

b. Several things in the view are inconsistent with the doctrine of verbal inspiration.

1) The interpretation of Psalm 72:20.

-Perowne's interpretation of this verse is that it was written by "the men of Hezekiah" when they compiled Book II because they thought they had all the Psalms of David in their possession. According to this interpretation, there is an "error of fact" in this verse because there are Davidic Psalms in Books III, IV and V which were compiled after Book II.

-Since the doctrine of verbal inspiration makes no allowance for an "error of fact" in the Bible, this interpretation is inconsistent with it.

-Possible alternative interpretation of Psa. 72:20,
"The prayers of David are ended."

"Ended" is ^{לָמַד} in Hebrew (Pual). The stem in the Piel means "accomplish, bring to an end, or fulfilled". If we take the Perfect tense as prophetic, Psa. 72:20 can be translated:

"The prayers of David will be fulfilled."

-Idea: Solomon, the author of Psa. 72, is predicting in the Psalm that David's greater son will have a universal reign. David's prayers (2 Sam. 7:25-29) will be fulfilled (answered) when the universal reign of the Messiah is established.

2) The explanation for the variations in the Psalms which appear to be repeated.

-Perowne's explanation for these variations is that they are due either to accidental changes brought about by the oral transmission of the original Psalms, or to deliberate changes brought about by adapting the original Psalms to new circumstances or to express particular feelings. According to this explanation, the Psalms which appear to be repeated are simply corrupt forms of the original Psalms, and are not verbally inspired.

-Since the doctrine of verbal inspiration extends to "all Scripture", this explanation is inconsistent with it.

-Perowne accounts for the differences on a human basis.
-Modifications under inspiration are possible.

-Conscious modification is not essential: It is also possible that the different Psalms were each written from scratch by the same author, who used similar words and expressions when expressing similar ideas because it was a part of his style.