

wax worse and worse. The saints needed a sure ground to go upon ; a resting-place for their hearts somewhere. Besides personal confidence in Paul, which we have only in his writing, the apostle continues, "and that from a child thou hast known the holy Scriptures which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All (every) Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." Now here, when the resource of a soul in a dangerous and distracting time had to be furnished, what was it? The holy Scriptures, the holy writings. Forgeries are not holy, they are very unholy, whatever pious frauds may be in them ; and certainly they are not a resource in dangerous times. It is a knowledge of it as a child takes it, a known resource of authority over the mind ; next, it is not partial. All (or more exactly, 'every') Scripture is (*theopneustos*, literally, 'God breathed') given by inspiration of God.

It is said, it is the Old Testament here. Be it so. The part attacked as legends and frauds is inspired. But it is not so. It is an assertion of what the true character of all Scripture is ; whatever has a claim to that title (the prophetic Scriptures spoken of, Romans xvi.), they are given by inspiration of God, and sufficient to make the man of God perfect..