

## Excursus: Did Jesus' apostles teach that there were '2 voices' in the OT?

### Critically testing the arguments for a 2-voice OT (from the OTHER VOICE)

The main arguments offered (in the slides/videos I have examined) would be these:



We are told to 'rightly divide the word of truth' in 2 Timothy 2.15, on the basis of how the OT passages 'line up with Jesus' actions and plain speech."

2. The OT authors were not 'born again' and so were 'natural men' who cannot receive the things of God. There was a veil on the people of Israel so they couldn't discern in what they wrote down, between verses authored by Satan and those authored by Father.
3. We are told to 'test the spirits' to see if they / their prophecies are of the Father.
4. Jesus rejected many scriptures.
5. There are contradictions in the bible—especially between OT and NT. We should reject the part of a contradiction that does not align with Jesus.

#### NATURAL MEN

"Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD."

## Excursus: Did Jesus' apostles teach that there were '2 voices' in the OT?

### Critically testing the arguments for a 2-voice OT (from the OTHER VOICE)

**Two:** The OT authors were not 'born again' and so were 'natural men' who cannot receive the things of God. There was a veil on the people of Israel so they couldn't discern in what they wrote down, between verses authored by Satan and those authored by Father.

Statements of this go like this:

"Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD. We must rightly divide—test the spirits—discern good from evil – to determine who is speaking or acting: Evil LORD or Good LORD" *and* "OT prophets were not born again and had no ability to understand spiritual matters and thus their prophecies were confusing and a mingling of Father and Devil."

The main verses used to support this are from **Paul** (the 'all scripture is God-breathed' and 'whatever is written is for us' fellow—smile): 2 Corinthians 3:14-15 and 1 Corinthians 2.14.

[The seems to be a bit of confusion in this statement. What are they blind TO? That the Divine Speaker of the word they would write down into the Hebrew Bible was **not** to be called YHWH (authorship) – but that they at the same time had perfect understanding of the message from this good God?]

#### NATURAL MEN

"Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD."

## Critically testing the arguments for a 2-voice OT

### NATURAL MEN

“Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD.”

When we examine this statement, we can see that there is a fundamental misunderstanding of what Jesus and his followers taught about Scripture.

The statement given is simply not seriously defensible:

“Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD. We must rightly divide—test the spirits—discern good from evil – to determine who is speaking or acting: Evil LORD or Good LORD”.

- A. It somehow leaps from a ‘veil when the scriptures are READ’ (the 2 Corinthians passage) to some kind of ‘veil when the Scriptures are written down’ – when that is not even hinted at in the text.
- B. It somehow assumes that the ‘natural man’ cannot be used by the Holy Spirit to record the words of God FLAWLESSLY, and that the Holy Spirit would deliver and entrust its priceless messages to people who did not have even the POSSIBILITY of writing it down correctly – when the NT teaches the exact opposite.
- C. Self-contradiction: If their ‘naturalness’ created the misleading verses, then how did the ‘non-misleading’ verses get created, by the same ‘natural’ men?
- D. It somehow does not understand that God’s revelation is in the WRITTEN TEXT (‘scripture’) and NOT in the process of inspiration NOR in the authors themselves.

## Critically testing the arguments for a 2-voice OT

### NATURAL MEN

“Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD.”

- A. It somehow leaps from a ‘veil when the scriptures are READ’ (the 2 Corinthians passage) to some kind of ‘veil when the Scriptures are written down’ – when that is not even hinted at in the text.

“Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when **they read the old covenant**, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses **is read** a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. (2 Corinthians 3:12-18)

“And even if **our gospel is veiled**, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from **seeing the light of the gospel** of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ... For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:3-6)

These passages are **irrelevant** to their argument. These are about READING Scripture and SEEING the truth of the gospel, not WRITING anything.

## Critically testing the arguments for a 2-voice OT

### NATURAL MEN

“Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD.”

- B. It somehow assumes that the ‘natural man’ cannot be used by the Holy Spirit to record the words of God FLAWLESSLY, and that the Holy Spirit would deliver and entrust its priceless messages to people who did not have the POSSIBILITY of writing it down correctly – when the NT teaches the exact opposite.

**“The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.” [1 Corinthians 2:14]**

Just like the ‘veil’ passage, this verse does not apply to this situation. In their argument, these OT folk listen to the Spirit, they faithfully (presumably) write the content down, but then they mistakenly ascribe it to the name “YHWH” instead of to the Father.

But that is not what Paul says the ‘natural man’ would do when spoken to by the Spirit:

“This man *does not accept* the things of the Spirit. The verb (*dechomai*) has an air of welcome about it; it is the usual word for the reception of a guest. But ‘the natural man’ **does not welcome** the things of the Spirit; **he refuses them, he rejects them**. He is not equipped to discern the activities of God’s Spirit; to him they are no more than **foolishness** (cf. 1:18, 21, 23).” [Leon Morris]

This passage is also **irrelevant** to their argument. The natural man Paul is describing does not match up with those OT believers the Spirit spoke to and spoke through... They did not consider the message to be foolishness at all!

