

meaning, and words often mean something different from what they do when you take them literally.

There was a foreigner who had come to this country only a short time, and he was standing in a corridor and somebody yells, Look out! So he looked out the window. You all laugh, but that's exactly what those words mean, Look Out. It's a queer habit we have that when you want to say, Be Careful, we say Look Out. But every language has these queer usages. It is not always easy to understand any language. The Bible was ~~written~~ written in Hebrew and Aramaic, and Greek. Consequently we have a revelation from God, we have God's message which He gave to the prophets for us. This message has been preserved most marvelously. We can trust it. But it takes study to understand. We can translate it in various ways just as we can take any sentence we give and express it in different ways. We can express exactly the same thought in three different ways each of which expresses a thought we want but each of which brings in other ideas we did not have in mind. We know from the context which of these ideas is what we mean by that sentence, but when we translate from one lang. into another we introduce certain new ideas that were not in ~~the~~ the original and we leave out certain ideas that were in the original. So in a revelation we have to have ability to understand the language and it is something that requires constant study. It requires constant study to understand our English language, and it requires ~~great~~ great study to understand a language from which some ~~thing~~ thing is translated as the Bible.

I believe that is a very important matter to remember in this matter of verbal inspiration. We believe the words in the Bible were given, that is the men were prevented by God from using any words that would convey an idea different from what He wanted conveyed. Tomorrow I will speak on Inspiration. We will want to deal with details of our understanding of the doctrine of Inspiration, but it is important we recognize that any sentence in any lang. taken by itself gives only a partial idea of what we mean to say, therefore we compare Scripture with Scripture. We, to get God's whole message, we need the whole Bible. It is important we do not confine ourselves to a few verses or a few books of ~~the~~ the one Testament. The whole Bible is God's message and we must compare Scripture with Scripture.

I heard Dr. Warfield once said when talking of a verse that there are 284 different explanations of this verse, and I'll give you the correct one the 285th. I don't know if he was the one that said that, but I could easily imagine that that might be said about certain vv. of Scripture. It's just natural. It's nothing against the Bible that there are diff. interpretations. But the serious thing is that most people use a wrong method of interpretation. They take a verse and try to squeeze and squeeze it and get every possible bit of truth out of that verse, and they may get meaning out of it that is not in the verse at all, or at least not as it was originally written. I believe the Lord wants us to take what is clear and definite, and take other parts of Scripture and take what is clear and definite and put them together and explain the obscure by the clear. Most of us try to explain the clear by the obscure! The result is we explain away certain things that are clearly taught in the Scripture.