

Himself when He died on the Cross, the power of sin is still in every part of our being, and we are only gradually freed from it by the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit, through the rest of our lives. And there is no one of us whose vision is not to quite an extent clouded by sin. And so the result is that it is pretty hard for us when we hear a voice to tell whether God speaks or Satan speaks, or whether we have an illusion, or whether we imagine something as a result of something we ate yesterday. It's pretty hard to tell. And so God ordinarily does not speak in our age. God spoke in ancient times, in order that man should know about Him, and God now has given us this Word which gives us what He spoke in ancient times, so that from it we can learn what He wants to say to us now. Now, without that concept, it is easy to see why people, not being able to hear God actually speaking today, should question that God spoke in ancient times. But once we get the understanding of the teaching of Genesis 3, and what it means, it is easy for us to see why it would be that God would not speak today to us in a visible way, and yet that God would have spoken to people in ancient times when they did not have the Bible. Now you notice this says "God, at various times and in divers manners spoke in time past unto the fathers by the prophets. I think that's important for us to get into mind. God spoke in various ways. Some people think that God dictated every word of the Bible, from beginning to end. I havenot met many people who think that. I have come across a great many people who think that that's what all Fundamentalists believe. But I have met very few people who believe that. Actually, that's not what's taught in the Bible, that God dictated ~~the whole~~ the whole Bible from beginning to end. The Bible teaches that God used the form of expression, the type of mind, the actual thinking activity, of human beings, in writing the Bible. But that he oversaw them ~~throughHis~~ through His Holy Spirit so that they were kept from error in what they wrote; which is ~~quited~~ quite different from God having dictated every word. The way some people talk about "dictation theory" of the Bible, it