## Critically testing the arguments for a 2-voice OT

### NATURAL MEN

“Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD.”

- B. It somehow assumes that the ‘natural man’ cannot be used by the Holy Spirit to record the words of God FLAWLESSLY, and that the Holy Spirit would deliver and entrust its priceless messages to people who did not have the POSSIBILITY of writing it down correctly – when the NT teaches the exact opposite.

**PETER (1):** Well, apparently the apostle Peter “didn’t get the memo” on this, because he taught that at least the prophets (a term which would include Abraham, Moses, and David) were not impediments to God’s communication:

**“... knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.**

- However they ‘interpreted’ what the Spirit said did not impact the output;
- Whatever they wanted to say did not impact the output;
- Whatever they said was NOT an output of a ‘natural man’--!—they were lifted up and carried aloft by the Holy Spirit, so their delivered words were ‘from God’.

**PAUL (again):** And, remember that Paul had already declared that ALL SCRIPTURE was ‘God-breathed’ in its written form – which meshes well with Peter’s “carried along by” description.

## Critically testing the arguments for a 2-voice OT

### NATURAL MEN

“Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD.”

- B. It somehow assumes that the ‘natural man’ cannot be used by the Holy Spirit to record the words of God FLAWLESSLY, and that the Holy Spirit would deliver and entrust its priceless messages to people who did not have the POSSIBILITY of writing it down correctly – when the NT teaches the exact opposite.

**PETER (2):** And, whether or not the prophecy UNDERSTOOD all that was being said, DID NOT MATTER—it was still WRITTEN DOWN FOR US:

“... Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, inquiring what person or time the **Spirit of Christ in them** was indicating when **he** predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent **glories**. It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven (1 Peter 1:10ff)

Although this passage is referring largely to messianic prophecy –and the New Covenant which WE now have access to – Peter considered such as part of ‘Scripture’—which must be fulfilled:

- “Brothers, the **Scripture** had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus (Acts 1.16, citing Psalms 69 and 109)
- “For it stands in **Scripture**: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” (1 Peter 2.6, citing Isaiah 28)

## Critically testing the arguments for a 2-voice OT

### NATURAL MEN

“Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD.”

- C. Self-contradiction: If their ‘naturalness’ created the misleading verses, then how did the ‘non-misleading’ verses get created, by the same ‘natural’ men?

This is just a contradiction in the position.

If naturalness is the cause and misleading verses is the effect

Then naturalness cannot cause ‘non-misleading verses’.

**Unless--!**—there is some overriding cause (i.e. the Holy Spirit!) that ensures the truthfulness of what was written!



## Critically testing the arguments for a 2-voice OT

### NATURAL MEN

“Given [that] OT man is natural man, they were unable to discern spiritual matters, their hearts were blinded/veiled, and therefore when the Holy Spirit spoke it was ascribed to the same name LORD.”

- D. It somehow does not understand that God’s revelation is in the WRITTEN TEXT (‘scripture’) and NOT in the process of inspiration NOR in the authors themselves.

**We have seen** that it is ONLY the “written” text that is considered sacrosanct and authoritative for Jesus and for His followers.



**We have seen** that this written text often speaks of God’s ‘speaking’ to the scribal authors, and those ‘spoken words’ are what are recorded and become ‘written words’ == SCRIPTURE.

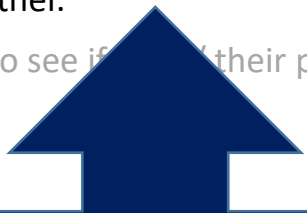
**We have seen** that any interpretations, intentions, or uncertainty on the part of the recipients of God’s messages are IRRELEVANT to the purity, authority, and divinely-breathed quality of what was WRITTEN DOWN.

## Excursus: Did Jesus' apostles teach that there were '2 voices' in the OT?

### Critically testing the arguments for a 2-voice OT (from the OTHER VOICE)

The main arguments offered (in the slides/videos I have examined) would be these:

1.  We are told to 'rightly divide the word of truth' in 2 Timothy 2.15, on the basis of how the OT passages 'line up with Jesus' actions and plain speech."
2.  The OT authors were not 'born again' and so were 'natural men' who cannot receive the things of God. There was a veil on the people of Israel so they couldn't discern in what they wrote down, between verses authored by Satan and those authored by Father.
3. We are told to 'test the spirits' to see if their prophecies are of the Father.
4. Jesus rejected many scriptures.



So,  
None of the verses they advance to support this have to do with WRITING.  
Verses by the same authors REFUTE their position.  
The argument basically contradicts itself.  
They do not understand that ONLY the WRITTEN SCRIPTURE is 'protected' by God.  
Nothing here defends their position.