

talking with a bigoted man will in all probability agree with this statement. What more pitiable sight than to see a minister who believes, and acts up to his belief, that no creed and no church except his own can be of any use in the advancement of the kingdom of God. The secret of such a man's bigotry will be found to lie in his ignorance of the great principles taught in the word of God. If then we believe that the character of God and the great principles of His government are taught in the Bible, and if we further believe that it is only when the principles become part of the fibre of a man's nature, are we not naturally led to consider that most important question, How shall we discover them? The miner, in his search for gold, requires not only a knowledge of how he shall get at the crude material, but when he has found that, he feels his need of the knowledge of a refining process which will enable him to secure the precious metal in its purity. In like manner, the theologian, in his search for underlying principles, finds himself, like the miner, in need of a key, which in his case is nothing less than a thorough knowledge of the Hebrew and Greek languages.

This conclusion is not wholly on *a priori* grounds, but we are further impressed of the truth of it by the fact that different ministers and different professors give different interpretations of the various relations described in the Bible. This, so far from being detrimental to us as students, we believe to be to our advantage; it shows the honesty and individuality of the various interpreters. The only danger is lest we should lack the required training or the power of discrimination to such a degree that we would not be able to study the Scriptures in the original and to settle for ourselves their teaching on the important doctrines, on which every minister and every man should be able to give a reason for the hope that is in him. It is true that the whole Bible presents a field so large as almost to cause one to despair, but earnestness, honesty and diligence may secure for us that strong conviction of the truth that will enable us to go forth and preach it with power. Let the men, who realize the importance of this question, remember that the movement of the