6/6/83 Institute Talk #2

reference to the deity of Christ at any time until within this last century.

Similarly Chrstians have always said they believed in the inspiration of the Bible. Coleridge said spoke somewhat as follows: "I believe that the Bible is inspired because it inspires me, and those parts of it aremost inspiring are most inspired which inspire me the most." Thus the word "inspiration" came to mean simply presenting valuable ideas. This was certainly was not what was meant by it as used in Christian history before. Christians began to try to show what they menat by saying that they believed in verbal inspiration, because there were many who waid, "We believe in inspiration, but it is the ideas that are inspired, not the words."

Right at this point a little clrainication would be valuable. The ideas in Scripture come from various sources. Many of them represent a direct revelation from God. God that is to say, God gave an idea, communicated an idea to the wxithex writers writer of the Scripture and the writer put it down, the xx idea that he had received. In other parts of the &xx Scripture a writer puts down what he has observed or experienced. In still other parts This should include ideas that he has come to as a result of his observation and meditation. Although these were not given to him as revelation from God, if he expesses them in language which conveys a true idea and upon which God sets His seal of His approval as part of His inspirted book, Book, then we can say that they are indeed to us a revelation from God. The whole Bible, thus we can say, is a revelation or a communication from God.

This word "revelation" refers to ;ideas. The word "inspiration," as properly used, refers not to ideas, but to expression to the words used to express those ideas. When we say we believe in the inspiration of Scripture we mean that

[hereinsert the definition]

This is what we mean by inspiration. It xxxxxxx refers to words . It means that these words express the ideas contained in the that can properly present God's