

iced a letter in the magazine from Dr. Trumbull, who was then editor of the Sunday School Times, He pointed out in his letter, that no one of these books had ever been lost, now had there ever been serious question of putting them into the Bible. Beneath his letter, there was a statement to subscriber Trumbull, thanks to Time's advertising department, a well-deserved rebuke. Nevertheless, I know the ad continued to appear in subsequent weeks.

The attitude which the Christian Church through the ages has taken toward the Bible is that it is composed of books which were written by men who were inspired of God for the purpose, and which were intended to be authoritative from the very time of their writing. Christians have never held that these men were gods, or that they were infallible in all their statements. It has only been held that they were kept from error in that which they wrote to be part of the Holy Scriptures. We have books by Peter and we have books by Paul. We read in Galatians how Paul withstood Peter to the face. The two of them had a sharp argument. Certainly, in this argument, they could not both have been right. One must have said things that were correct, and the other must have said things that were wrong. We do not believe that everything that a writer of the Scripture ever said was true. What Christians believe is that that which the Holy Spirit led them to write in the Bible was kept from error, and that the many erroneous ideas that were in their minds were not allowed to enter into the writing of the Holy Scripture.

Intelligent Christians have never held that the Holy Spirit simply dictated the contents of the Scriptures. Modernists like to attack Christianity by saying that this is what Christians believe, and then trying to tear it to pieces by showing that there are different styles in the different books, and that there is a feeling of the personality of the different writers. It has never been held by the Christian church that God simply dictated the Scriptures. We believe that He dictated portions of it. When it says "The Lord spoke unto me", or "The Lord said", and then it gives something which came directly from the Lord, we believe we have something which God dictated to the prophets. God often spoke through the mouths of His prophets, as He revealed Himself to them. However, the greater part of the Scripture is certainly not dictated