

call  
 it means. While he is doing so he hears that some gentiles have come to ~~hear~~ for him. That God has told them that - that God has communicated to them that they will find Peter at this place and that He will come and give them God's message. While God has been revealing to Cornelius where he shall send to get the Word of God that he needs, he sends to Peter the thought that even though these are Gentiles, if God cleanses them they are no longer common and he should make no distinction between them and the Jews. The thought was one that went against Peter's whole background and training. It could not be revealed simply in a few words. He would not have taken it. God used the message to get the idea into his mind. Revelation is often difficult. Sometimes it is hard to understand. Sometimes one understands a revelation more than another. Sometimes we hear a revelation many times/ before the meaning finally dawns upon us. However it is an objective fact that the one who gives us the communication has a definite idea in mind which he is trying to communicate to us. God similarly communicates ideas to Paul, to Peter, to other writers. The book of Hebrews begins with the words, "God at many times and many places spoke to the prophets and now He has spoken through His son." Jesus Christ was God. <sup>As</sup> He walked about on this earth people saw him, observed what He did, observed His character and His attitudes, and through this they learned the mind of God. This was a very special way of revelation and yet a very definite way.

Revelation is one of the commonest facts of life and yet it is something which we do not fully understand. There's nothing unique about this. Most of the common experiences of life are difficult to understand. We observe them. We believe in them. But we don't understand them. Practically any process of science, of life, contains elements which we merely accept because we see that they happen but we do not fully understand how they do happen.

Now we've seen that as far as the method of giving the message is concerned the Bible contains revelations from God to the writers. That is, it is very clear that this is what the Bible claims to do. That is contains to include communication. The word revelation is quite generally confined to the sense of Divine revelation - the communication of ideas from God. The word inspiration (the other word which is used in this connection) is properly used in a technical sense related to revelation but yet different from it.

As an illustration of the difference between revelation and inspiration in the Biblical