

letters is apt to dictate them. The one to whom it is dictated simply writes down the words that are given. If a man could not do this why could not God do it. As a matter of fact the Bible teaches that God did do it to some extent. The ten commandments it says were ~~specifically~~ specifically dictated by God. The claims of the prophets regarding certain of their utterances has come mighty close to dictation. God said to Isaiah, "Go and see Ahaz and say certain words to him." Isaiah went and spoke to Ahaz. Ahaz made an answer and then we read, "The Lord said", and we get a further revelation of the words which God desired Isaiah to say to Ahaz. The Bible would seem to contain portions that are definitely dictated.

Yet regarding the greater part of the Bible it does not teach that it was specifically dictated. It does teach that the thoughts came from God. That God ^{led ?} read the writers in their expressions of them. That the books as written are just as much the Word of God and just as free from errors as if God had dictated them, but it does not teach that this is the way God gave the Bible. As we look at the Bible we find that there is a great difference between the style of Isaiah and the style of Jeremiah. We find that Paul's ~~style~~ style and Peter's style ~~and many~~ vary greatly. We find that John and Luke have a very different style - a strikingly different style. We can feel the personality of the human writer as we read what he says, and yet we are taught that it is the Word of God. God inspired the writer in such a way as to keep his words from error and cause them to present the ideas that God presented. But while doing it He allowed the human personality to have free play so that the man's own vocabulary was used, the man's own method of expression was used. You feel the personality of the human writer even though you have something that is kept from error just as truly as if God had dictated the precise words.

The process by which God inspired the writers can be divided into certain steps. In the first place God selected the writers. He told Jeremiah he'd been selected from before his birth for the work which God had for him to do and a very definite part of this work was passing on the Word of God. God prepared the writers, gave them specific training. He put Moses through a long course of training before He began to use Moses as His spokesman. Then God directed the ~~writers~~ writers in the selection of material that they were to use and in the general ideas - selection of ideas ^{which} ~~that~~ they were to present

last part of record hard to hear.