

## Prophets 15.

Well I couldn't give the proportion. Just off hand I would/<sup>not</sup> think that more than a quarter of the Bible was given, "Thus saith the Lord", the actual words of the Lord, but I would say that the whole thing was written by inspiration of the Holy Spirit and was free from error and so it's God's Word to us. All of it is dependable but when a prophet or when a writer describes how Abraham left Ur of the Chaldees and came to Haran and how he left Haran and came to Palestine, I believe Abraham simply wrote it

down as it happened. I don't think that God revealed it. I think it is simply an account of what happened but I think the Holy Spirit kept the writer from error so that it is a true and account and it is the of God to us. Mr. --- did you have a question?

(Student) I think that it is very difficult to draw the exact line there. I think that inspiration is predominantly negative but not exclusively negative. There are these positive elements in it. The Lord selected the men who were to write. He prepared these men from their birth, for the task of writing. He directed the activities of their lives and the experiences that they would have. He gave them certain definite direct revelations and He generally oversaw that which was to be included in the writings but He left a large measure of freedom so that we have human personalities expressed in the book. We have the style of Mark and the style of Luke, which are extremely different styles of writing. We have the approach of Isaiah and the approach of Jeremiah, which are very different approaches, and yet all are part of God's message to us, and all are kept from error in their present/ment.

That is, there are a great many other elements entering into it which relate to inspiration, which are positive but inspiration itself to my mind is quite largely negative; that is, it keeps the writer from putting in what he writes any words or ideas which would suggest anything that is erroneous as to fact, as to doctrine or as to subject, so that there is a very large negative element in it but there are also those positive elements, and; of course, the result is something which is the positive word of God to us, but when we say it's the word of God to us I think it is very/<sup>vital</sup> to recognize we mean it is free from error, we mean that it contains exactly that which the Lord wishes us to have, but I don't think it means that every little tiny distinction in it necessarily is the only way it could have been given. I think there are cases where of two words either would be equally , and the fact that one and not the other was used is not in itself