

or out of relation to the teachings of other portions of Scripture, or merely taken out of the air. One common cause of error has been the tendency to insist that a word in the Scripture must always have the same ~~meaning~~ meaning wherever it occurs. This is contrary to the nature of words, particularly in a book which was written over a long period of time by many different people. There is no contradiction between the thoughts of Scripture, but there are many verbal contradictions if one tries to insist that a word must always have the same meaning in every place. The word law is used with various meanings. These meanings can generally be understood quite clearly in the light of context. The faith is used in very different senses by Paul and by James. The difference is clearly understood by most Bible interpreters as it is plain in the light on context. However, these facts are forgotten when other~~x~~ truths ~~wa~~ are investigated, and the attempt is made to make on word or one phrase always have the same meaning in Scripture. It is common to take(a)preconceived idea and read them into Scripture or fasten them upon it. Thus there are large areas of Systematic Theology in which there is needed a great deal of careful thought, and study.

Still more important is the fact that large areas of Systematic Theology have never really been carefully worked out by the Christian Church. I am using the word theology in a broader sense now. I am speaking of those matters that are taught in the Bible whether they relate to the nature of God or to matters of far more mundane character. Since the Bible is the Word of God and entirely true we can be sure that contains a tremendous amount of truth on many different types of matter, yet the attempt to go to the Bible and see what it teaches on these matters while being careful not to read into it something that it does not teach has been sadly neglected. People jump to conclusions or adopt attitudes simply because they were followed by their parents or by church leaders of earlier days without going to the Scripture, and making a really careful examination. There are many people who talk a great deal about the inerrancy of the Scripture and about its importance as a source of == as the only source of Divine truth who never spend much time carefully examining its statements in the original, comparing Scripture with Scripture, and trying to determine