

some ideas on this, I hope he'll say something about this. And that established that I had a chance to answer everything that he was asked. So for the rest of the evening each of us spoke on each question that was asked. It was most interesting and conducted in a most courteous way. That is each one sitting on the front row while the other one talked and then take his turn except once.

On that case I'm afraid I'm the one who broke the courtesy I just seemed ~~unable~~ unable to resist it, because he was discussing a certain thing and he said, Well of course we don't believe any more in a flat world like the Bible teaches. And I just couldn't wait until my turn came. I blurted out Where? Oh he said won't believe it. I said, Where? He said, The Book of Genesis? I said, Where? He said, A flood covered the whole world. Doesn't that show a flat world? When I came to speak I said I thought that a flood that covered the whole world fitted much better with a round world than with a flat world because the water would all flow off a flat world.

I got a letter two or three months later from the young man who had arranged the meeting and he said the tape of that was played over and over and over. It was very interesting listening to our discussion that night. But it was an unusual opportunity to meet one of these men face to face and try to get him to give a specific answer to these charges that they are always making against the Bible. Of course they in a way can't be altogether blamed for some of these for some of these false ideas they have because back in the days when most people thought the world was flat they thought that was what the Bible said. But if we would try to get ideas not out of our heads on these things but go to the Bible and see what it says.

I find that in most cases the attacks made upon the Bible simply disappear when we see just what the Bible really says. Now of course there are a lot of these questions that the Bible does not say much about. That's one of the wonders of the Bible. I don't think the men who wrote the Bible were men who knew everything. I don't think God made these men omniscient, that He gave them His knowledge (of everything). And I don't think He erased from their minds all the false ideas they had. I am sure they had many erroneous ideas. I believe the Apostle Paul had many erroneous ideas. I don't think God made him into an omniscient person. But the Holy Spirit in those things He wished to have in the Bible kept out of it those ideas that were false.

For instance, a man might want to describe a situation in which there was a man and a woman and he may have thought there were two men. Well if he said two men did so and so and it was a man and a woman, the statement would be incorrect. But the Holy Spirit would lead him to say two people. And that does not say it. We don't know whether it was a man and a woman or two men. We should not read into it what is not there. I think that's one of the most important rules of the Bible. I personally believe that 90% of our theological discussions that have caused great acrimony among real Christians would disappear if we observed this rule of only taking from the Bible what's there and not reading into it our own ideas.