

To my mind it is particularly important that we recognize that God's revelation is primary. We need all the intellectual power we can master to interpret His Word carefully. Many of its statements are so clear that a wayfaring man, though a fool, should not err therein. Other statements require a great amount of study to make sure what they mean. I do not believe that any human being is capable of determining which statements deal merely with material matters and which statements deal with spiritual matters. When I have personally investigated questions about historical statements in the Bible I have usually been able to find a reasonable answer to each problem.

LETTER 25  
1983

## **BIBLICAL INERRANCY AND THE WHOLE BIBLE**

We stand unequivocally for the absolute inerrancy of God's Word. We do not say that it is a text book for physics, medicine, or even for history. But we say that wherever it touches on any field whatever, its teaching is to be accepted as final. We see great danger of reading one's ideas in these fields into the Bible.

In taking up any question we do not believe in asking merely two questions: Does it teach this? or does it deny it? but also a third, Does this passage actually not say anything about the particular question? The Bible is the Word of God and any similarities to Greek mystery cults or Jewish theology are probably the result of their having been influenced by the Jews or by New Testament teachings rather than the reverse.