

Just pick up some of these writings of the early church fathers, pick up some of the early Christian sermons, and you will find a wonderful presentation of truth, you will find real insight as they study the great things of the Word and present it but you don't read very far before you find an illustration given from a fabulous bird, that could die and come to life again. Nobody has ever found that bird. You will find illustrations given from ~~the~~ science that anybody can look at and say how absurd. We know a little more now than they knew and we know that that isn't so. Any human writing is ~~filled with~~ ^{filled with} ~~the~~ ^{of} expressions ~~of~~ the thought of the time, which a later age finds to be erroneous. But the Bible does not contain those expressions. When the Bible deals with science or with history, it deals ~~w~~ correctly with it. That doesn't mean of course that the writer knew all about these things. The Lord Jesus Christ did, he knew all about everything. But Paul didn't, and David didn't. They doubtless had a number of erroneous scientific and historic ideas ~~in~~ in their minds, but the Holy Spirit prevented those ideas from finding expression in illustration, in analogy, in reference of any sort in the words ~~which they wrote~~ ~~in~~ in those particular books that it was God's will should be part of His inspired Word. Inspiration then is verbal and plenary. It is something which applies to the words that ~~were~~ ^{are} used.

Well, now, I'm going to interchange what I had jotted down as 6th and 7th points, 6, then, would be inspiration means that the Bible is subject to the limitation of human words. I don't know as that's a very good expression of that, but I want to tell you what I mean by it. People often have the idea that inspiration means this, that the Bible is as if someone ~~were~~ were to go up in an airplane, a thousand miles above the earth, and were to have the most wonderful camera with which they could take a picture that would show the whole earth, and then you would have this picture before you and you could take a microscope and examine any part of it and see everything on it.