

~~The~~ ^{is sometimes} the idea of ~~determination~~ determinism, carried to a logical extreme, ^{that we} all know that this is not true. We do have choices to make on many matters, ⁱⁿ many ~~places~~ ^{points} where we know that we could have made a different choice, and that if we had made a different choice a different result would ^{have} occurred. Some ~~philosophers~~ philosophers choose one extreme here; some choose another. Some try to find an explanation that fits both together and no such explanation has ever been found.

~~There~~ ^{is} a mystery, ~~here~~, a mystery that God understands but we do not, ~~understand.~~

We believe that God has ordained all things that ~~come~~ come to pass. Yet we also believe that we have real choices to make and that the ~~choice~~ ^{choices} we make ~~is~~ very important in determining the results that will follow. REcognition of the fact that God has determined all things is a great benefit to the Chn° in giving him confidence and encouragement. He knows that his heavenly Father holds everything in His hands, ~~and~~ ^{we} have nothing to fear because God loves us and will not allow anything to happen except it is for our good. Thus ~~what~~ what is often called Calvinism can be of great encouragement, ^{it} and is certainly ~~definitely~~ taught in Scripture, and I believe we should hold to it. Yet I believe that ~~is a believe~~ ^{it} that it is a source of comfort, encouragement and blessing to the Chn°, rather than something on which we should draw lines and ~~exclude~~ ^{should} exclude individuals from our fellowship. Some carry the idea of Calvinism so far that it becomes fatalism or determinism. They therefore consider it wrong to give invitations or to try to urge individuals to accept the Gospel. ~~gospel.~~ ^{you} This clearly not the attitude of Paul who said in 2 Corinthians 5:20, "we pray/in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." It was clearly not the attitude of Christ who said in Luke 13:33-34 13:34: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which illest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen doth gather her bood under her wings, and ~~ye~~ ye would not!"

Philosophy, ^{method} recognizes the presence of two facts ^{that} which seem to us to be irreconcilable. ^{and} yet both are true.

It always pains me when someone on seeing someone else recognizing one of the