

every day, and also the institution of prophesyings at which people would come together to <sup>show with</sup> give one another the result of their study of the Word of God.

Calvin was never one to feel that words of the Bible taken out of their context had any <sup>magical</sup> natural or supernatural significance. He felt that the Bible was a reasonable book to be interpreted according to intelligent principles; therefore, he was much interested ~~in the background~~, in the historical background of each section with which he dealt. He pays particular attention to the time at which a book was written and to the political situation and notes its relation to the reigning monarch.

Calvin felt that it was necessary to give much attention to the exact meaning of words and phrases. Neither the Latin nor the French Bible was to him inspired. It was the Bible in the original Hebrew and Greek, which was the true Word of God. Translations might be helpful in order to cover larger sections for rapid study than could be done in the original, yet for careful and exact interpretation it was necessary that the exact words of the original be carefully studied. Frequently, Calvin brings to us interesting points which he derives from his careful study of the original languages, and a striking feature of his work on the minor prophets is the inclusion of a new translation which he made of each of these twelve books.

Calvin would have agreed with the statement that a text without a context is only a pretext." ~~He goes through~~ In his commentaries he goes through books step by step and verse by verse, noting the relation of the sections to each other. It is only thus that we can truly learn the meaning of the Word of God.

Another

One refreshing feature of the work of Calvin is his insistence that we should stand upon a solid foundation and should not draw fanciful and superficial interpretations from the Scripture. He stresses ~~that~~ the importance