

God oversaw the writing of the Bible. He guided the writers so that their word would convey exactly the thought he wished conveyed. He kept it from error in the original manuscript. The Bible is God's Word and we can believe the Bible. True faith then is a faith which takes what is in the Bible and accept it as true. We can have faith in God's Word. However, merely to believe that the thoughts recorded in the Bible are true, does not give us salvation. Faith is not a mere happy glow. ^{This does not give us a mere happy glow.} We have to see what is in the work, and when we see it, our first reaction can be one of ^{even of} disappointment and anguish.

~~Thus we see~~ We find that the Bible deals with man, takes man apart and shows the wickedness of his nature, shows him the evil that is within. It puts a mirror to us and shows our true (12 1/2)

Everyone of us can see that the people around us have great faults, we can see their limitations, the Bible gives us a mirror to show that we have the same faults and the same limitations. It tells us that these faults must lead to eternal death if something is not done to deliver us from them. But we read in Rev. 21:8, about at the end of the Bible, that the fearful and unbelieving, the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death. What a terrible fate for those who continue in their sin. It is not enough to believe that the Bible is true, we must find some way of escape from the results of our sin. ~~For~~ Sin leads to death but the Bible tells us that we can escape this fate through faith in Christ. Thus we read in John 3:14 that Jesus Christ said of Himself that as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have eternal life. While the Israelites were coming through the wilderness, we read in the book of numbers there were a great number of poisonous snakes that began to cause them --to do great damage among them. Then God told Moses to take a copper serpent and put it up on a pole, and to tell the people that whenever anyone would be bit by one of these serpents if he would look toward the serpent on the pole he would be delivered from the effect of the poison. This ~~was~~ done as an illustration to show how