

We declared that

given by inspiration of God. ^{all} of it is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, and for correction. ~~all of it is true,~~ ^{He has written that} ~~it~~ ^{is} God's Word.

Nowadays there are many who consider this to be ^{an} unreasonable ^{view}. They point out that in other fields of thought books rapidly become out-of-date. A medical book of twenty years ago is outmoded today. No one would think of trying to learn chemistry or geology from a book written twenty years ago. Why then should this book, written nearly two thousand years ago, still be regarded as authoritative?

A little thought will show the reason for the difference. Men can learn a great deal about ^{the} facts in any field to which they can gain ~~such~~ access. But if the facts are out of reach, investigation is useless. In such a field one must either remain ignorant, or gain his knowledge by revelation from someone who knows. If you are in Brazil and want to learn ~~something~~ about the interior of the country, you can organize an expedition to travel far westward and to examine the country in detail. ^{But if} you want to learn something about Africa, and if you have no means of going there, no amount of standing on the shore and peering at the ocean waves will tell you anything about your subject of interest. You will never know how long its rivers are, or whether they run from west to east, like the Amazon, or from north to south like the Mississippi, or from south to north like the Nile, unless you are able to go there, or to receive information from someone who has been there. If Africa is inaccessible to you, you will never know what kind of trees it produces, or what minerals are found there, or what language ^{its} ~~the~~ people speak, unless you can get a revelation from someone who knows.