

expressive of all that I know of Martin Luther. That was the time when he was on his way to Worms, to stand before the Emperor, and most everywhere he went he would go into the church. When they would stop in the town for a little, he would go into the church and preach a sermon. And in one place there, he went into the church and preached and people were a little afraid about this heretic, whether they ought to go and hear him or not, but they said we'd like to see what he looks like anyway. So they crowded into the church. And a bigger crowd came in than the church was accustomed to having and it was rather old anyway and suddenly the whole outer wall of the church collapsed. And these people ran with terror from the place. They said that man is certainly of the devil, that the very church falls down when he begins to preach. But Martin Luther stopped and he called out with that great voice of his, "Come back here, come back here. The devil is trying to keep you from hearing the gospel." And you can interpret the circumstance either way, and that is true in most instances. Circumstances are not ordinarily the way to determine what is God's will.

Well, what's left then? If all of these ways that God is guiding have their difficulties, their uncertainties, their great possibilities of misunderstanding, the probabilities that ordinarily God does use so much in these days, what is the way that God does? Well, with the Word, the Word of God. Well, someone says fine, the Word of God is what tells me what to do. All right, I'll open the Word and see what it says, look at the first verse I see. "And Judas went and hanged himself." Well, now that's not much guidance, let's try again. Turn it over again. "Go thou and do likewise." Well, that's worse yet, let's try once more. All right. "What thou doest, do quickly." God never tells us that we may open the Word at random and find what His will is for us. There have been many people who have been grossly misled by taking a verse that has no relevancy whatever to their situation and interpreting in a way that has no relationship to context and doing something that was not God's will for them. The way God leads us in this age is through the Word but it is not through a little bit of looking at the Word. It is not ordinarily through a random selection of verses. Now, of course, the Holy Spirit may take a verse and call it to our attention. God may stoop to our weakness and cause that