

a far larger area of thought than any set of formulas can and it is difficult to get into it the sort of precision that formulas in that. The books of the Bible are not a mathematical book to present certain ideas in clear terse language. They are rather - It is rather a collection of beautiful literature aiming to take the ideas that God wishes to convey to us and to drive them home to our hearts and minds. The Bible is not a map so constructed that one can examine every detail of it microscopically, and gain from it absolute and complete knowledge. The Bible is a set of human sentences. It does not have the two dimensions of a map but the one dimension of spoken words. That is to say every sentence - the sentences follow one another in linear order. Every human document - Every document of human words has problems of interpretation and this is not untrue of the Bible. Verbal inspiration does not mean that the Bible is made into a perfect presentation of thought. What it means is that the words are so used in the Bible that interpreted in a reasonable way they convey the ideas God wishes to convey and do not convey ideas He did not wish conveyed.

To properly understand the Bible it is just as important to find out what it does not present as to find out what it does. It is very easy to jump to conclusions from ~~the~~ a statement in the Bible, but if we do, we should label ~~it~~ this, the result of the human guess and not as the Word of God. We must see exactly what is taught and that which God has revealed we can say is God's word and is true and dependable. The additional ideas that we may attempt to infer from ~~it~~ it are ~~a~~ largely human guesses and have only probability as to their truth. They do not have the certainty which inheres in that which God has given. The Bible is a book for study, not just a book for quoting of isolated sentences. It is sometimes said that you can prove anything by the Bible. This is true of any book if you will take sentences out of context. The Bible must be studied as a whole. Words must be studied to see what they meant in the time when they were written. Syntax and grammar must be studied. The historical background must be studied. The simple ideas of the Bible - The principle ideas of the Bible are repeated over and over and made so plain that a wayfaring man though a fool may not err therein. The more complex ideas of the Bible have to be studied and worked out with detail and effort. The important thing is the thought. The words are not magical words but the words are adapted to convey the thought as well as