

for these deeper truths which the Lord, the Holy Spirit lead John to go back on years later after the others had passed on--to recall these intimate talks that Christ had with His own disciples.--things which were so vital for the advancement of Christ's kingdom. All the time John was observing though Christ was a great King, a wonderful servant, though He was a perfect man, yet in all this He still is pointed out as the very Son of God--here is the same Man but each with different slant--a different vocabulary and thus we might go through the whole O.T. and the rest of the books of the N.T. The Bible is an intensely human book and one can feel the emotions of the writers as one reads it and yet it is a book in which the Holy Spirit has lead and kept the writers from error.

Some of the vital ways in which the Holy Spirit operates in this matter of inspiration. The Bible is complete but there are four elements which we might list:

(1) Selection--Jeremiah had been selected even before he was born. Someone has said if you want to raise good children you have to begin with their grandparents and there is an element of truth in that. Herdity is very vital. With good qualities one likes to pick out the father or the mother and blame them for it but for the bad qualities they like to go back to the grandparents and try and see if they can't find thing back there to blame these bad traits on. The Holy Spirit certainly selected the writers--Moses etc. David selected to write the Psalms. (2) The Holy Spirit prepared them to write by letting them pass through various experiences. Often we'll go through terrific trouble and will be only able to stand it only because the Lord has already permitted us to go through something before which seasoned us for this important crisis which has come. So the second phase we might call preparation.

(3) Oversight we might term the third element. God lead the writers of Scripture in their thoughts; a general oversight was given them. (4) Lastly one of the most important of all is that the Holy Spirit kept these men from putting down any erroneous ideas when they wrote, that were even in their minds at the time of writing. ILL. of telling how many cars were on a train which I rode on and the Holy Spirit would keep me from putting down the wrong number down. (Record # 18) Even though they might have had some wrong scientific ideas the Holy Spirit kept them from putting those ideas down. We see Christ presented as fully God and yet fully Man at the same time.