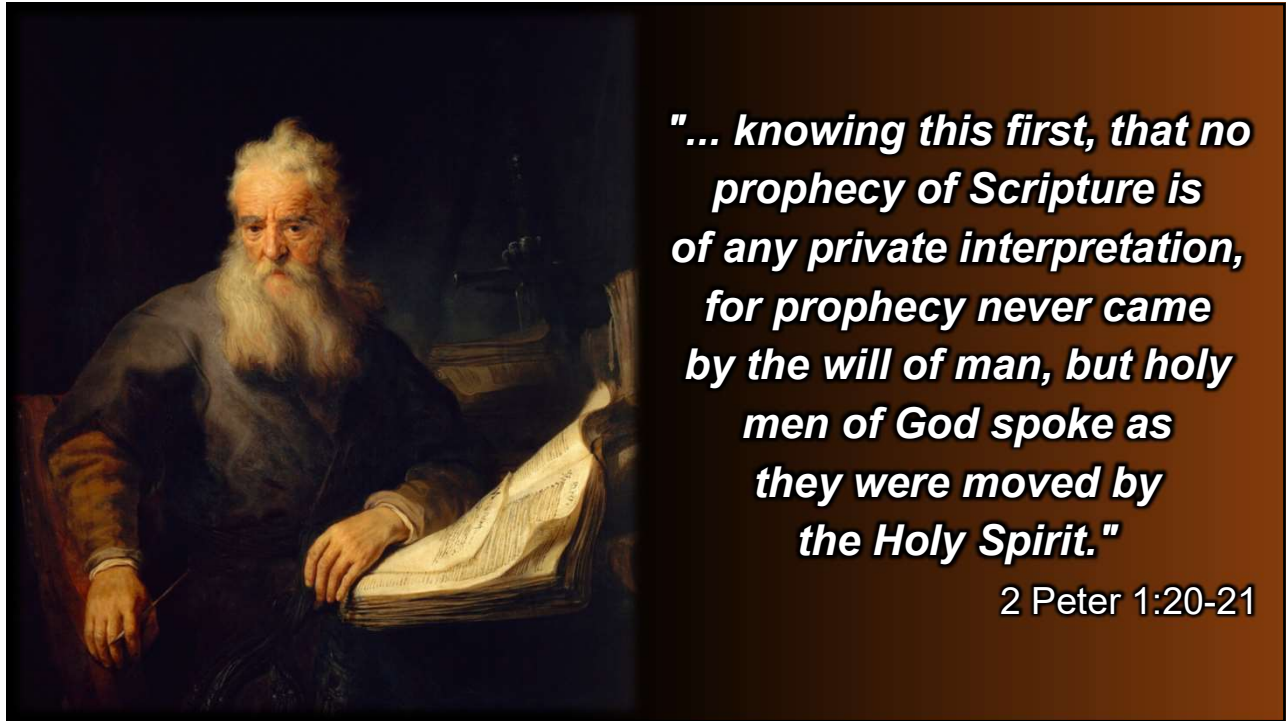


J. Budziszewski



∞ **Special Revelation** ∞

***God making known to mankind
through His prophets, apostles, and
His Son His nature and will that
could not necessarily be known
through General Revelation***



"... knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."

2 Peter 1:20-21

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 complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

