

There will be those who have been circumcised and then those that have been taken out of amongst the Gentiles. That would prove that it was His will that there be Gentiles saved during this age that wouldn't have to become Jews. "As it is written"--what does that mean--is that a direct quotation? It would seem that it means that I am now referring you to a passage with a connection with what I am saying. A good bit of it may be a direct quotation but it is not necessarily saying that every single word that is given is part of the quotation. In the study of N.T. quotations I have found that people very often misunderstand the meaning of the N.T. quotation and the meaning of the O.T. because they try to draw the precise meaning from the exact words that are used in the quotation and I have seen statements by godly writers--one I am thinking of said that verbal inspiration is proved by the fact--that the N.T. bases a whole argument upon one word of the O.T. It bases it upon a Heb. form being in the present and not in the past tense; it bases it upon the seed being in the singular and not in the plural and that word has no plural. (That passage about past and present had no verb at all) He said that, and he had about six cases where there was one single word or tense--I looked up all the cases and didn't find one in which I felt the argument was based on one point of the original. I have found this--that instance after instance, where at first sight because the N.T. says about the O.T. therefore this is true--it goes on to give you a discussion and you look at these three or four words--you wonder how that proves it. If you get back to the context of the O.T. and see what the O.T. writer is saying and put the subject that he is talking about, you find the teaching that he is there giving, is exactly the foundation of the matter which the N.T. is presenting. It is the thoughts of the N.T. rather than the precise words that is the basis of the argument. When we say that we believe in verbal inspiration, we don't mean there is something particularly holy about these particular sounds, or there is something in this particular word from which it is possible to get a correct interpretation and no other, but we mean the words are the words so chosen to convey the correct idea and not to convey erroneous ideas, but to be sure of the correct idea we usually have to compare Scripture with Scripture--the ideas are the truth and not the word. The words are a human attempt, in as far as human words would permit, to express ideas and so the N.T. writer discusses an idea and he bases upon the discussion of an idea based on the O.T. and very