

II. How the N. T. came to be written.

We have already noticed that the N. T. is a result of the fact that God spoke to us as a result of His son. To anyone who knew the Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh, it was not necessary to have a written N. T. As far as we know, Jesus Christ did not personally write anything down on tablets of stone or on pages of papyrus. He gave his teachings to a number of disciples and these disciples took the teachings and spread them on to others.

Yet we find that the teachings of Jesus were not always clearly understood by His followers. We read that many times He seems to have been disappointed at the fact that His disciples failed to perceive what he was really meaning. Several times, we are told, that He gave specific predictions that He would die and be raised again from the dead. Yet when He finally was crucified and was ~~not~~ resurrected, the disciples were not ready to accept these as facts. They would seem to have entirely failed to understand His meaning. It is extremely vital for us that we have a clear presentation of exactly what Jesus really did say.

Jesus knew that we would have a need of knowing exactly what He said. He knew that people's memories are fallible., that they can fail to understand ~~it~~ and that they can make mistakes in remembering. Consequently, he said to His disciples as we find in John Then as the reference about the Holy Spirit would remind them of the things that He had said. There is a promise then that Jesus gave to the disciples that the Holy Spirit when He came would remind them of exactly what He had said so that none of it would be passed on incorrectly to us.

This, however, was not the ~~whole/need/for~~ only reason