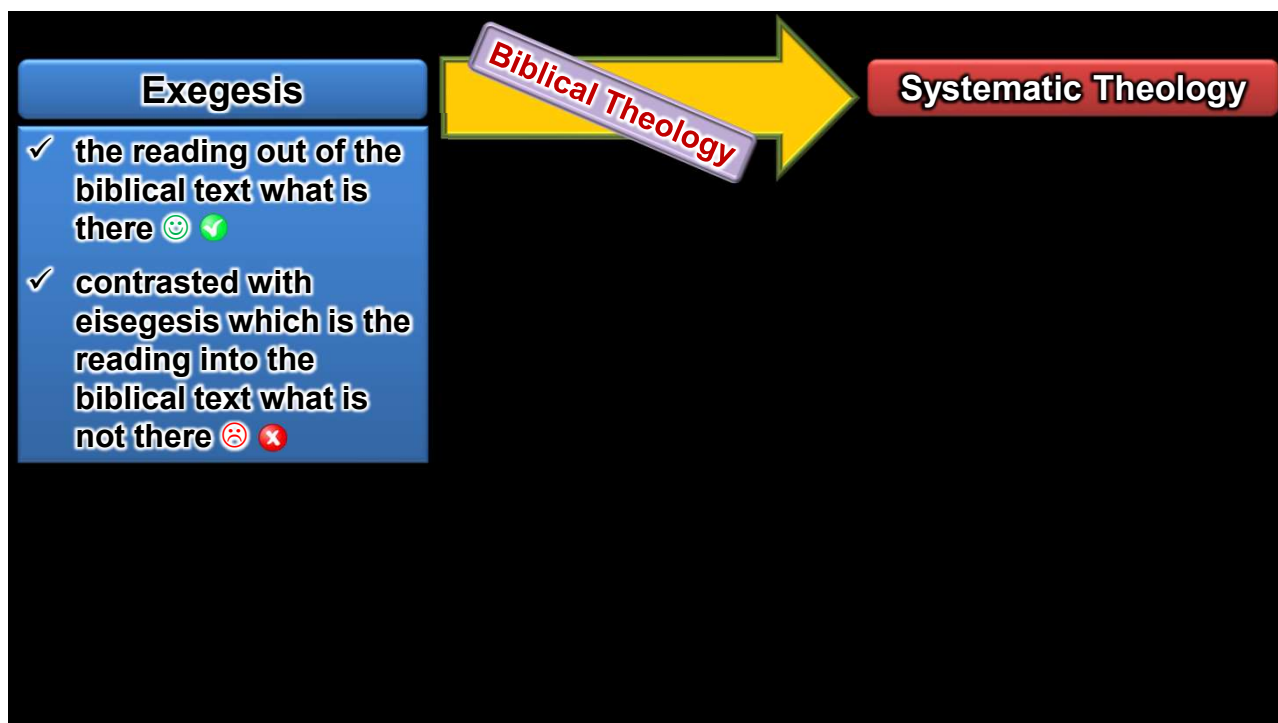
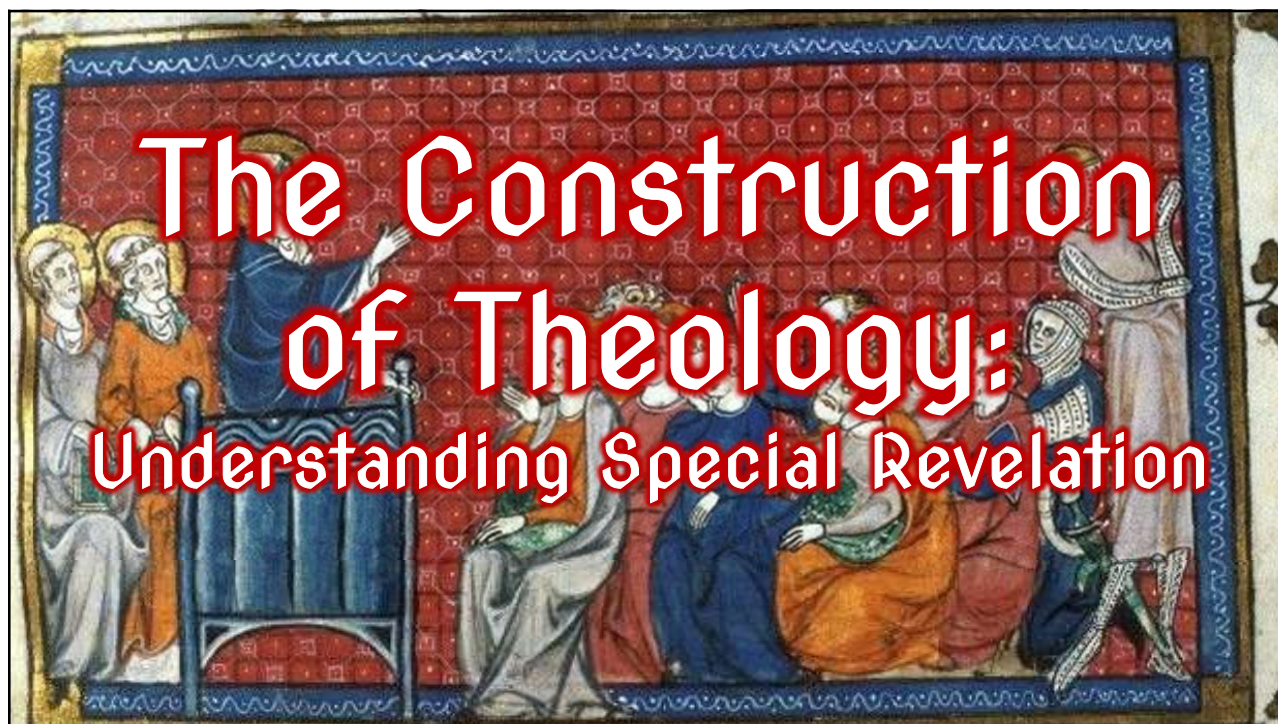
θεόπνευστος (theopneustos) = God breathed

θεός (theos) - God

πνέω, πνεῦμα (pneo, pneuma) - I breathe, breath, spirit

General Revelation	Special Revelation
<i>God making known to mankind through His creation His existence, attributes, and goodness which enable us to distinguish in Scripture proper vs. figurative language of God</i>	<i>God making known to mankind through His prophets, apostles, and His Son His nature and will that could not necessarily be known through General Revelation</i>
<i>☞ Romans 1:20a ☞</i>	<i>☞ 2 Timothy 3:16-17 ☞</i>
<i>For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.</i>	<i>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 complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.</i>
<i>"Book" of Nature: non-propositional</i>	<i>Book of Scripture: propositional</i>
<i>Natural Theology</i>	<i>Biblical Theology</i>
Systematic Theology	

General Revelation	Special Revelation
<i>Given through creation (known through simple apprehension of the sensible world)</i>	<i>Given through Prophets and Apostles (read by their writings, a.k.a., the Scriptures)</i>
<i>Reveals God's existence and attributes</i>	<i>Reveals God's gospel and will</i>
<i>Given TO all people</i>	<i>Given FOR all people</i>
<i>All people have it</i>	<i>Not all people have it</i>
<i>Some accept, some reject</i>	<i>Some accept, some reject</i>
<i>Sufficient to condemn if rejected</i>	<i>Sufficient to save if accepted</i>
<i>Acceptance is necessary but not sufficient for eternal life</i>	<i>Acceptance is necessary and sufficient for eternal life</i>



Exegesis	Biblical Theology	Systematic Theology
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ the reading out of the biblical text what is there 😊 🟢 ✓ contrasted with eisegesis which is the reading into the biblical text what is not there 😞 🚫 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☐ the arrangement of theological truths according to the particular biblical writer (or speaker) or particular book ☐ cf. justification in Acts 13:38-39 with James 2:24 ☐ You can hear phrases like Old Testament theology; Pauline theology; Johannine theology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ the arrangement of all theological truths (and some philosophical truths) about God and His relations to His creation ❖ from both General Revelation and Special Revelation

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