

The only answer that can be given to this, is that it is not true. It is one of the joys of the Christian life to know that the Father of Spirits draws near to every one of His children, and that through all ages the Spirit of God has prompted men to words and deeds, which have been for the world's betterment, and which at the last day will be seen to have been inspired by Him. We may also confidently believe that multitudes to-day are moved more or less by the Holy Spirit in their utterances and works. He has promised to take of the things of Christ and show them to every believer, but as Dr. W. Robertson Nicoll has said, "No revelation of God has been given or will be given in addition to that given within the covers of the Bible. No Christian knows anything about God but what has been already written in His word. The most beautiful thought ever suggested by the profoundest Christian mind will be found quietly folded in some word of Jesus, or in some utterance of Prophet or Apostle. The Bible is final." This implies that the men who wrote the Bible were not only summoned into special nearness to God, but that the Spirit of God prompted and guided their writings in such a way as to make their record faithful and adequate for all time. At the same time the language, imagery and forms of expression are in each case what we might expect from the education, temperament, and social position of the writer. The sacred penmen, so far from being passive machines in whom every human element was obliterated, are to be regarded as chosen just because they possessed certain natural gifts, and that when chosen, these gifts were illuminated and vitalized in such a way as to qualify the writer for his particular work. This is usually called the *dynamic theory of Inspiration*, and though not free from difficulties, it meets more fully than any other, all the conditions of the case.

As to the precise manner in which God conveyed His thoughts to the human mind, we know nothing.

The writers themselves are either silent altogether, or use some material image. But this want of information need create no surprise. May it not be that as the constant exercise of any human faculty leads to higher degrees of delicacy and