

the fountain head. There were some things in the Old Testament which he did not believe ; some things in the writing of Paul with which he did not agree, and so he just preached from the gospels. It was not very long before he gave even those up, and that man is now out of the pulpit and gone to utter ruin. He was one of the most prominent men in our country about ten years ago, and had a large following. I believe the reason of his downfall was that he began to lose confidence in some portions of the Word of God. Let us hold on to the whole of it. "But what do you do with what you do not understand?" they ask me. I do nothing with it; I leave it. I am thankful that I cannot understand it all. If I could understand it all it would be the best proof to me that it had not a Divine origin. I am glad there are heights to which I cannot climb, depths to which I cannot fathom. That is one of the strongest proofs that it is of Divine origin. But people say, "Do you believe things you cannot understand?" Lots of them. I am not going to be wiser than Scripture. I pity the man who thinks he knows it all, and if he comes across something he does not understand he throws it aside. In the book of Matthew alone there are over 100 quotations. You will therefore see how absurd it is to attempt to believe the New Testament and not believe the old; not mere phrases, but sometimes a whole block from the Old Testament is taken and placed in the New. There are only 89 chapters in the four gospels, and those contain 140 quotations from the Old Testament. In Paul's letter to the Corinthians there are 53 quotations; in Revelations there are 245 quotations from the Old Testament. So if you are going to throw out any portion of the Bible the whole book must go. Let us make up our minds not only to believe the Bible, but to stand up for it, and to preach from it, in season and out of season. It was Voltaire who said that it took twelve Galilean fishermen to build up Christ's kingdom, but he would show them that one French infidel could tear it down. Yet the very press on which his book was printed is now used to print the Bible. The Bible Society now prints 500 Bibles for every working hour of the day. There have been more Bibles turned out within the last seventy years than in the 1800 years before. Suppose some prophet at the time of Christ had told them what was going to happen this century, they would have thought it a greater miracle than any of that day. Yet we are living right in the midst of this blessed work. There are fourteen hundreds of millions of people in the world, and the British and Foreign and the American Bible Societies alone have turned out two hundred million Bibles, and that has all been done within the present century. Suppose when Christ said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away," there had been some one like one of our Free Thinkers of the present day at his side. He would have said, "Hear this fellow talk. There is no man of influence among his followers, no short-hand reporters follow him to take down his words." But His words have not passed away. They dropped into the hearts of his hearers, and they are spread abroad more to-day than they ever were before. There is not a prodigal that does not know the 15th of Luke; there is barely anybody but knows the parable of the good Samaritan. He drew those pictures so that they can never be forgotten. When the new version of the New Testament was brought out, it was published in London and in New York on the same day. Chicago wanted it. The fastest train could not bring it in less than twenty-six hours, so they had it telegraphed every word and letter, and printed next day in a daily paper, and people of all races and creeds were buying the New Testament on the street and reading it. If anybody had said in the time of Christ, and a great deal later, that that would be done, he would have been laughed at for a fool; but it was done. It is a grand thing to have the Bible. My experience is that where the Bible is studied there is very little backsliding. What this world wants is the Word of God. It is a grand sight to see the people come here with their Bibles, although we cannot use them at this practical convention