

There are ideas that deny the truth of Christianity, there are ideas that deny the truth of the scriptures that are widely disseminated . They are in people's minds and they keep these people from being ready to face the question of Christianity. They are a smoke screen behind which people hide and if we can remove some of these barriers, we can show people the reasonableness of Christianity. We are doing a great preliminary step which may be wonderfully used of the Word of the God, of the Spirit of God in leading people into the knowledge of Jesus Christ and in connection with that as I mentioned it is extremely important that we know exactly what is the truth in order that we don 't overstress it and go way beyond it. Now it is perfectly easy to say , if you want to, take any manuscript of the Hebrew Bible and hold it up to a special type of light that they have in the Smithsonian Institute and you see a beautiful red rosy glow on it and that proves that that is inspired. If you tell that to enough people and those people believe you, you may win many converts to Christianity but unfortunately if one of those people should happen to go to the Smithsonian Institute and ask about that light and be told there was no such light or even find there was but found that when you held Shakespeare up you got the same rosy glow that you did from the Bible - he would immediately decide that your belief was all junk and you couldn't blame him. It is important we know what the evidence is what the facts are, how far we can say this is true, and where we can say we don't know or where we can say this is not the case, this is not a part of our religion. I saw a letter not so long ago from a man up in Brooklyn , a successful business man, who wrote a letter to one of our prominent religious magazines. He said, don't you know that if every paragraph of the Greek New Testament has a number of words divisible by seven, has a number of letters divisible by seven, and has a number of verbs divisible by seven? This is one of the greatest proofs there is that the New Testament is inspired. The man didn't know any Greek quite evidently. I think this is just as sensible as what I just said about the rosy light. Just for fun when I saw the letter, I took the Greek Testament, I opened it at random , took the first paragraph I saw and I counted the number of words and it was not divisible by seven, I counted the number of letters and it was not divisible by seven. I opened it to a second and a third verse and they were not divisible by seven. So you see when a man gives such alleged evidences as this numerical argument for inspiration of the scriptures, they may help people who don't know anything about Greek or Hebrew, but the minute a person learns something about it and finds that