

for a moment that the Bible was from the beginning, and that everyone had a Bible. What good would such a book be to a man or woman who could not read? "Well," they say, "we will hire a man and let him read the Bible for them." Ah, ha! What do you say about that? You are poor; you have to earn your bread by the sweat of your brow. Now, our Protestant friends tell you you must hire a man to read the Bible for you! But you say you haven't money enough to hire a man. Well, then, if that is the case, you have no alternative; you have got to go to hell.

You see how unreasonable this is. But let us suppose more than this. Let us suppose that every man and every woman has a Bible, and that every one knows how to read, although even here in the United States there are about twelve millions of people who do not know how to read or write, and if you take the whole population of the world, you will find that more than one-half of the people living cannot read at all. What use is that book to them? But let us suppose that all know how to read; even then the Bible could not be their guide and teacher, for the Bible was originally written in Hebrew and in Greek. You do not understand Hebrew and Greek, and, therefore, you could not read the Bible in the language in which it was first written. "Oh, yes, sir," you say, "we have the Bible translated in all the languages of the world." How do you know the translation? For, if it be a wrong translation, a faulty translation, it is not the word of God. How shall you ascertain that the Bible you have in the English language is a true and faithful translation? "Well," you say, "of course we have to depend upon the opinion of the learned." And what does the learned world tell you about