

languages used by "holy men who spake from God as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." It is this speaking from God, the consciousness of being the mouthpiece of the Almighty that gives masterful authority to our message. Hence God says, "Hear the word at my mouth and give them warning from me. All my words that I shall speak unto thee receive into thine heart and hear with thine ears. And go, get thee to them of the captivity, unto the children of thy people and speak unto them, Thus saith the Lord, whether they will hear, or whether they will forbear." God-inspired sermons of this sort are always powerful and all others are worse than useless. God lays appalling emphasis both in the old and the New Testament upon the sin of any lack of fidelity to this high commission. The prophets who devised their own messages, and treated the people in the name of the Lord to pleasant and brilliant specimens of inventive genius are denounced as liars and deceivers. "Woe unto the foolish prophets that follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing. They have seen vanity and lying divination, that say, The Lord saith: and the Lord hath not sent them. Because ye have spoken vanity and seen lies, therefore, I am against you, saith the Lord God."

Now, let none of you imagine that this is merely Old Testament doctrine which has become obsolete by lapse of time. No. It is affirmed with even greater emphasis by Christ and his apostles. You remember how He declared that the good seed of the kingdom is the word, and that man's spiritual life and growth must be sustained thereby. 'Man cannot live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.' With unmistakable plainness and force he condemned perverters of the truth, false teachers, as ravening wolves in sheep's clothing. And in spite of their cunning efforts to appear innocent and their solemn declarations that they prophesied and cast out devils and wrought many wonderful works in his name, he assures us that in the great day of judgment he "will profess unto them, I never knew you; depart