

than a year old he has learned how to turn on the radio and make it start playing. Time after time he would hit it just right, but one day I played a mean trick on him. I pulled out the cord. He did this and that, twisting first one dial and then another. That is exactly the religious situation in the world today. People are twisting this dial and that, but they have lost the connection. If you don't have the connection you will get nowhere, and the connection is the Word of God. We have to have God's Word if we are to learn facts in the religious field. As the Confession says, general revelation is not "sufficient to give that knowledge of God and of His will, which is necessary unto salvation".

So the section goes on, and says "that "therefore it pleased the Lord, at sundry times, and in divers manners, to reveal himself, and to declare that his will unto his church; and afterwards, for the better preserving and propagating of the truth, and for the more sure establishment and comfort of the church against the corruption of the flesh, and the malice of Satan and of the world, to commit the same wholly unto writing; which maketh the Holy Scripture to be most necessary; those former ways of God's revealing His will unto His people being now ceased".

In the section which we have just read we notice that two aspects of the giving of the Bible are described. First, it is stated that God revealed His truth in various ways in the past, and second, that He chose to commit the same wholly unto writing".

It is rather important to distinguish these two aspects. We call them revelation and inspiration. Revelation is the communication from one personality to another. ~~Parts of the Bible were given by direct revelation from God.~~ Inspiration is not, like revelation, a common occurrence in daily life. Just as divine revelation, in the sense of direct special revelation from God to an individual, has now ceased, so has inspiration ceased, in the sense in which it is applied to Scripture.