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## SHUT IN.

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**S**HUT in, but not alone ;  
Who closed the door, Himself is here,  
Speaking in words of heavenly cheer,  
And calling me His own.

I see the clouds sail by,  
Like silent ships on silent seas ;  
But winds and clouds their Sovereign please,  
Their path is marked on high.

God's will is in the rain,  
The seasons of the rounding year ;  
It glistens in the falling tear ;  
God's will is in my pain,

So in that will I rest ;  
His loving hand makes all my bed,  
And on that hand I lay my head,  
Remembered, loved and blest.

The Sabbath comes and goes,  
Bringing its hush of peace, its silent calm ;  
But not for me the temple psalm—  
Yet this my Father knows.

He giveth songs at night,  
And through the day sweet anthems roll  
Within the chancel of the soul  
Lo him who maketh all bright.

I dare not then repine,  
But wait to do the Father's will,  
Bidding my doubts and fears be still ;  
" My times " are His, not mine.  
—*Christian Advocate.*

## ON WHAT AUTHORITY ARE THE NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES ACCEPTED AS INSPIRED, OR TRUTHFUL?

**V**ERY few orthodox Christians have even asked these questions let alone examined carefully into them. It is presumed to be of the essence of daring impiety to do so, and so superstitious fears are responsible for the ignorance concerning the subject which exists on every hand.

But as we who have commenced to walk in the Spirit are freed from these superstitious fears, as also from undue rever-

ence of traditional teaching, we can not only ask the questions which are the heading of this article with unblanched faces but proceed to investigate for the answers with perfect ease of mind.

Taking the first question, viz., that of inspiration, we will find the answer to be somewhat startling to many, for it will be found, after the most exhaustive investigation, to be built on pure assumptions; that is when we discuss concerning the definitions of inspiration which are accepted as orthodox.

The essence of these definitions consists in the idea that these scriptures are *authoritative* teachings for the world, that all men must look upon them as deliverances from Heaven for the regulation of individuals and nations down to the end of time, and moreover that they are the only deliverances that ever will be given to man for such purpose, whether in his individual or corporate capacity.

This ponderous demand certainly ought to have a broad undoubted foundation on which to rest, and we have a right to ask all manner of questions concerning it, and not only ask the questions but also critically examine the answers to our questions.

Did Jesus Christ teach the inspiration of the New Testament scriptures? He certainly did not. There is not only no direct statement of His to this effect but not even any indirect evidence of such statement.

The only utterance of His which by any kind of twisting can possibly be made to sanction such a thought is in His last charge to His disciples, as related by Matthew: "Go ye therefore, and make