

And I think very few people have that understanding of what I think inspiration really means. They think it is some sort of magical thing whereby you can draw absolute final answers to every question on it. That of course is what the modernists are shooting at. They have also another thought as to what Christians mean ~~by~~ by inspiration. We mean that it is an infallible guide and that it is sufficient for the purpose for which God gave it without error for that purpose. We don't know that it will serve purposes for which it is not intended.

(Question) The great danger is that we take a verse or a few verses or we take a view somebody has given us or an ~~it~~ attitude somebody has given us and we take that as a starting point and then we go to the Scripture in order to find proof texts for our viewpoint. I think we want to go to the Scripture and say, "What does the Scripture teach?" I hear people sometimes say, "It is like two trains. They start in here and they go off in different directions and then after you go three minutes that way you are heading for Chicago instead of London and you have to go back and get on this one." I think that is absolutely wrong. I think that a train can go anywhere in the United States. It can't go across the ocean, of course. But it can go in anywhere particular direction and as a matter of fact you can leave New York going south or on a train going north and both eventually end up at Chicago. But as you take a train directly going in the ~~way~~ direction of Chicago, you come into the mountains and consequently the trains that go to Chicago that way would have very few passengers. You have to go in a different direction to reach your goal. It is not so simple. Here are two lines. It is either this way or that way and once you have moved three inches you can tell where you are going. You can't. The thing that we want to do is not to run to the Scripture with preconceived ideas and look for evidence of our ideas. But to come to the Scripture and see what the Scripture has in it. That doesn't mean you come to the Scripture with an open mind like a sieve that just lets everything slide through it. You come to the Scripture and you look at it and you see what it suggests to you. Then you form a theory as to what it means. Then you