

It's important to get what's helpful for me today, yes. But it's far more important to get what's going to be helpful over the years ahead, and what is helpful to you over the years ahead is the whole scripture. God has inspired it all, it is all of ~~be-<sup>is</sup>~~ value, but it can be understood only as we take it as a whole and interpret different passages in the light of each other. Now we go on to point number 7, which is perhaps another rather negative one, as point 6 was.

7, Inspiration applies to the original manuscript. When we say that the Bible is inspired in the technical sense we don't mean that ~~this is~~ this book I have in my hand is inspired. We mean by our definition that it is a special act of the Holy Spirit when he guided the writers of the scripture in what they wrote. And so in the strict sense what is inspired is not the English Bible, nor the Hebrew and Greek Bibles that we have today. What is inspired is that which was written down by the original writer when he first wrote it. Well, you see what that does to our translation, ~~an~~ I am sure many of you have had unbelieving people ask you this, well you believe the Bible is inspired, which version is inspired? Is it the King James Version? Is it the American Standard? Is it the Revised Standard? Which version is inspired? Well, it is not one of these that is inspired. These versions attempt, all of them, to translate into English something which, as inspired, was written in a different language, and you cannot translate from any one language, into another language exactly. In German you have two ways of saying you. You can say du, if you want to talk to an intimate member of the family, to a small child, or to an animal. You say die if you talk to a stranger or to anybody except for these three groups I mentioned. And there you use du. Now I was telling a woman in Germany one time a little incident I'd had in California in my life, how at one time I had come out of the mountains there and I wanted to get a train into Los Angeles and I found there