

then you undertake to prove its inspiration from its own pages." This is not so. The authenticity, credibility and integrity of Scripture do not rest upon the assumption of its inspiration, but upon well established principles of historical and grammatical research. These being practically settled, it cannot justly be called a logical fallacy to examine what the Bible has to say with regard to the nature of the influence under which it has been written.

It is needless to multiply instances to show that the Old Testament writers claimed to speak under the guidance of the Spirit. "The word of the Lord" came to all of them—to Moses and David, as well as to the official prophets. But more than all, it is impossible to set aside the witness of our Lord Himself to the Old Testament. He claimed for its utterances the authorship and authority of the Holy Spirit, and He appealed to these utterances with absolute deference. To say that He was voluntarily ignorant of its true value, is to strike at the very root of His claim upon our reverence as the Son of God.

As to the New Testament itself, we find that though our Lord committed no words to writing, yet on at least four different occasions, He promises to his disciples the assistance of the Holy Ghost. If these promises be severally examined they will be seen to agree in stating that in every exercise of their office, the substance of their statements would be given to them. This was the sense in which the Apostles afterwards understood their office and in this spirit they worked, never hesitating to claim Divine authority for what they spoke and wrote.

That the Bible is not a fortuitous collection of scattered writings, but an organized, living whole, has often been shown, and it seems to me a strong argument in proof of Divine inspiration. Although written by men belonging to different ages, of different ranks, and living in different conditions of society, yet the sum-total of their writings possesses a remarkable unity. The individual worker could not know the place he occupied on the walls, or what relation his part of the work bore to the great structure as a whole, yet each