

But it means that they are just as true as they would be if God dictated. God may have used an entirely different method to bring them into existence.

d3. (1/4)

...we read of certain characters in the Bible, as Jeremiah for instance, that God prepared him for his task even before his birth. The Spirit of God began with preparing the grandparents and the parents of men in order that they should be the sort of men God desired for the task he had in mind for them. God directed the early experience of such a man as Moses, giving him a knowledge of the wisdom of the Egyptians and then a knowledge of the details of the desert before he began his great work. God prepared him for his work and a part of that work was the writing of the Pentateuch. God prepared the men, He directed their thoughts and most important of all, He kept them from writing down any of the erroneous ideas which were in their minds. A man might understand truth up to a certain point, he might use a word which while giving truth up to a certain point would bring in erroneous ideas, another word might give the same truth but not include the erroneous idea. The Spirit of God would keep him from using the word that would give the incorrect idea. Verbal inspiration is a matter of result rather than of meaning. Much discussion can be made of the meaning, and many important considerations can be developed. It is a worthwhile study and an entire book might be devoted with profit to it. At present the important thing for us is to note simply that interesting as the study of the means is, it is not the vital matter. The vital matter is the result. Orthodox theology believes that in the Bible it has a book all of which is inspired and free from error and all of which is therefore dependable as the source for orthodox theology.

d. God the Source.

A very important part of the attitude of orthodox theology toward the Bible is the recognition that it is a revelation from God. It is an attitude of humility on the part of the recipient. God gives the true man acceptance. Man must use all the intelligence that he has to understand the words, to figure out their precise meaning, to interpret the