

But the Serpent goes beyond that. "Yea, hath God said, you shall not eat from any tree of the garden?" And here is another way it is very easy to mislead people. Quote something from the Bible that isn't really there. You really believe a flat world? You really believe that the earth is the center of the universe? Do you really believe these fool ideas? Do you? Well, if God has spoken we want to go to His Word and see what He says, before we immediately say, O yes, this is what the Bible says and I stand on it. Let's check carefully, and find out whether we are being accused of an idea that the Bible doesn't really present. There are many cases where that is true. Most people get their idea of what the Bible says from what somebody has said in Sunday School Class and through what they have read in a magazine or through what they have heard, rather than from going directly to Scripture.

I picked up a book once which was written by a Methodist minister and was called, How to become a Bishop without becoming Religious! In the course of it he had many good suggestions for ministers who want to make a lot of money and get ahead in the ministry. And one was this: Every now and then in your sermon saym The Bible says. Then you can go on and say anything you want, just so you say the Bible says people will nod their heads and say, O that's great. Of course that is a very sad thing that there is a tremendous element of truth to it. That a great many believe the Bible or think they believe the Bible but they really don't know much about what the Bible says.

"And God said, You shall not eat of every tree of the garden. Did God ever say that? Certainly not. He said, You may eat of all the trees of the garden, except one. All these good things are for you. I saw a statemet once that somebody 100 years ago or