

the words of the prophets" (25 : 16). "The prophets prophesy in my name" (14 : 14).

And Jeremiah himself was openly accused of being a false prophet (Jer. 43 : 2). Ezekiel (13 : 4) says : "O Israel, thy prophets are like the foxes of the desert."

According to your lecture, these passages are just as much inspired as any other parts of the Bible. Do you explain them by citing the case of Ahab, where God himself put a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets that Ahab might be enticed to his death. Will this avail you as an argument to prove the inspiration of the Bible ?

In speaking of the revision of the Bible, you say : "Some learned men, after working for a number of years on the revision of the New Testament, finished their work. Having inserted a few modern words instead of others which had become obsolete, made some slight corrections of errors in translation, and rectified from ancient manuscripts some little errors that had been made by copyists in transcribing," etc. According to this, the errors are both few and unimportant.

Prof. Moses Stewart, of Andover, says, in speaking of this matter in relation to the Old Testament, that in the Hebrew MSS. that have been examined "some 800,000 various readings actually occur as to the Hebrew consonants ; how many as to the vowel points and accents no man knows."

As to the New Testament, Christian *scholars* admit that the various readings of the manuscripts to which we are indebted for our text are so numerous as to be almost beyond computation. First, we heard of 20,000 various readings, then 30,000, then 50,000, till in the collection of MSS. for the Griesback edition as many as 150,000 were discovered. What does this prove ? Just this. That you intentionally misled those who listened to your lecture. It proves that the Bible is imperfect and fallible and is of human origin ; that it is not a revelation from God, and that no amount of assertion or assumption on the part of interested hypocrites can make it so ; and it shows us that *ignorance is the great bulwark and fortress of faith.*

Many men and most women, though completely ignorant of the very rudiments of Biblical criticism, historical research, or scientific knowledge ; though they have never read a single