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enter upon this destructive and uncertain path yourself, by what right are you at liberty to torture the flock which you were to kindly lead into the truth, and to build up and edify by leading the tender conscience into such an investigation?

God has written His Book so that he that runneth may read. He has most unmistakably recognized the rights of the unlearned. He made the unlearned Peter and his companions the recipients of His message, the Word of Life, to hold and to distribute. For this I bless God, and thankfully, as one of the unlearned, claim my right to take His Word as He gave it as the Word of Truth, of Life and Light; without any intermixture of error, and without any permission to add to it or to reject any portion of it.

Why should so much be quite unnecessarily given away in connection with the Bible? In our profession we would call this mode of dealing the giving away of our case. It is a matter in which constantly those unskilled have to be checked. In presenting the side on which they would claim success it is necessary to prevent the making of admissions which when carried to the legitimate conclusion virtually abandon that on which they apparently would desire to succeed. As an instance of this mode of dealing with the Bible take two or three illustrations:

It is said that no person believes that the Holy Spirit dictated to Paul in 2 Tim. iv. 13, "The cloak that I left at Troas with Carpus when thou comest bring with thee." I may here say that I object *in toto* to the use of the word "dictation" or "dictate" in this connection. The Holy Spirit does not dictate. He inspires. He prepares the heart to receive and then fills with His message. His sweet, soft influence is not dictation. I have never doubted the inspiration of this part of the Word and do not doubt it to day. The Father of Love looked down upon His beloved servant in jail suffering for his testimony. He saw his needs; the poor shattered frame; his forgetfulness of self; and breathed this kind, loving thought, showing forth His care. Is He not the Comforter? How gladly we contemplate Him; not only enlightening the soul, but, leading in the little everyday matters of life. A